



**European Economic and Social Committee  
The President**

Brussels,  
PRES/2016/D/4736

Ref.: Complaints 500/2015/PL, 561/2015/PL, 570/2015/PL, 577/2015/PL, 619/2015/PL, 635/2015/PL and 650/2015/PL

Dear Ms O'Reilly,

I am writing in reference to your recommendation of 19.9.2016 concerning the above complaints, in which you asked the EESC to provide a response by 16 December 2016.

The EESC accepts your recommendation. As you know, EESC members are individually responsible for their declarations of interest, which must be updated regularly. The obligation for members to declare their financial interests entered into force in 2011 with the modification of the Members' Statute.

In light of your recommendation, the Committee will adopt the necessary measures to ensure that members are aware of these obligations. It will remind them of their obligations both on an annual basis, and whenever there are new developments that may require changes to be made.

Regarding your suggestion for improvement, the issue of what constitutes a reasonable amount of time for members to consult documents in connection with a plenary session will be on the agenda as part of a future revision of the Committee's rules of procedure. In the meantime, the Bureau will make every effort to allow as much time as possible for discussing counter-opinions, including postponing them to a subsequent session or sending the opinion and counter-opinion back to the relevant section for re-examination, where institutional deadlines permit.

Yours sincerely,

Georges Dassis

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