



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 7.10.2013  
C(2013) 6377 final

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Riksdag for its Opinion on the Commission Communication on Smart Regulation – Responding to the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises {COM(2013) 122 final}.*

*The Commission welcomes the support of the Riksdag for the Commission's policy to keep regulatory burden on small businesses to a minimum. The Commission can confirm that the "Think Small First" principle continues to apply in the development of new or revised legislation. The right regulatory approach must be decided on a case-by-case basis to ensure that the best solution is found to reach the specific objectives for each regulation in its particular context. The Commission ensures that this is done by requiring that a micro-enterprise exemption be taken as a point of departure in preparing any new regulatory initiative, and that any derogation from this principle should be clearly justified. This way, the need for any form of regulation, and the way that it will apply to all sizes of business, is explained and justified.*

*The Commission also finds that an approach which generally applies exemptions is not desirable, and that every case must be considered on its merits during the impact assessment. The approach to be adopted for each specific initiative should not undermine the relevant public interest considerations, such as protection of consumers, workers or the environment.*

*The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the concerns raised by the Riksdag and looks forward to continuing our dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Mr Per WESTERBERG  
President of the Riksdag  
SE – 100 12 STOCKHOLM*

