



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

ECB-PUBLIC

Mario DRAGHI

President

Mr Jonás Fernández
Member of the European Parliament
European Parliament
60, rue Wiertz
B-1047 Brussels

Frankfurt am Main, 1 December 2015

L/MD/15/662

Re: Your letter (QZ-163)

Honourable Member of the European Parliament, dear Mr Fernández,

Thank you for your letter, which was passed on to me by Mr Roberto Gualtieri, Chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, accompanied by a cover letter dated 11 November 2015.

At its next meeting, the Governing Council of the ECB will thoroughly assess the strength and persistence of the factors that are slowing inflation's return to levels below, but close to, 2% in light of the ongoing concerns regarding growth prospects in emerging markets and possible repercussions for the euro area economy resulting from developments in financial and commodity markets. On that basis, the Governing Council will re-examine the degree of monetary policy accommodation. That assessment will be supported by the new Eurosystem staff projections that will be available by then, as well as work carried out by ECB staff, in consultation with Eurosystem committees, on the monetary policy stimulus that has been achieved so far and the range of instruments that are available in the event that increased accommodation is deemed necessary. Were the Governing Council to conclude that the balance of risks to its medium-term price stability objective was skewed on the downside, the ECB would act using all of the instruments available within its mandate. In particular, the ECB considers the asset purchase programme to be a powerful and flexible instrument, as its size, composition and duration can be adjusted to achieve a more accommodative policy stance. Other instruments could also be used to strengthen the impact of the asset purchase programme if necessary.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Mario Draghi

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