Dear President,

The European Commission would like to thank the Czech Senate for having examined the Communication {COM(2010)265} on the analysis of options to move beyond 20% greenhouse gas emissions and assessing the risk of carbon leakage and for having provided an Opinion on the issue.

The European Commission appreciates the Czech Senate supporting the negotiation and conclusion of a legally binding, comprehensive and balanced global agreement to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the future, and shares the view that the development of competitive low-carbon technologies in the EU would be a key element in the context of a more ambitious climate change policy agenda.

Regarding the risk of "carbon leakage", the EU has taken important steps in its energy and climate package. Competitiveness of the EU's industry is at the heart of the EU 2020 Strategy and the Commission assures the Czech Senate that the competitive situation of the EU industry vis-à-vis its major international competitors will continue to be monitored carefully, taking account of developments in the general economic and policy framework and international negotiations.

I am looking forward to further develop our political dialogue.

Yours faithfully,

Milan ŠTĚCH President of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic Vladštejnské naměsti 17/4 CZ-118 01 PRAGUE 1