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Senator Glenn Sterle
Chair
Senate Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Sterle

On 24 October 2023 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee Estimates hearing.

During the hearing Senator McDonald said in relation to live sheep exports to the Middle East

“Do you think the market would convert to boxed meat? It's a cultural issue, isn't it, that people want to eat fresh meat rather than buy boxed meat?”

In response I said

If you go back to the 20 countries in MENA, back to 2011 through to 2023, we've seen a fall from 48 per cent down to about 40 per cent live, on a carcass weight equivalent. If you look at it from 2018, it's been pretty flat at 40 per cent live and six per cent boxed. The forecast by Jira is about a 1.8 per cent CAGR out to 2027, and we don't have data post that.

I wish to correct this answer. Looking at the market from 2018, it has been pretty flat at around 40 per cent live and 60 per cent boxed. The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the hearing, is correct.

In addition, during the hearing Senator Ciccone said in relation to levy income

“From page 23 of your annual report, LiveCorp's total revenue was \$6.195 million last year. How much of your revenue was from levies?”

In response I said

It ultimately all comes from levies with some dollar matching.

I wish to correct this answer. LiveCorp's total revenue comes from exporter levies, producer levies via MLA, and matching government funds for eligible research, as well as some investment income, and sometimes grant income. The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the hearing, is correct.

In addition, during the hearing Senator Ciccone asked regarding expenditure

“How much expenditure did LiveCorp make on research activities?”

In response I said

“Just over 50 per cent goes into research.”

I wish to correct this answer. In 2022-23, the joint LiveCorp and MLA Livestock Export RD&E Program spent \$2.064 million in research. The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the hearing, is correct.

In addition, CEO Wayne Collier said

“On research expenditure, I haven't got the exact number, but I think last year it was around \$2.3 million or \$2.4 million.”

I wish to correct this answer. In 2022-23, the joint LiveCorp and MLA Livestock Export RD&E Program's total expenditure was \$2.064 million. The remainder of Wayne's answer to the question, given at the hearing, is correct.

I apologise for the errors in my answers and trust this further information will be of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Troy Setter
Chair
Australian Livestock Export Corporation (LiveCorp)
24 November 2023