



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 26.11.2018
C(2018) 7748 final*

Dear Chair,

The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Singapore {COM(2018) 196 final}.

The free trade agreement with Singapore is the first negotiated agreement of the European Union with one of the fast-growing economies of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The agreement constitutes a first stepping stone towards a future region-to-region agreement between the European Union and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. At the same time, the Agreement constitutes a good reference point for other bilateral trade agreements that the European Union is negotiating with other Southeast Asian countries.

The Commission welcomes the support of the Assembleia da República to the free trade agreement between the European Union and Singapore and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future on other trade agreements.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Cecilia Malmström
Member of the Commission*

*Ms Regina BASTOS
Chair of the European Affairs Committee
of the Assembleia da República
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*cc. Mr Eduardo FERRO RODRIGUES
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of the Assembleia da República
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