



Ms Stella Kyriakides
EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety
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Dear Commissioner Kyriakides,

We are writing to you on behalf of the Intergroup of the European Parliament on the Welfare and Conservation of Animals to express our dismay after learning that during the upcoming Agriculture and Fisheries Council (AGRIFISH) meeting on the 30th January, a number of Member States, lead by Portugal, have added as an AOB agenda item an [information note](#) concerning **live animal transport**.

In light of the upcoming proposal for a revision of Regulation 1/2005, we are extremely worried by the request of these Member States to maintain and even further facilitate live exports to third countries, a trade that poses the most severe animal welfare risks due to the impossibility of enforcing EU legislation beyond our borders. This statement is in stark contrast with an earlier [information note](#) supported by several other Member States, which called for *“a ban on certain long journey exports of live animals to third countries by road and sea”*, and suggested *“restricting live exports of farm animals to third countries where the third country’s legislation is not equivalent to the EU’s standards on animal welfare”*.

The latest Member State information note, in defense of lengthy live exports, is also at odds with the outcome of EFSA’s evaluation of Regulation 1/2005, which included the recommendation that, *“based on the scientific evidence on preventing stress, fear and distress in animals, journey duration should be kept to a minimum.”* We are of course also keen to remind you of the recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry on the Protection of Animals during Transport (ANIT), which, among other [requests](#), called for the creation of the necessary conditions that would allow a transition over time, from the need to transport live animals to the transport of carcasses, meat products and genetic material.



As members of the Animal Welfare Intergroup we are convinced that, following the European Parliament's inquiry, the explicit support from several Member States for an ambitious revision, as well as the evaluation of Regulation 1/2005 undertaken by EFSA, you have the opportunity to set the basis for a revised **Transport Regulation** that both meets animal needs and contributes to building a sustainable Europe, in line with the EU Farm-to-Fork Strategy. You can count on our support for seizing this opportunity and defending a hopefully ambitious revision proposal.

Yours sincerely,

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