

Brussels, 05 JUL. 2007  
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Mr. Jaime Gama  
Speaker of the Assembly  
of the Republic of Portugal

Dear Mr Gama,

I would like to thank you again for your warm welcome to the Assembleia da Republica on 3 July. It was a very timely opportunity for us to discuss and exchange about the role of national parliaments in the European Union democratic process. I appreciated very much sharing views and having the opportunity to hear about the Portuguese Assembly's experience in organising scrutiny.

As a follow-up to our conversation on opinions from national parliaments on the Commission's proposals, I can inform you that we recently received the 100th opinion. It came from the Swedish Riksdag and was on the Commission's Green Paper on Public Access to Documents. The vast majority of the comments we have received during the first 10 months of this procedure (submitted by over 20 assemblies on around 50 different Commission proposals) have been positive, but their formats have varied from very succinct comments to elaborate reports. What they all have in common is that they have indeed improved the process of policy formulation. All Commissioners share this view, and we encourage national parliaments to – according to their respective requirements and democratic traditions – help us improve European policies with this kind of feedback and input.

Looking forward to meet you again, for example at a future COSAC reunion.

Yours sincerely,



Margot Wallström

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