



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 6.12.2016  
C(2016) 7545 final*

*Ms. Regina BASTOS  
Chair of the European Affairs  
Committee  
Palácio de S. Bento  
1249-068 Lisbon*

*cc: Mr. Eduardo FERRO  
RODRIGUES  
President of the Assembleia da  
República  
Palácio de S. Bento  
1249-068 Lisbon  
PORTUGAL*

*Dear Chair,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1030/2002 laying down a uniform format for residence permits for third-country nationals {COM(2016) 434 final}.*

*The proposal aims to improve the uniform format for residence permits in light of the technical advancements used by fraudsters. The current design of the residence permit dates from the Council Joint Action 97/11/JHA<sup>1</sup> which was adopted back in 1997. It has therefore become necessary to work on a new design and to introduce more modern security features into the residence permit.*

*The Commission welcomes the Assembleia da República's overall support for the aims of the proposal as well as the assessment and positive conclusion of the Assembleia da República regarding the proposal's compliance with the principle of subsidiarity.*

*The Commission remains hopeful that an agreement between the European Parliament and the Council on the proposal which is currently in the legislative process will be reached soon and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Dimitris Avramopoulos  
Member of the Commission*

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 7, 10.1.1997, pp. 1-4.