



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 31.10.2013
C(2013) 7268 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down provisions for the management of expenditure relating to the food chain, animal health and animal welfare, and relating to plant health and plant reproductive material, amending Council Directives 98/56/EC, 2000/29/EC and 2008/90/EC, Regulations (EC) No 178/2002, (EC) No 882/2004 and (EC) No 396/2005, Directive 2009/128/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 and repealing Council Decisions 66/399/EEC, 76/894/EEC and 2009/470/EC {COM(2013) 327 final}.

The Commission welcomes the support of the Assembleia da República as regards the proposal aiming to modernise the financial provisions for the food safety area, and to create one single financial framework.

The Commission takes note of the comments of the Assembleia da República concerning Article 6 of the abovementioned proposal on the minimum amount of grants. As explained in Recital 10 of the draft, these thresholds are proposed in order to simplify spending programmes of the Union and to reduce the administrative burden and costs of the beneficiaries of funds and all actors involved. The comments of the Assembleia da República will nevertheless be further examined in the framework of the inter-institutional procedure with the European Parliament and the Council.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the comments and concerns raised by the Assembleia da República and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Ms Maria da Assunção ESTEVES
President of the
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