



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 19.06.2017
C(2017) 4107 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 amending Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community {COM(2016) 818 final}.

This proposal aims to ensure legal coherence between an envisaged wet lease agreement with the United States (based on the provisions of the Air Transport Agreement between the European Union and its Member States and the United States) and the relevant provisions laid down in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council. It intends to enable derogations from the conditions listed in Article 13 of the existing Regulation as regards time limitations, where an international agreement entered into by the European Union stipulates otherwise (as would be the case for the agreement with the United States). As the Senato della Repubblica acknowledges in its Opinion compliance with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality is respected since the objective of introducing such derogations could only be achieved through a legislative act of the Union.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Violeta Bulc
Member of the Commission*

*Mr Pietro Grasso
President of the Senato della Repubblica
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