



European  
Automobile  
Manufacturers  
Association

Ms Ilze Juhansone  
Secretary General  
European Commission

Brussels, 30 March 2020

Dear Ms Juhansone,

I am writing to you to request a discussion, where possible at short notice, regarding the potential extension of deadlines for public consultations affecting the automotive sector.

As you know, the unfolding COVID-19 crisis is having an unprecedented impact on the European automotive industry and the European economy as a whole. All manufacturers of cars, vans, trucks and buses in the EU have shut down their operations for at least two to six weeks and several hundred thousand employees are on temporary short-working conditions or not allowed to work at all, depending on national employment measures. Core production functions of our member companies are severely impacted. R&D and many technical and supporting departments like those dealing with homologation and regulations are shut down or have significantly reduced their workforce. At this time, we do not know if that will be it, or if such measures will have to be extended further.

This significantly limits the ability of our association to consult our member companies and to consolidate their expert views on critical files that are currently under discussion. Even if member companies intended to participate individually, they cannot do so at this time. Either way, the result is that key stakeholders are not in a position to react and – in line with better regulation principles - have their opinions properly heard, as would normally be the case.

We would therefore kindly request that deadlines of current consultations and questionnaires of the European Commission and its executive agencies that affect our industry be postponed by at least two months and that the planning of future consultations be revised accordingly.

We appreciate that several consultation deadlines have already been postponed on an ad-hoc basis. However, the severity of the crisis in our view justifies a more general and holistic approach.

Thank you very much in advance for your kind consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eric Mark Huitema', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Eric Mark Huitema  
Director General