



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 16 VI 2014
C(2014) 3958 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Hrvatski sabor for its Opinion concerning the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 and Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 as regards the aid scheme for the supply of fruit and vegetables, bananas and milk in educational establishments {COM(2014) 32 final}.

The Commission takes note of the Hrvatski sabor's observation concerning the criteria for the allocation of funds for milk. The Commission indeed proposes a combination of two criteria, namely the historical use of the School Milk Scheme funds in years prior to this proposal and the objective criterion based on the Member State's population in the age group 6–10 years. This would allow Member States to maintain to a large extent the scale of their current programmes, while enabling Member States with a limited historical use of the programme to take up and improve their distribution of milk under the new conditions.

Considering the fact that Croatia, as a new Member State, does not have a historical record of using the School Milk Scheme prior to its accession, the Commission will endeavour to find a solution that would ensure that Croatia is not disadvantaged in this respect when it comes to the allocation of funds for milk under the new school scheme.

The points made above are based on the initial proposal presented by the Commission which is currently in the legislative process involving both the European Parliament and the Council at which your government is represented.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Parliament and the Committees and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Mr Josip Leko
President of the Hrvatski sabor
Trg sv. Marka 6
HR – 10 000 ZAGREB*

