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Rt Hon Ben Wallace MP
Minister of State for Security and Economic Crime
Home Office, 2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Sent by email to: public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Minister,

Government support for a global ban on animal testing for cosmetics

The UK has taken a lead role in the ending of animal testing for cosmetics. As you will know, animal testing for cosmetics is banned across the European Union, including the UK, and there is also an EU-wide marketing ban. A number of other countries have also taken action. However, progress is still needed internationally to end this cruel practice.

As a result the European Parliament's Environment Committee has called for action at United Nations level for a global ban on cosmetics testing, and this issue will be taken up by the European Parliament in plenary in March.

I am writing to urge the UK Government to do all it can to hasten progress on this issue. Progress will best be achieved via an international convention to end animal testing for all cosmetics products and ingredients worldwide, with action at UN General Assembly level.

Does the UK Government supports such an international convention and will it be proactive at the United Nations to bring this about? In particular I would urge the UK to table, actively pursue and support a resolution at the UN General Assembly to establish an ad hoc committee.

A strong UK position on this issue internationally could make a significant impact and hasten the end of animal testing for cosmetics around the world.

As this is an international issue, I also ask your assurance that the Home Office will work with the Foreign Office to ensure the issue gets taken up as effectively as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter; I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Jean Lambert MEP
Green Member of the European Parliament for London

cc Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, Minister of State for the Commonwealth and UN

Greens in the European Parliament

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