

**Jean Lambert MEP
Dr. Caroline Lucas MEP**

ASP 8G107 and ASP 8G103
European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 60
1047 Brussels
Belgium

Commissioner Stavros Dimas
European Commissioner for the Environment
20 Rue de la Loi
1049 Brussels
Belgium

3rd October 2007

Dear Commissioner Dimas,

We are writing to you regarding the Spring Hunt in Malta - an issue which has been brought to our attention on numerous occasions by our constituents.

As you are aware, Malta has consistently contravened the EU Birds Directive since it joined the European Union in 2004. Following Dr. Caroline Lucas's letter of May 2007, asking what steps the Commission is taking to hold Malta to account over its repeated contravention of the EU Birds Directive, you stated that your services were currently assessing Malta's claim that the derogations for spring hunting fulfil the criteria of the Birds Directive. You added that if it was established that Malta was not fully compliant with the provisions of this Directive, the Commission would not hesitate to continue with its infringement procedure.

We would be grateful if you could inform us as to whether the Commission has been able to fully assess Malta's claim, and if so, what the Commission's conclusions and consequent actions will be. We urge you to continue to exert pressure on the Maltese Government by issuing a final written warning before the end of October, and by applying for an injunction from the European Court of Justice to block spring hunting in 2008. It is imperative that serious steps are taken immediately to prevent Malta from openly disregarding EU law during yet another spring hunting season.

We look forward to your positive response,

Yours sincerely,

Jean Lambert MEP and Dr Caroline Lucas MEP

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