



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 01.02.2012  
C/2012/ 479 final

*Dear President,*

*The European Commission is grateful for the position of the Italian Senate on the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directives 89/666/EEC, 2005/56/EC and 2009/101/EC as regards the interconnection of central, commercial and companies registers {COM(2011) 79 final} and apologises for the delay in replying.*

*The Commission particularly welcomes the strong support from the Italian Senate for this project. Italy has played an important role in helping bring forward developments and shape EU policy in the field of interconnection of business registers. The Commission agrees that registers from all Member States have to take part in this common project, which will enable them to communicate more easily with each other on the basis of mutual trust.*

*The issues at stake are important. To bring more transparency into the market will help restore the confidence that was partly lost in this crisis. Improved access to company information will also enable citizens to make informed decisions. But facilitating access to information on companies across borders also improves the position of other stakeholders, such as employees, shareholders and creditors. It gives administrations a tool to have a better understanding of the cross-border linkages of companies. And more efficient cross-border cooperation between the business registers will foster the smooth functioning of the Single Market and reduce the costs for companies operating across borders.*

*I would like to thank you again for the Opinion of the Italian Senate. The Commission looks forward to Italy's continued constructive approach to this important initiative.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Mr Renato Schifani  
President  
Senate of the Republic of Italy  
Piazza Madama  
I - 00186 ROMA*