



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 20.3.017
C(2017) 1679 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 the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) and establishing the EFSD Guarantee and the EFSD Guarantee Fund {COM(2016) 586 final}.

The Commission welcomes the Senato della Repubblica's support for the European Fund for Sustainable Development. The Fund, which will form the first pillar of the External Investment Plan called for by the European Council of 28 June 2016. It aims at supporting investments starting in regions of Africa and the Neighbourhood as a means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, thus tackling root causes of migration and offering sustainable reintegration to returned migrants in their countries of origin

The Commission looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Neven Mimica
Member of the Commission*

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