



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 02.02.2012  
C(2012)52final

Dear Mr Westerberg,

*The European Commission would like to thank you for the Opinion of the Swedish Parliament prepared in response to the Green Paper from the Commission on a Common Strategic Framework for EU research and innovation funding {COM(2011) 48 final}, and apologises for the extremely long delay in replying.*

*The Commission welcomes your contribution, and would like to thank the Riksdag in particular for its support to the concept of the Common Strategic Framework, and for its detailed comments on the questions from the Green Paper. The Commission strongly believes that the involvement of national Parliaments is of crucial importance for the modernisation of the EU research and innovation funding, and is looking forward to further constructive exchanges on this important topic.*

*The Commission has taken account of the comments received during the Green Paper consultation to prepare the best possible legislative proposals for Horizon 2020, which have been adopted by the Commission on 20 November 2011.*

*Horizon 2020 is structured around three distinct, but mutually reinforcing blocks, in line with Europe 2020 priorities: the first block 'Excellent science base' will strengthen the EU's world-class excellence in science. The second block 'Industrial leadership and competitive frameworks' will support business research and innovation. The third block 'Tackling societal challenges' will respond directly to challenges, identified in Europe 2020. The implementation of the programme will be simplified and standardised, with simplification covering both funding schemes and rules.*

*We appreciate your continued support and constructive engagement in this important matter. The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Swedish Parliament.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Mr Per WESTERBERG  
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