



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels 12.8.2016  
C(2016) 5334 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion concerning the Commission proposal fixing the adjustment rate for direct payments in respect of the calendar year 2016 {COM(2016) 159 final}.*

*The Commission has noted the Senato della Repubblica's observation that in the context of possible negotiations identifying sectors that could benefit from the use of the crisis reserve, that the Italian sectors severely affected by damaging natural phenomena should be taken into account.*

*The creation of the reserve intends to provide support in case of major crises affecting agricultural production or distribution. If there is no scope to reallocate appropriations within the budget, the Commission may present a proposal for the use of the crisis reserve to the European Parliament and to the Council.*

*Until now, the financing of the aid provided to the sectors affected by the recent crisis has been based on available appropriations and hence it has not been necessary to call on the crisis reserve.*

*The Commission hopes that this clarification addresses the issue raised by the Senato della Repubblica and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Violeta Bulc*

*Member of the Commission*

*Mr Pietro GRASSO  
President of the Senato della Repubblica  
Piazza Madama, 1  
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