



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 23.03.2017  
C(2017) 1833 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 integrated farm statistics and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1166/2008 and (EU) No 1337/2011 {COM (2016) 786 final}.*

*The purpose of the proposal is to continue the programme of European surveys on the structure of agricultural holdings, which has been carried out in the Union since 1966. It will facilitate the examination of trends in the structure of agricultural holdings at the Union level and provide the statistical knowledge base necessary for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of related policies, in particular the Common Agricultural Policy and environmental, climate change adaptation and mitigation policies. It follows the recommendations of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations' World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2020. The proposal for a Regulation makes provision for ensuring and providing financial support which the European Statistical System needs for adapting to the new statistical and technical systems and for carrying out the surveys.*

*The Commission agrees that there is a need to reduce the administrative burden on micro-enterprises, and that the content of statistical surveys needs to be chosen in a functional manner prioritising the needs of producers and consumers in the European Union.*

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

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Marianne Thyssen  
Member of the Commission*

*Mr Pietro Grasso  
President of the Senato della Repubblica  
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