



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Bruxelles, 27.09.2012  
C(2012) 6656 final

*Dear President,*

*The Commission welcomes the Opinion of the Romanian Senate concerning the Commission proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy {COM(2011) 625 final} and apologises for the delay in replying.*

*The Commission would like to recall that the proposal is based on the results of a thorough impact assessment carried out during the preceding months which considered various options for its different components.*

*Therefore, the proposal as adopted by the Commission strikes the balance in meeting the different challenges identified for the reform of the common agricultural policy towards 2020.*

*However, the Commission takes note that the Romanian Senate considers as necessary a further analysis of several aspects of the proposal, in particular concerning equity and convergence objectives as regards direct payments, the green payment component, the transfer rates of funds between the two pillars, the exclusion of the payment for areas with natural constraints from direct payments subject to capping, the percentage of national ceiling for the young farmers and the upper limit in the framework of the small farmer scheme.*

*As you know, the proposal is now on the table of both the European Parliament and the Council for discussion and adoption in the context of the ordinary legislative procedure.*

*The above-mentioned aspects of the proposal referred to by the Romanian Senate could be then examined in this context.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Mr. George Crin Laurențiu  
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