



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 27/07/2015
C(2015) 5282 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion concerning the Commission proposal on the adjustment rate for direct payments in the calendar year 2015 {COM(2015) 141 final}.

The Commission takes note of the positive opinion of the Senato delle Repubblica on this Commission proposal with regard to the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.

The Senato della Repubblica takes the view that in case of a crisis, the adjustment rate could be differentiated by regions. However, such a differentiation is not permitted by Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council which in its Articles 25 and 26 establishes that only one adjustment rate shall be set.

However, as a means of financing the agricultural crisis reserve, the application of the adjustment rate does integrate an element of solidarity as it allows the European Union to provide additional financing to support the agricultural sector in case of major crises.

The points made above are based on the initial 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 Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Senato della Repubblica and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Phil Hogan
Member of the Commission*

*Mr Pietro GRASSO
President of the
Senato della Repubblica
Piazza Madama, 1
IT - 00186 ROMA*