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Dear Commissioner

File No. 2020-3543

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 2020 regarding the free movement of workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 crisis is an unprecedented health crisis that has also affected the movement of workers and citizens across the EU. In these uncertain times, Member States need to share their experiences and learn from each other. It is important that we continue to ensure the health and safety of our citizens while trying to minimize the economic and social consequences of the crisis. In this light, I welcome the discussion on national measures regarding the free movement of workers during the informal video conference.

The Danish approach to cross-border workers complies with the guidelines from the European Commission. Although the Danish borders are currently closed, EU citizens who work in Denmark or have to deliver goods and service are allowed to enter the country. The only requirement is that they can provide documentation for their employment status such as an employment contract or PD A1 and that they do not show any symptoms of COVID-19.

With regard to the protection of seasonal workers, the Danish Government has taken a number of initiatives to protect all workers in Denmark that will also apply to them.

Generally, employers are required to implement preventive measures that lower the risk of COVID-19 spreading in work places in line with the general guidelines issued by the Danish Health Authority. These guidelines include making wash basins or hand sanitizers available, ensuring distance between workers etc. To increase awareness, the Danish Working Environment Authority has made these guidelines available in several European languages.

The Government has also entered into a close collaboration with the Danish social partners in order to find the most suitable solutions for different industries. As part of this collaboration, a new task force with representatives from the social partners has been established.

Furthermore, the Danish Working Environment Authority has gradually started to carry out inspections again. During inspections, the Authority will now check

whether the employers has implemented the preventive measures in a satisfactory way.

I look forward to share these perspectives with you and EPSCO ministers during the video conference on 5 May 2020. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for the work that the European Commission has already done during this crisis.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Hummelgaard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Peter Hummelgaard