



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 12.10.2017  
C(2017) 6926 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Camera dei Deputati for its Opinion on the "Clean energy for all Europeans" package, and in particular on certain elements of the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast) {COM(2016) 767 final}.*

*The "Clean energy for all Europeans" package was adopted by the Commission in order to establish a stable and forward-looking regulatory framework for the upcoming energy challenges. The measures included in the package focus on the following three main objectives: energy efficiency first, achievement of a global leadership in renewable energies and a fair deal for consumers.*

*The Commission welcomes the Camera dei Deputati's general support of the proposal and the support expressed for the increase in the deployment of renewable energy in Europe. The Commission notes the Camera dei Deputati's concerns as regards the need to ensure no opportunistic behaviour exists from Member States in case they would not reach their 2020 national binding targets. Such behaviour might indeed jeopardise the shared objective of increasing to at least 27% the Union wide share of renewable energy consumed in the European Union in 2030.*

*In response to the specific comments on the proposal the Commission would like to refer the Camera dei Deputati to the attached annex.*

*The points made in this reply 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. The Commission remains hopeful that an agreement amongst co-legislators will be reached in the near future.*

*Ms Laura BOLDRINI  
President of the Camera dei Deputati  
Piazza Montecitorio  
IT - 00100 ROME*

*The Commission hopes that the clarifications provided in this reply address the issues raised by the Camera dei Deputati and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Miguel Arias Cañete  
Member of the Commission*

## Annex

*The Commission has carefully considered each of the issues raised by the Camera dei Deputati in its Opinion and is pleased to offer the following clarifications.*

*The proposal for a recast of the Renewables Directive sets out a number of measures across various sectors aimed at fostering renewables deployment. This ambitious set of measures will allow Member States collectively and the European Union as a whole to reach the at least 27% target of renewable energy in gross final consumption of energy in the Union in 2030.*

*The Commission takes seriously the concerns expressed by the Camera dei Deputati as regards the need to ensure a fair distribution of the efforts between Member States in view of the achievement of the Union target for renewable energies. The Camera dei Deputati specifically states that the current national binding targets should not be considered as baseline for the period 2021-2030, but higher targets should be included.*

*In this regard, the Commission would like to point out that the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Governance of the Energy Union {COM(2016) 759 final}, which is also part of the "Clean Energy for all Europeans" package, addresses sharing of efforts amongst Member States. This should be fair and reward early efforts made by Member States to fulfil the Union's 2030 target, when determining the gap filling measures and the functioning of a future financial platform for development of renewable energy projects.*

*It is important to note that, following the conclusion of the European Council of October 2014, the proposal does not contain any binding national targets. Instead it puts forward a comprehensive European framework that would enable renewables to grow.*

*With regard to the mandatory opening of support schemes to installations located in other Member States, the proposal aims at creating a functioning common market and enhancing cross-border cooperation to reach the European Union policy objectives and targets in a cost-efficient way. The Commission proposed it to be mandatory, but only in a small proportion (10% of the newly-supported capacity from 2021 until 2025 and 15% of the newly-supported capacity from 2026 until 2030). Such opening should result in lower support costs, which could be used by the Member State to further invest in local generation (higher total deployment for a given budget). In addition, projects could also be developed and supported by support schemes of other Member States – which could help deploying local generation.*

*Specific measures in the transport sector were proposed in accordance with the call of the European Council to reduce greenhouse gas emission and risks related to fossil fuel dependency. In this context, the Commission would also like to confirm that biomethane is fully accountable in the context of Article 25 and the incorporation obligation set out therein.*

*The proposal does not deviate from the agreement reached by the co-legislators in the context of the Directive to reduce indirect land use change for biofuels and bioliquids<sup>1</sup>, including on the definition of advanced biofuels.*

*On third party access to district heating and cooling networks, the Commission recalls that Member States are free to define the national implementing rules for non-discriminatory access to district heating and cooling networks and direct supply to consumers. Moreover, direct supply from third party suppliers, other than the operator of the district heating or cooling system, does not necessarily require unbundling.*

*The Commission welcomes the Camera dei Deputati's support for self-generation and self-consumption and highlights that the provisions in Articles 21 and 22 of the proposal actively encourage prosumers to participate in the energy market. This, along with the proposals for cost-effective support schemes in Article 4 and the principle of non-retroactivity in Article 6, help lay the groundwork to stimulate market investment and increase commercial viability of renewable technologies.*

*Finally, the Commission would like to point out that it shares the objective expressed by the Camera dei Deputati in the Opinion concerning the functioning of the emissions trading system mechanism. In that regard it would like to refer to its proposal for a Directive to revise the European Union Emissions Trading System for the period after 2020 {COM (2015) 337 final}, which is also currently in the legislative process involving the European Parliament and the Council.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Directive (EU) 2015/1513 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 September 2015 amending Directive 98/70/EC relating to the quality of petrol and diesel fuels and amending Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources, OJ L 239, 15.9.2015, p. 1.