



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 4.6.2012
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Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Riksdag for its opinion on the Green Paper on the Dual-use Export Control System of the European Union: Ensuring Security and Competitiveness in a Changing World {COM(2011) 393 final} and would like to apologise for the long delay in replying.

The European Commission fully shares the view of the Riksdag that it is important for a careful balance to be struck between continuing to implement strict export controls and, wherever possible, eliminating obstacles to legitimate trade; that it is important for the controls to be made where they are of most use from a non-proliferation perspective; and that it is important to ensure that changes to the export control system do not impair the security aspects of maintaining an export control or undermine respect for international non-proliferation obligations. The Commission also shares the view that further harmonisation may be needed between the Member States so as to ensure similar approaches and interpretations on export control questions.

The Commission has taken good note of the concern that the Riksdag expressed regarding the process of authorising the export of dual-use items, which it considers should continue to be carried out by the national licensing authorities. Similarly, the Commission will be looking further into the current practices of having more restrictive interpretations of the Regulation being applied by some Member States, but not by others.

I would like to take this opportunity to set out the next steps in the formulation of this policy. Firstly, the Commission will publish a technical analysis of the responses received to the Green Paper. This is to be expected by mid-2012. The Commission will then proceed with the preparation of its formal report on the review of the dual-use Regulation as required under Article 25 of Regulation 428/2009.

*Herr Per WESTERBERG
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I would once again like to thank the Riksdag for its valuable contribution to the Green Paper on the Dual-use Export Control System.

I look forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Riksdag.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*