



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 10.7.2017
C(2017) 4739 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its opinion on the Communication "Next steps for a sustainable European future" {COM(2016) 739}. The Commission is grateful for the input provided and would like to take this opportunity to make a number of clarifications.

The European Union has a strong starting position as regards sustainable development, which has been a guiding principle of its policies since its inclusion in the Treaty of Amsterdam. The European Union was also instrumental in shaping the global 2030 Agenda and is fully committed to its implementation, as outlined in the aforementioned Communication.

As recalled in the opinion of the Camera Deputaților, in order to ensure coherent implementation, the Commission is mainstreaming sustainable development into all major policies, including the Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The Commission concurs with the Camera Deputaților that better regulation is one of the key tools to achieve this. The use of better regulation tools will enable the Commission to assess the environmental, social and economic impacts of the policies of the European Union and ensure consistency of all these policies with the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition to that, the better regulation tools ensure appropriate stakeholder involvement in sustainable development related policymaking which is at the core of the 2030 Agenda.

Concerning stakeholder engagement, as presented in the Communication, the Commission will also launch a multi-stakeholder platform that will advise the European institutions on their approach regarding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The work of the platform will be inclusive and contribute to ensuring that all relevant stakeholders are heard in matters relating to sustainable development. The call for applications to the platform ended recently. The Commission will provide more details on the composition and modalities of this platform shortly.

*Mr Liviu Dragnea
President of the Camera Deputaților
Palace of the Parliament
Str. Izvor nr. 2-4, sector 5
RO – 050563 BUCHAREST*

As also pointed out in the opinion of the Camera Deputaților, monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in a systematic and transparent way is essential. The Commission will carry out detailed regular monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals in a European Union context, developing a reference indicator framework for this purpose. Further results will be presented still this year.

Naturally, any efforts taken at the level of the European Union to implement the 2030 Agenda will have to be complemented by all levels of public governments and civil society. The continued good cooperation with national Parliaments is essential in this context.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Camera Deputaților and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*