

Ms. Kartika Tamara Liotard
Member of the European Parliament

Brussels, 15 October 2010
Ref. 10/132

Dear Ms. Liotard,

Subject: draft Commission report on cloning of animals for food

Following reports in the press concerning the draft Commission report on cloning of animals for food to be published next week, Eurogroup is very concerned that the Commission is suggesting that it would agree to ban cloning in the EU and the import of products from cloned animals **but not from offspring of cloned animals, and not the import of semen and embryos**. A ban on cloning and on the import of products from clones will stop cloning of animals in the EU but not elsewhere, and semen and embryos from these clones will reach the EU. Products from offspring of cloned animals will still be sold on the EU market, be they from imports or from offspring derived from imported semen and embryo, going against the views of consumers. The EU should be consistent and treat imported and domestic products in the same way. The Commission is claiming that it is impossible to impose traceability on countries exporting to the EU. However, traceability for food products is already in place for health and food safety reasons (Art 18 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 for food and food animals, and Directive 88/407/EEC for semen and embryos) and it is only a question of refining it and making sure the reproductive method is included among traceability data. It is rather a question of political willingness.

Consumers and citizens have clearly expressed their opposition to products from cloned animals and their offspring, and the Commission report thus falls short of respecting EU citizens' calls for a full ban.

We call on the members of the Parliament involved in the trilogue meetings to keep firm on the strong European Parliament position and to call for a full ban on the placing on the market of products from cloned animals **and their offspring** in the framework of the novel food dossier.

We fear that without the pressure of the negotiations for the revised Novel Food Regulation, the Commission will in future be unwilling to regulate the issue of cloning for food.

Yours sincerely,



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