



AT	cmc;lsg	CC	aif;mpl;rfs	Nossa Refª.: 00265
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Bruxelas, 15 de março de 2021

Ex.mos membros do Parlamento Europeu,

Junto tenho a honra de remeter a V. Exas uma carta de S. Exa. a Ministra da Agricultura, Dra. Maria do Céu Antunes, em resposta à carta de 28 de janeiro do corrente ano, sobre a questão do transporte de animais vivos.

Queiram aceitar, Ex.mos membros do Parlamento Europeu, os protestos da minha elevada consideração.

ni O Representante Permanente *p.s.o.*
Carlos de Paiva

Exm^{os}
Membros do Parlamento Europeu
Parlement européen
Bât. Altiero Spinelli
60, rue Wiertz / Wiertzstraat 60
B-1047 Bruxelles

Cc.

Exma Presidente da Comissão Europeia
Exmo Vice-Presidente Executivo Frans Timmermans
Exma Comissária Stella Kyriakides

CMC/lsg



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REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA

MINISTÉRIO DA AGRICULTURA

To

European Parliament

Cc,

Ursula von der Leyen

Frans Timmermans

Stella Kyriakides

Lisbon, the 11 March 2021

Honourable Members,

Animal Welfare is an issue of great importance to the European Union and consequently to the Portuguese Presidency.

Although there is demanding legislation on matters relating to Animal Welfare at European level, the Council recognised the need to improve certain aspects, therefore the Commission is working to review some of the legislation on Animal Welfare, and the Portuguese Presidency is actively contributing to this process.

This is an opportunity to improve the legislation but, as appropriate, there must be a balance which can only be achieved if the scientific, social and economic aspects are duly taken into account in the process.

We consider that sustainability of trade in live animals *versus* trade in carcasses or meat is an issue which needs to be widely discussed and assessed in the relevant fora before any decision is made.

The Portuguese Presidency will closely follow the work of the Committee of Inquiry on the Protection of Animals during Transport (ANIT) and will continue to cooperate to find ever more effective animal welfare responses.

Yours sincerely,

Maria do Céu Antunes

Minister of Agriculture