

## Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries



Britta Riis  
Dyrenes Beskyttelse  
Alhambravej 15  
1826 Frederiksberg C

Copenhagen, 21. December 2011  
No.: 13144/316656

Dear Ms. Britta Riis,

Thank you for your letter December 12, 2011 concerning animal welfare and the future Rural Development Policy.

I fully agree with the Danish Animal Welfare Society that the future Rural Development Policy should underpin a sustainable agricultural production, and that a high level of animal welfare is important in this respect. Thus, it should be possible to use the Rural Development Policy to support at wide range of measures aiming at a higher level of animal welfare.

I believe that a higher level of animal welfare will help create a more competitive agricultural sector, as I am certain that a sustainable agricultural production will become an even more important parameter for the consumers in the future.

Yours Sincerely,

Mette Gjerskov