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Brussels, **30. 06. 2016**
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Dear Meurig,

Subject: UK Referendum Outcome

Thank you for your letter of 27 June 2016 outlining the concerns of UK farmers about their access to the CAP support schemes during the period of negotiations on the UK's withdrawal from the EU, following the referendum of 23 June. Personally, I regret the decision of the UK people to leave the EU, but of course I respect it.

Until the entry into force of the withdrawal agreement to be negotiated between the EU and the UK pursuant to Article 50 of the Treaty on the European Union or, failing such an agreement, until two years after the UK's notification to the European Council that it intends to withdraw from the EU or any later date decided by the European Council in agreement with the UK, the UK remains a member of the EU, with all the rights and obligations that derive from this membership. During this time, UK farmers will therefore continue to have full access to the CAP support schemes and to the EU internal market in agricultural products. For the time after the exit date, the situation will depend on the transitional arrangements included in the withdrawal agreement and any possible agreement between the EU and the UK on their future relationship.

In return, I expect UK farmers to adhere to their obligations under EU law, particularly the conditions for the granting of CAP support, and I appreciate your commitment on this point. I trust the same will be true for the UK authorities responsible for the management and control of the CAP support schemes so that expenditure will continue to be disbursed in the UK in accordance with EU rules.

Yours sincerely,

Phil HOGAN

Mr Meurig Raymond MBE, FRAgS
PRESIDENT
NFU

