

TONIO BORG

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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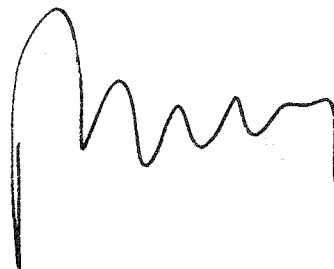
Dear Mr Chairman, *dear Matthias,*

I refer to my letter of 18 December 2014 (ref Ares(2013)3753769) highlighting the importance of electronic identification in cattle for Union producers and consumers and calling on the Coordinators of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety to reconsider their position so that the Commission's legislative proposal for the introduction of electronic identification in cattle and deleting the provisions on voluntary beef labelling can be adopted in due course.

I have understood that on Thursday 30 January 2014 a discussion will take place in the Committee on the possible agreement with the Council on the above mentioned Commission's legislative proposal. From my side I would like to remind you again of the importance of this legislative proposal that, once agreed with Council, will make the current system of traceability of live bovine animals and their meat more accurate and faster, while reducing the burden for operators. The Union producers and consumers will be the major beneficiaries of this improvement.

Therefore, I hope that the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety will ensure that this legislative proposal can be adopted in the near future.

Yours sincerely,



*Mr. Matthias Grootte
Chairman
Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
European Parliament
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