EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Mr George CRIN LAURENȚIU ANTONESCU
President of the Senat
Calea 13 Septembrie nr. 1-3,
sector 5
RO – 050711 BUCHAREST

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senat for its Opinion concerning the Proposal for a Regulation (EU) of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community {COM (2013)155 final}.

The Commission notes that the Senat considers that the Proposal respects the principle of subsidiarity and proportionality.

Furthermore, in its Opinion the Senat considers that the verb "may" should be deleted in Article 7b ('Financial provision') of the proposal.

The Commission would like to point out that this provision would put the Union in a position to allow for a financial contribution. This is proposed in view of the importance of the Labour Force Survey ad hoc modules in support of Union policies. Nevertheless, such Union contribution to the financing shall be made in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union[1] *and be based on the multiannual financial framework in force and the budget guidelines for the coming year approved by the budgetary authority (Council and the European Parliament).*

In light of the above, the Commission is of the view that the proposal fully complies with Union legislation.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issue raised by the Senat and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

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Vice-President/Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.