



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 08.V.2014  
C(2014) 3090 final*

*Dear Presidents,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado for their Opinion on the proposals for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the cloning of animals of the bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine species kept and reproduced for farming purposes {COM(2013) 892 final} and for a Council directive on the placing on the market of food from animal clones {COM(2013) 893 final}.*

*The Commission welcomes the detailed observations made by the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado. Regarding the statement that practically 100% of animal production in dairy cattle is not taking place by natural or artificial insemination but by direct implantation of the embryo, the Commission would like to note that it appears largely exaggerated to suggest that 100 % of the dairy cows in the Union are subject to embryo transfer. With respect to the size of the offspring, the Commission would like to underline that it is not the number of offspring that is considered in the opinion of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) but the physical size of the foetus or new-born animal.*

*In this context the Commission wishes to reiterate that EFSA has assessed the available material four times in the recent years. In its assessments EFSA also takes into account comments from stakeholders.*

*The Commission shares the view of the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado that consumer perception should be based on large samples.*

*The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the concerns and issues raised by the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado and looks forward to continuing our dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Tonio Borg  
Member of the Commission*

*Mr Jesús POSADA MORENO  
President of the  
Congreso de los Diputados  
Floridablanca s/n  
E – 28071 MADRID*

*Mr Pio GARCÍA-ESCUADERO MÁRQUEZ  
President of the  
Senado  
Plaza de la Marina Española, 8  
E – 28071 MADRID*