



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Dear Mr Sobotka,

The European Commission would like to thank the Czech Senate for having examined the Communication "Towards a Comprehensive Climate Change Agreement in Copenhagen" {COM (2009)39 final} and for having provided its opinion on the issue. The Communication was a first yet important step towards building a common position of the EU on all important aspects of the Copenhagen agreement.

The views of the Senate are generally supportive of an ambitious leadership role of the European Union in the global efforts to tackle climate change. With regard to specific comments, the European Commission shares the view that the financial architecture to underpin the Copenhagen agreement is one of the most important political questions to resolve between now and December 2009. The European Commission is working on building a more concrete EU position on the EU's contribution to financial efforts and on principles of burden sharing among Member States in good time before the Copenhagen conference.

Moreover, the European Commission has taken note of the concern expressed by the Senate that the provision of increased financial resources for tackling climate change in developing countries shall not come at the expense of development aid provided by Member States.

Following a hopefully successful outcome of the Copenhagen conference, the European Commission will thoroughly monitor and evaluate the EU's and individual Member States' performance towards fulfilling their obligations under a new climate change agreement as well as existing obligations.

We're looking forward to continuing the dialogue with the Czech Senate on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Margot WALLSTRÖM
Vice-President of the European Commission

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of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

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