



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Acting Director-General

Brussels, 16 January 2015  
SANCO/G7/PD/mh(2015) 178792

Dear Mr Dankvert,

**Subject: Outcome of our meeting**

Following our fruitful discussion today in Berlin I would like to specify to you the perspectives which we see from our side in relation to trade of certain commodities from the EU to the Russian Federation. The following issues were discussed:

- Trade in processed highly specific food products (e.g. delicatessen, selected dairy and meat products, traditional products, niche products, PGI/PDO, etc.), for which we understand that there is a high price in the Russian market;
- Trade in fat, lard, offal, meat, meals and similar products;

For the two categories proposed above, in order to come back to the situation before the ban, our understanding is that the trade could resume based on EU-wide veterinary certificates and inspection by importing country. Technical details on conditions related to EU and CU requirements and details on implementation between EU member state and importing country could be specified in relation to/together with inspection carried out.

- Trade in potatoes:

Our understanding is that trade in ware potatoes could resume in the near future following the examples of seed potatoes based on EU-wide import conditions to be fulfilled by interested Member States.

Furthermore, we reiterated the EU commitment for cooperation with the Russian Federation in the following two areas:

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- Cooperation on fraud: there is a joint interest in combating and preventing fraud in the food chain and the EU is committed to continue to provide the relevant available information within the framework of existing arrangements.
- Cooperation on African swine fever (ASF): without prejudice to the ongoing ASF case, we agreed to maintain and reinforce the existing cooperation, at regional level, under the GF-TADs umbrella. In this context we share the concern on the current lack of transparency by the Belarusian authorities on the disease situation, which undermines the efficient regional cooperation necessary for the control and the eradication of the disease. The forthcoming meeting of the GF-TADs in Tallinn on 11-12 February 2015 offers an excellent opportunity to reinforce our joint efforts.

I look forward to your response to my proposal. If necessary, I am available to further discuss the details with you at a mutually convenient occasion.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Miko', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ladislav Miko