



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels,  
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10 SEP. 2009

Dear Mr Damgaard Larsen,

Thank you for your letter of 28 April 2009 addressed to Vice-President Antonio Tajani on the position of the Committees for Transport and for European Affairs of the Danish Parliament on the European Commission's Green Paper "A Policy Review: Towards a better integrated trans-European transport networks (TEN-T)", COM(2009)44.

First of all, I would like to inform the honourable members of the Committees that the Green Paper on TEN-T policy review is about an overall review of the TEN-T policy, discussing broad policy objectives, options and priorities rather than concrete projects and their funding.

This said, the Commission is of course fully aware of the fact that TEN-T financing remains crucial and therefore proposes that existing Community grant instruments should be better combined, public-private partnership approaches should be stimulated and the efficiency of existing instruments and the need for new ones should be assessed.

The future outlay of the TEN-T network and the three options proposed by the Commission, remain to be discussed. In this light, the Commission welcomes the contribution of the honourable members of the Committees for Transport and for European Affairs of the Danish Parliament to the discussion.

Concerning the annual overview of the progress of the individual projects, I would like to inform you that this is covered by the Commission's "TEN-T implementation of the Priority Projects Progress Report", that was published for the first time in 2008 and a revised version of which will be published later in 2009.

The Commission welcomes the fact that the Committees share its view that the revised TEN-T policy should be able to respond to both the need for efficient and competitive transport services and contribute to climate change objectives. The TEN-T policy needs to emphasize the role of transport infrastructure "at the service of transport services" of which the main aim is to strengthen the integration of the network (combination of modes, optimal interconnection, integration of intelligent transport systems to ensure efficient infrastructure use). This will facilitate co-modal services for passengers and freight, based on the comparative advantages of each transport mode.

Finally, the Commission would like to stress that the Green Paper publication just constitutes the first milestone of a broad review process of the TEN-T policy. It sets out

Mr. Flemming Damgaard Larsen  
Chairman of the Transport Committee  
Folketinget

policy options which shall be analysed in more detail throughout 2009. A legislative proposal on the TEN-T Guidelines could follow in 2010. Any proposal on the review of the projects could be assessed in the upcoming review of the TEN-T Guidelines.

I have also replied to Ms Anne-Marie Meldgaard in the same terms and thank you both for your interest in our work.

Yours sincerely,

Margot WALLSTRÖM  
Vice-President of the European Commission



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