



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 10.7.2017
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Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion on environmental profiles of the Italian Energy Strategy, which closely relates to the Governance of the Energy Union and the National Plans to be set up as part thereof.

The Commission is grateful for the Senato della Repubblica's broad support for the aims of the proposed 'Clean Energy for all Europeans' package and its call on the Italian Government to elaborate an integrated National Energy Strategy in line with the objectives of the Energy Union and notably the objectives endorsed in the Paris Agreement in 2015. The Italian Energy Strategy will represent a fundamental pillar and an important component of the future Italian Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan for the period from 2021 to 2030, as set out in the Commission proposal for a Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union.

The Commission's package provides an unprecedented opportunity to have comparable and comprehensive National Plans across all Member States, while at the same time ensuring that Member States retain significant flexibility to take account of specific national circumstances.

The Commission would like to highlight that the package of proposals promotes a transparent and participatory process for the preparation of the National Plans. While it is for the Member States to decide on the institutional set-up to prepare the National Plans, the Commission encourages Member States to ensure the broadest participation of public and private stakeholders in the process, including the Senato della Repubblica. The Commission also welcomes the Senato della Repubblica's call on Italy to set up a single entity to coordinate the definition and follow up on the implementation of the National Plans.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Miguel Arias Cañete
Member of the Commission*

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