

TONIO BORG

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 27.08.2013
ARES (2013)

Dear Ministers,

I would like to thank you for your renewed support to the EU work on alcohol related harm and your call for a new EU strategy.

Your support provides encouragement for the work on alcohol related harm in the EU.

I agree with you that, despite some progress in the recent years, alcohol consumption and alcohol related harm in EU is still very high and requires comprehensive public health action.

The current alcohol related harm strategy remains a valid framework for action, but I can assure you that I will share with my fellow Commissioners your interest for the renewal of the alcohol related harm strategy, as I see strong arguments for such an approach.

The on-going work on chronic diseases will also provide further opportunities to tackle hazardous and harmful alcohol consumption as a risk factor for major diseases.

I count on your continued support and I look forward to further discuss this topic with you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Astrid Krag Kristensen
Minister of Health
Denmark

Mr Rajko Ostojić
Minister of Health
Croatia

Ms Susanna Huovinen
Minister of Health and Social Services
Finland

Mr Petros Petrides
Minister of Health
Cyprus

Mr Kristján Þór Júlíusson,
Minister of Health
Iceland

Mr Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis
Minister of Health
Republic of Lithuania

Mr Jonas Gahr Støre
Minister of Health and Care Services
Norway

Ms Ingrīda Circene
Minister of Health
Latvia

Ms Maria Larsson
Minister for Children and the Elderly
Sweden

Mr Tomaž Gantar
Minister of Health
Slovenia

Mr Taavi Rõivas
Minister of Social Affairs
Estonia