

Brussels, 5th July 2021
UECBV Ref: KM/IM - 22497

Code of Conduct

-UECBV- signature 5.7.2021 -

UECBV is referring to some high-level meetings esp. with DG SANTE in November 2020 where we were asked to become active for the Code of Conduct and presented our Farm-to-Fork position (see [HERE](#)).

Therefore, we were actively involved - directly and through CELCAA, and acting as a rapporteur for Group 3 - in the process of drafting the “*Code of Conduct on responsible food business and marketing practices*” that was published 24th June 2021.

It was an outstanding process. It allowed EU stakeholders to work closer together. We now have carefully to watch and take the time now for needed checks. Having in mind that this is a voluntary Code and there are still uncertainties on the way it will go, esp. about the subsequent handling.

However, being used to working on a way of trust, UECBV is confident that clarifications will be defined in a constructive manner within the signatories, the Commission, and the other stakeholders of the collaborative platform.

That is why UECBV informed The Commission 25th June 2021 that it will be among the signatories of the Code of Conduct on 5th July 2021 and where UECBV pledges to:

- endorse the aspirational objectives set out in this Code (where applicable);
- promote and disseminate this Code with(in) its constituency;
- encourage its members to align their sustainability actions and/or business practices to the aspirational objectives and targets of the Code and invite them, on a voluntary basis, to adhere to this Code, as appropriate;
- explore the possibility of developing sector-specific tools and resources in support of this Code;
- provide, on an annual basis, a report of its activities in support of this Code, which will be published on an open dedicated website;
- continue to engage in dialogue with other food chain/systems actors and EU and international policy-makers to forge (new) relationships, exchange good practices and discuss challenges encountered, learn from each other (studies, projects) and create better mutual understanding, and identify opportunities for collaboration and potential partnership.

The Livestock trade and Meat sector knows and has its role to play towards sustainability, being proud to be part of the solution.

Looking forward to continuing the unity behind the common aspirational path towards sustainable food systems as the solution is in the dialogue,

The **European Livestock and Meat Trades Union (UECBV)**, founded in 1952, is the EU voice of national federations representing livestock markets, livestock traders (cattle, horses, sheep, pigs), meat traders (beef, horsemeat, sheepmeat, pigmeat), and meat industry (slaughterhouses, cutting plants and meat preparation plants).

Brought together within the UECBV are:

- an international association i.e. the **European Association of Livestock Markets (AEMB)**;
- a **Young European Meat Committee (YEMCo)**;
- the **European Natural Sausage Casings Association (ENSCA)**
- the **Organisation of European Shipsuppliers (OCEAN)**
- fifty-three national or regional federations in twenty-three of the twenty-seven Member States of the European Union, as well as Japan, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, United-Kingdom and Ukraine.

In total, some 20,000 firms of all sizes and 230,000 jobs are represented within the UECBV through its national member federations.