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date *The Hague, June 25, 2008*
RFO 141658U

Dear Mr. Lequiller, Dear Mr. Haenel,
Dear Colleagues,

In May 2005, under the Luxembourg Presidency of the European Union, the Conference of Community and European Affairs Committees of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC) adopted a resolution that called for the improvement of the management and control systems of EU-budget expenditures. COSAC also concluded to return to this issue in the nearby future.

I hereby send you – on behalf of the Benelux delegations to the COSAC - a new resolution, prepared by the Dutch Senate. This BENELUX-resolution stresses that, although positive developments have taken place since 2005, improvement of the management and control systems is still needed. It considers Member State declarations to be an important and useful instrument for improving control of EU expenditure at national level and therefore, *inter alia*, calls upon Member States to issue Member States declarations. Moreover, the resolution calls upon the relevant national and European institutions to cooperate closely in order to improve the control of EU expenditure.

With this writing, the BENELUX delegations call for your support, according to article 7.2. of the COSAC Rules of Procedure to place this BENELUX-resolution and a discussion on this topic on the agenda of the COSAC XL Meeting to be held in Paris on 3 November 2008.

In addition I would also like to propose on behalf of the BENELUX-delegations that the topic of migration and integration and the topic of the democratic control on the set up of European Agencies will be discussed in COSAC.



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On behalf of the BENELUX delegations to the COSAC,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a long horizontal stroke with a vertical line intersecting it near the left end.

Mr. René van der Linden

Chairman of the standing committee on European Cooperation Organisations of
the Senate of the States General