EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations

D - WESTERN BALKANS
The Director

Brussels, 07.03.2017.

Ref.: Your letters on the International Monitoring Operation (Prot no. 1094/2, dated

20 February 2017, and no. 1094/4, dated 28 February 2016)

Dear Minister,

First of all, I would like to thank you for the constructive discussion we had in your office on the occasion of my visit to Tirana last week.

As agreed, I am following up on the concerns expressed in your recent letters on the International Monitoring Operation (IMO). Further to the letter sent by Commissioner Hahn to Prime Minister Rama on 17 February, which already contained a number of relevant clarifications, I would like to provide you with additional and more detailed information, addressing the various points that you raised, so that we can continue a meaningful and constructive dialogue on this important matter. You can find herewith enclosed an explanatory note for your consideration.

The European Commission has taken the lead of the IMO with the utmost commitment to support the vetting process and reach its objectives as foreseen in the Constitution of Albania. The enclosed explanatory note was prepared with the aim of reaching a common understanding of the process.

Rest reassured that the IMO will continue to perform all its monitoring tasks with the utmost professionalism and impartiality, acting in full respect of the relevant legislative bases.

Yours sincerely,

Genoveva Ruiz Calavera

Mr Petrit Vasili Minister of Justice Albania

Encl.: Explanatory note on issues related to the functioning and structure of the

International Monitoring Operation

C.c.: - Mr Ditmir Bushati, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania

- Ms Klajda Gjosha, Minister for European Integration of Albania

- Mr Ëngjëll Agaçi, Secretary General of the Council of Ministers of Albania