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from: European Commission
date of receipt: 17 June 2013
to: Mr Matthias GROOTE, Chairman of the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

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13701/11 – COM(2011) 524 final

Subject: - Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and deleting the provisions on voluntary beef labelling
- Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 64/432/EEC as regards computer databases which are part of the surveillance networks in the Member States

Delegations will find attached a letter from Mr Tonio BORG, member of the Commission, to Mr Matthias GROOTE, Chairman of the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety.

TONIO BORG

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 17.06.2013
HV/ak/D

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Dear Chairman, *dear Matthias,*

I refer to the meeting that we had in Strasbourg on 11 June 2013 to discuss cloning and bovine electronic identification, together with Ms Auconie.

I regret that an overall agreement on the proposal on bovine electronic identification could not be finally reached during the third trilogue on 15 May 2013, since progress was made for all outstanding issues apart from that of cloning.

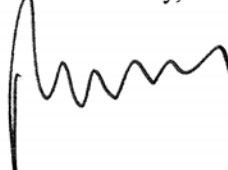
I recognise the political importance of cloning, that you have highlighted during our meeting. Let me reassure you and the Members of the ENVI Committee on the ongoing work in preparation of specific legislation on cloning, in accordance with the Commission's working program of 2013.

In this regard, let me make the following statement: "The Commission confirms that in line with its 2013 working programme, it is working on the impact assessment in order to finalise and adopt a stand-alone legislative proposal on all aspects of cloning for food production in the current year, while considering that any legal provisions on this issue should be carefully thought through from a legal point of view."

I would like to underline that the Commission will adopt a proposal as soon as possible in the year 2013.

I am confident that this will reassure you on the willingness of the Commission to respond to the European Parliament concerns, and that the ENVI Committee will now continue its work together with the Council Presidency, that receives a copy of this letter, so that the proposal on bovine electronic identification can be adopted as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Matthias Groote
Chairman of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
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