



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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NOTE

from : General Secretariat
to : Delegations

Subject : Labelling of meat from animals slaughtered without stunning
- Information from the Dutch delegation

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Dutch delegation to be dealt with under "Any other business" at the Council (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 15 July 2013.

**Information note concerning an AOB point for the Agri Fish Council dd. 15th of July 2013
from The Netherlands**

Labelling of meat from animals slaughtered without stunning

In its Communication on the EU strategy regarding the protection and welfare of animals 2012-2015 (COM(2012) 6 final/2), the Commission included a study into informing consumers about stunning of animals in its list of planned activities.

The Netherlands places great value on transparency and therefore considers this study to be of utmost importance. The European Parliament also attaches great importance to this matter and in July 2012 adopted a resolution (no. 49, A7-0216/2012) calling on the Commission to accelerate its evaluation on the labelling of meat from animals slaughtered without stunning and commit itself to greater transparency on slaughter methods which do not involve the stunning of animals.

We consider it essential to inform consumers correctly about the products they purchase. This includes greater transparency about the slaughter method used. Bearing in mind the need to improve consumer information on this matter, the intra-Community trade aspect, and the work already done by the Commission regarding the study, it is important that transparency on this matter is addressed at European level. The Netherlands therefore requests the Commission to proceed rapidly with the study, so that suitable proposals on this subject can be presented as quickly as possible.