



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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C(2018) 5656 final

Dear Chair

The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on unfair trading practices in business-to-business relationships in the food supply chain {COM(2018) 173 final}.

This proposal forms part of a broader package of ambitious measures designed to improve the functioning of the food supply chain to help farmers strengthen their position in the market place and help protect them from future shocks. It aims at reducing the occurrence of unfair trading practices in the food supply chain by introducing a minimum common standard of protection across the Union. The proposal includes provisions targeting minimum enforcement requirements applying to national competent authorities, adding to the deterrent character of the proposed regime.

The Commission is pleased that the Assembleia da República shares the view that action at EU level is required to meet the objectives of the proposal. Discussions between the European Parliament and the Council concerning the proposal are now underway and the Commission remains hopeful that an agreement will be reached in the near future.

The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Assembleia da República in the future.

Yours faithfully,

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Member of the Commission*

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