



CF(08)4157:1 – AL

Brussels, 24 June 2008

Mr Nikolaus G. van der PAS
DG EMPL
European Commission
200, rue de la Loi
1049 BRUSSELS

RE: Review of directive 86/613/EEC (application of the principle of equal treatment between men and women engaged in an activity, including agriculture, in a self-employed capacity)

Dear Sir

Following the letter received at the end of April announcing the consultation period with social partners, COPA analysed the proposed document.

Further to its internal discussions, COPA takes the following position:

Given that the directive 86/613 dates back to 1986, COPA understands the need to update it. Before any changes or adaptations to the directive are proposed, COPA would like a prior examination of how the directive is applied in practice in the EU countries.

The review proposed should prioritise evidence gathering. The review should also identify whether shortcomings are found at a member state or pan-EU level. COPA supports equal rights for equal commitment for all partners in farm businesses

Yours sincerely,

Pekka PESONEN
Secretary General