



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 27.3.2019  
C(2019) 2307 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Senát for its Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a European Instrument for Nuclear Safety complementing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (COM(2018) 462 final).*

*This proposal forms part of a broader package of ambitious measures designed to support nuclear safety worldwide and to contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.*

*The Commission welcomes the Senát's broad support for the Instrument's objectives and is pleased to have this opportunity to provide a number of clarifications regarding its proposal.*

*Article 2 of proposed Council Regulation puts emphasis on enhancing radiation protection standards, improving nuclear safety culture, safe treatment and management of the radioactive waste, decommissioning of former nuclear installations and establishing efficient and effective safeguard systems for nuclear materials in third countries. This goes along with the definition and use of predefined, transparent and measurable indicators for the assessment of the projects, as envisaged in its Article 12.*

*The Commission takes note of the suggested requirements for cooperation with third countries, mentioned by the Senát, and, more specifically, the unconditional respect of principles of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and relevant international agreements. The Commission gives a due consideration of the eligibility criteria and is willing to discuss them during the legislative negotiations. With respect to the involvement of the Member States in the process of planning and formulation of programme documents and individual projects, the Commission would like to point out that this is reflected in Article 13 of the proposal.*

*The points made above are based on the initial proposal presented by the Commission, which is currently going through the legislative process. In accordance with Art. 203 of*

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*Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM), the Council will adopt the future Regulation establishing a European Instrument for Nuclear Safety after consulting the European Parliament.*

*The Commission hopes that the clarifications provided in this reply address the issues raised by the Senát and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Neven Mimica  
Member of the Commission*