Dear President,

The European Commission would like to thank the Portuguese Parliament for having examined the Green Paper on forest protection and information {COM(2010) 66} and for having provided its opinion on the issue. This opinion constitutes valuable input to the consultation process and will be examined in depth.

The European Commission would like to stress the consultative nature of the paper in question and would like to inform the Portuguese Parliament that it will prepare a comprehensive report on the reactions to the public consultation.

With respect to the comments made at this stage by the Portuguese Parliament, the European Commission welcomes the favourable reactions and has taken due note of this contribution in view of its work in this area.

The European Commission is looking forward to a more extensive discussion with EU Institutions, Member States and stakeholders of the issues mentioned in the Green Paper.

Yours sincerely,

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