



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 27. 3. 2012
C/2012/ 1904 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System ("IMI") {COM(2011) 522 final}.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in particular for the support for the planned expansion of IMI to new areas, including SOLVIT, the internal market problem solving network. In this regard, I would like to reassure you that the future expansion will indeed take place in a gradual manner, so as not to jeopardise the efficiency and sustainability of the system. Let me also stress that, in relation to delegated acts, the Commission remains confident that our proposal is fully compliant with the requirements of the Treaty.

As far as the proposed longer retention periods for personal data processed in IMI are concerned, we believe that our proposal was necessary so that citizens are able to fully exercise their rights with respect to the protection of their personal data. It is also justified by the practical needs of IMI actors using the system on a daily basis. Of course, we will continue our constructive dialogue with the European Parliament and the Council in the spirit of openness in order to find a solution acceptable to all stakeholders.

Finally, let me thank you for your high appreciation of the support and training provided by the Commission services. We are aware of its importance in ensuring the efficient functioning of IMI and are committed to delivering high quality support at national level in the future.

I look forward to further developing our political dialogue.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Sen. Renato SCHIFANI
Presidente
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