EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Brussels, 15.12.2016 C(2016) 8386 final

Dear President

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaţilor for its Opinion supporting the Communication on further measures to enhance transparency and the fight against tax evasion and avoidance {COM(2016) 451 final}.

The Commission shares the view of the Camera Deputaţilor that the fight against money laundering and tax abuse requires concerted EU action, given the cross-border nature of these problems. The above-mentioned Communication sets out the next steps in the Commission's agenda to achieve this, and it was endorsed by the EU finance ministers at the ECOFIN Council in October.

The Commission appreciates the Camera Deputaţilor's support for the initiatives outlined in the Communication. Some of these initiatives have already been successfully implemented. The first EU anti-money laundering list was published in July and will be updated before the end of the year. In addition, the proposal to grant tax authorities access to anti-money laundering information is currently being negotiated by Member States and is expected to be agreed before the end of the year. The Commission agrees with the Camera Deputaţilor that transparency on beneficial ownership needs to be cross-border to be truly effective, and has started examining possible options to achieve this.

In 2017, the Commission intends to continue with the agenda set out in the Communication. The first EU list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions should be finalised before the end of next year, while the Commission is already working on a possible proposal to increase oversight of promoters and enablers of aggressive tax planning schemes. The Commission hopes that it can continue to rely on the constructive input and support of the Camera Deputaților as it proceeds with this ambitious agenda against tax evasion and avoidance.

Yours faithfully,

Frans Timmermans First Vice-President Pierre Moscovici Member of the Commission

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