



COURTESY TRANSLATION

To Mr José Manuel Barroso
President of the European Commission
B - 1049 Brussels
Belgium

Place and Date The Hague, 7 December 2011
Subject Reasoned opinion (subsidiarity) on the Regulation on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund 2014 - 2020 COM (2011) 608
Our Reference 2011Z24129/ 2011D60346

Dear Mr Barroso,

In accordance with the applicable procedure, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the States General of the Netherlands have assessed the proposal for Regulation on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund 2014 – 2020 on the basis of the principle of subsidiarity. As such, use was made of Article 5 of the EU Treaty and Protocol 2 of the Treaty of Lisbon on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.

This letter is intended to inform you about the position of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the States General. Copies of this letter were sent to the European Parliament, the Council, and the Dutch Government.

The Senate and the House of Representatives is of the opinion that the European Commission has not adequately demonstrated that the proposal complies with the principles of subsidiarity. In the view of the Senate and the House, the responsibility for providing support to employees who have been made redundant (or who are threatened with the possibility of same) should lie primarily with the member states.

The Senate and the House of Representatives are therefore not convinced that the proposal meets the subsidiarity principle. The only argument to be advanced by the European Commission on the basis of Article 175, third paragraph, of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union – that solidarity cannot be achieved at member-state level – is insufficient and has not been properly developed, and is therefore not convincing.



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The Senate and the House of Representatives therefore believe that the proposal has insufficient added value in comparison to other European instruments and with regard to national responsibilities and efforts.

For that reason, this Regulation (COM (2011) 608) is not compatible with the principle of subsidiarity, in the view of the Dutch Senate and the House of Representatives.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

G.J. de Graaf LMM
President of the Senate
of the States General

(signed)

Gerdi A. Verbeet
President of the House of Representatives
of the States General