



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 24.03.2015
C(2015) 1646 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera dei Deputati for its Opinion and its support concerning the proposal for a Decision on establishing a European Platform to enhance cooperation in the prevention and deterrence of undeclared work {COM(2014) 221 final}.

As regards the points raised in your Opinion, the Commission would like to make the following comments:

The Commission takes note of the Camera dei Deputati's suggestion to set out more detailed operational arrangements for the Platform, in particular in relation to the possible establishment of computer networks and databases and if necessary giving the Commission the power to adopt the relevant acts to regulate more detailed profiles. According to the Proposal, more detailed operational arrangements, such as the decision-making process, would be set out in the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Platform. In addition, the Platform would first explore different possibilities to improve data sharing between Member States. It may be the case that existing tools if better used for the purpose of the Platform's objectives could play already a useful role. The Platform could then decide which steps to take to develop this idea further.

The Commission would like to point out that in order to ensure full cooperation of the Member States in the Platform, the Proposal foresees that the cooperation would take place through single points of contact as nominated by Member States. The obligations of the single point of contact are to participate in the activities of the Platform and liaise with all other national enforcement authorities, which are involved in the fight against undeclared work, to inform and involve them in the work of the Platform. The Commission Proposal foresees a non-exhaustive list of tasks. The concrete tasks to be carried out would be identified in two-year work programmes of the Platform. The latter would influence the

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specific objectives of the Member States and the outcomes of the Platform's activities would be implemented by each Member State according to its needs and specific situations.

Regarding the evaluation whether the objectives of the Platform have been achieved, the Commission would like to point out that the Proposal already foresees that in addition to a report to be submitted after 4 years, regular reporting every two years would be set out in work programmes of the Platform. In addition, it is stated that the Commission shall inform regularly the European Parliament and the Council of the activities of the Platform.

The Commission agrees with the Camera dei Deputati that a careful evaluation should be made of any relevant national initiative to strengthen the system of checks aimed at tackling undeclared work.

A more detailed breakdown of annual operating costs of the Platform has been given in the Legislative Financial Statement, which is attached to the Proposal. The operational appropriations as indicated per year, would be used for exchange of best practices and information, training, technical capacity building to enhance cooperation and awareness arising. The concrete costs for each year would be based on the tasks as identified in the two-year work programmes of the Platform.

The points made above are based on the proposal presented by the Commission which is currently in the legislative process involving both the European Parliament and the Council in which your government is represented. The Council reached a general approach on this proposal in October 2014. The European Parliament is currently considering its position.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Camera dei Deputati in its Opinion and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Marianne Thyssen
Member of the Commission*