

Extracts from the press conference by Tonio Borg on the Animal and Plant Health legislative package

Type: [Complete press conference](#) Référence: [I078024](#) Durée: [03:44](#) Lieu: [Brussels - EC/Berlaymont](#)

On 6 May 2013, Tonio Borg, Member of the EC in charge of Health and Consumer Policy, gave a statement in Brussels on the European Commission's proposal regarding a modernised legal framework package on healthier animals and plants, and a safer food chain in Europe. The agri-food industry is the second largest economic sector in the EU, and in order to reinforce its safety and effectiveness, the European Commission adopted a package of measures to strengthen the enforcement of health and safety standards. Food safety is essential to ensure consumers' confidence and sustainability of food production. The package responds to the call for better simplification of legislation and smarter regulation thus reducing administrative burden for operators and simplifying the regulatory environment.



HEURE	DESCRIPTION	DUREE
00:00:00	Title	00:00:05
00:00:05	Exterior view of the Berlaymont building, in Brussels	00:00:04
00:00:09	Arrival of Tonio Borg, Member of the EC in charge of Health and Consumer Policy, and Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen, Spokesperson of the EC, to the press conference on the European Commission's proposal regarding a modernised legal framework package on healthier animals and plants, and a safer food chain in Europe	00:00:05
00:00:15	Soundbite by Tonio Borg (in ENGLISH): When and if this package is approved, any pecuniary penalties relating to violation of EU legislation on these subjects must be equal to the economic gain which has been made out of the violation of the EU law; crime must not pay. If the current penalties are low, it does pay. We all know that the horse meat scandal was not a question of food safety but it was a question of deliberate fraudulent labelling to make economic gain because in most countries horse meat is cheaper than beef.	00:00:44
00:00:59	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:04

00:01:03	Soundbite by Tonio Borg (in ENGLISH): We are proposing that in similar circumstance in the future, the Commission will have the power to bind Member States to do such tests and not just recommend them.	00:00:14
00:01:18	Cutaway of a photographer	00:00:02
00:01:20	Soundbite by Tonio Borg (in ENGLISH): The legislation which we are now proposing, of course it remains up to the Parliament and the Council to approve is that official controls should always be unannounced in order to strengthen our tools to fight fraud so these are the main improvements in the control section and in the enforcement section.	00:00:28
00:01:48	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:04
00:01:51	Soundbite by Tonio Borg (in ENGLISH): On animal health, one piece of legislation based on the principle that prevention is better than cure will be the golden thread which will govern the common system to better detect and control animal disease and address health and food safety risks in a more coordinated way. So, improved identification and registration standards as well as the introduction of more flexibility into the system will allow farmers and vets to swiftly react limit the spread of disease.	00:00:42
00:02:34	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:03
00:02:37	Soundbite by Tonio Borg (in ENGLISH): So what was applied to farmers as regards diseases relating to animals like the mad cow disease, we shall be introducing compensation to farmers also as regards plants disease.	00:00:17
00:02:54	Cutaway of a cameraman	00:00:03
00:02:57	Soundbite by Tonio Borg (in ENGLISH): All seeds including the traditional kind of seeds, including the niche kind of seeds have to be registered; they have to be registered according to national legislation but they still have to be registered.	00:00:20
00:03:17	Cutaway of a document being reviewed	00:00:05
00:03:22	Soundbite by Tonio Borg (in ENGLISH): There will be no need of registration at all so in the case of traditional seeds it will be yes to registration but no to testing, in the case of niche seeds, there will be no need of registration at all.	00:00:15
00:03:36	Soundbite by Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen (in ENGLISH) giving some closing words	00:00:08

