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**Transport Committee and
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**Opinion on the Commission's White Paper "Roadmap to a Single European
Transport Area " of 28 March 2011 - COM(2011) 144**

21 June 2010

Dear Mr. Kallas,

Please find below the response from the Transport Committee and the European Affairs Committee of the Folketing to the consultation on the Commission's White Paper "Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area". The Committees have considered the White Paper and drawn up the following response.

Contact

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Opinion

The Committees welcome the Commission's White Paper on transport. The White Paper constitutes a good and important document in the debate on the shape of the future European transport system and the strategic choices to be made in this context. Overall, the Committees agree with the Commission on the importance of focussing on both mobility and the environmental dimension. Transport is a fundamental prerequisite for a well-functioning society; on the one hand, the European transport system must be efficient and ensure growth and the movement of people and goods while on the other achieving this with maximum focus on limiting damaging environmental impact from the transport sector.

The transport of the future entails both major challenges and major opportunities. The Committees agree on the benefit of setting common ambitious objectives if Europe is to achieve and maintain a leading position in terms of both mobility and economic prosperity. The European Union can play a decisive role in this context.

Transport is the prerequisite for realising the European ideal of free movement of goods and labour while a competitive and efficient transport sector can promote growth in the European continent. The Committees therefore agree that a greater degree of convergence and coordination between transport modes offers considerable prospects. The effort of creating more cohesive future transport systems can be eased by means of

joint European regulation so long as the wishes and levels of ambition of individual Member States are duly respected.

In the opinion of the Committees, the White Paper proposals on future initiatives form a good starting point for an in-depth discussion of how to ensure a more cohesive and sustainable transport sector in the EU without compromising the ideal of high mobility. It is also crucial to subject the proposed initiatives in the transport area to the customary evaluations of cost efficiency and proportionality in respect of the outlined objectives.

Yours faithfully,

Flemming Damgaard Larsen,
Chairman of the Transport Committee

Anne-Marie Meldgaard
Chair of the European Affairs Committee