



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
 Directorate-General Neighbourhood & Enlargement Negotiations
D – WESTERN BALKANS
The Director

Brussels, 22/03/2017

Dear Secretary General,

The European Commission noted the Decision No. 16/2017 adopted by the Assembly of the Republic of Albania on the last 16 March, which foresaw the opening of a window of opportunity for candidates to the vetting institutions to complete their application dossiers with the documentation necessary to assess the fulfilment of the qualification criteria. While entrusting the Ombudsperson Office with the tasks necessary to pursue this objective, the Assembly contextually recalled that the entire process shall be monitored by the International Monitoring Operation (IMO).

I can hereby confirm that international observers will be re-deployed in the framework of the IMO to guarantee independent external monitoring of the process. Specifically, monitoring activities will be resumed as from Monday 27 March, which is the new deadline for applicants to complement their dossiers with missing certifications. The IMO international observers will be deployed from amongst the same team members previously appointed, and with the same logistical arrangements notified to you with my letter of 7 February, Prot. Ares(2017)675392.

Please also be reassured that on 17 March we have already received a communication by the Ombudsperson, who timely informed me, as Chair of the IMO, of this development and has kindly confirmed the readiness of his office to facilitate the monitoring role of the IMO international observers.

Yours sincerely,

Genoveva Ruiz Calavera

Mr Engjëll Agaçi
 Secretary General of the Council of Ministers
 Tirana, Albania

CC:

- Mr Ditmir Bushati, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania
- Mr Petri Vasili, Minister of Justice
- Ms Klajda Gjoshaj, Minister for European Integration
- Mr Igli Totozani, Ombudsman of Albania
- Ms Albana Shtylla, Secretary General of the Albanian Assembly
- Mr James Walsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)

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