



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 02.06.2017
C(2017) 3811 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion on the proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 87/217/EEC of the Council, Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directive 2009/31/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Regulation (EU) No 1257/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directive 86/278/EEC and Council Directive 94/63/EC as regards procedural rules in the field of environmental reporting and repealing Council Directive 91/692/EEC {COM(2016)789 final}.

This initiative aims to eliminate provisions that are no longer applicable or relevant. In that regard the majority of the obligations originally set out in Directive 91/692/EEC have become obsolete and have no legal effect anymore. As a result, the proposal for a repeal has been adopted to ensure legal certainty, improve transparency, reduce administrative burden and ensure that European Union legislation is "fit for purpose" in line with the Better Regulation agenda. The proposal is also linked to the wider Fitness Check for environmental monitoring and reporting, which is now underway, as outlined in the Commission's Work Programme 2016.

The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Senato della Repubblica in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Karmenu Vella
Member of the Commission*

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