



Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS

Member of the European Commission

Berl 08/369
Rue de la Loi, 200
B-1049 Brussels - Belgium
Tel. 00.32.2.295.41.59
e-mail: vytenis.andriukaitis@ec.europa.eu

Ms Antonia Battaglia
Peacelink Italy/Brussels

antoniabattaglia@yahoo.it

Brussels, 10.11.2015
ARES(2015)

Dear Ms Battaglia,

Thank you for your letter (Ares(2015)3865728) of 17 September 2015 and your e-mail (Ares(2015)4138653) of 7 October 2015 on *Xylella fastidiosa*.

As regards ongoing experiments carried out on the field against *Xylella fastidiosa*, please let me express my full appreciation for such kind of activities. As also communicated to you earlier, the Commission is very keen to increase knowledge about the epidemiology of this bacterium and develop possible treatments solutions, where feasible, as part of the EU research framework "Horizon 2020".

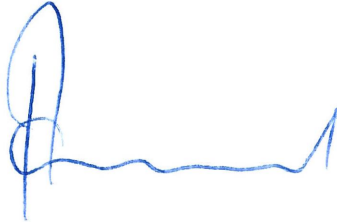
However, ongoing or planned research activities carried out at EU or Member State level shall under no circumstances slow down the process of implementation of the EU emergency measures. There is an urgent need to act to prevent further spread of the bacterium. This is in the interest of the affected region, as well as of the rest of Italy and the EU as a whole.

Additionally, let me stress that any treatment solution has to be supported by scientific evidence. Once a possible solution becomes available, we will request a scientific review from EFSA as done previously for other information submitted by third parties.



I want to reassure you that the Commission is in close contact with the Italian Authorities in order to ensure a swift cooperation on this file and make use of all possible tools available at EU level to assist Italy in the implementation of necessary measures.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'P' followed by a long, wavy horizontal line that ends in a small upward stroke.