



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 3.10.2012
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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 Demography statistics {COM (2011) 903 final} and apologises for the delay in replying.

The Commission would like to take this opportunity to reassure the Senato della Repubblica that the definitions of "live birth", "death", "usually resident population" and "usual resident" would only apply for the purpose of the European Parliament and Council Regulation. Moreover, regarding the data sources, Article 7 of the Proposal foresees that "The data shall be based on the data sources chosen by the Member State in accordance with national laws and practices". In order to answer properly to all specific situations the Commission has added in its proposal that "Scientifically based and well documented statistical estimation methods shall be used where appropriate".

I hope that these clarifications address the observations made by the Senato della Repubblica and I look forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Sen. Renato SCHIFANI
Presidente
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