



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 21. 8. 2013  
C(2013) 5498 final

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Senat for its Opinion concerning the Amended proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund covered by the Common Strategic Framework and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 {COM(2013) 246 final}.*

*The Commission welcomes that the Senat finds that the examined proposal, based on Article 177 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, is in compliance with the principle of subsidiarity and the principle of proportionality as defined by Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union.*

*The Commission welcomes the support expressed by the Senat for the harmonisation of systems for European Structural and Investment Funds and takes note that the Senat considers it more appropriate to set out arrangements for the delivery systems of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) in the Fund-specific Regulation.*

*The Commission informs the Senat that, after due consideration of specific arrangements required for the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and a number of changes to the Commission proposal proposed by the Irish Presidency in order to take into account the comments of Member States, e.g. on arrangements providing for additional proportionality for the EMFF, most Member States have accepted the approach by which the delivery arrangements for the EMFF are in general aligned with those applied to cohesion policy and included in the same regulation, as proposed by the Commission in its amending proposal.*

*The Commission notes that these arrangements remain at this time subject to negotiation and agreement between the Council and the European Parliament.*

*Mr George CRIN LAURENȚIU  
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*The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the concerns raised by the Senat and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

[ ]  
*Vice-President/Member of the Commission*