



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 4.6.2012
C/2012/ 3628 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Riksdag for its reasoned opinion on the proposal for a regulation on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) 2014 – 2020 {COM(2011) 608 final} and apologises for the delay in replying.

The Commission would like to underline that it is up to each Member State to decide whether to apply for EGF funding and which redundant workers should be targeted. The Member States also decide which measures should be implemented and what will be the cost to the budget. In any case, Member States implement the measures according to their own legislation, procedures and rules.

The Commission emphasises that the EGF can be of assistance only at the request of Member States. The EGF intervention criteria are strictly limited, in order to ensure that it becomes involved only where there are cases of European level importance. The EGF does, however, allow the Member States to go beyond the measures generally made available to workers made redundant in mass redundancy cases, by providing them with more personalised support, by supporting them for longer periods, and by making available measures not (yet) available in their respective general schemes. The EGF can thus be used to test innovative actions and delivery methods - but only if the Member States so desire.

The Commission will shortly be transmitting the mid-term evaluation of the effectiveness and sustainability of the results obtained by the EGF to the various institutions and stakeholders. I hope that the results obtained so far will convince the Riksdag of the value added of this Fund.

The EGF is an expression of solidarity on the European level, assisting Member States on their request in coping with unforeseen effects of globalisation.

Herr Per WESTERBERG
Talmannen
Riksdagen
Sveriges riksdag
SE – 100 12 STOCKHOLM

Finally, the Commission takes this opportunity to inform the Riksdag that the Commission is currently assessing one new EGF application based on the globalisation criterion received in 2011 from the Government of Sweden.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*