

*José Manuel Barroso*  
*President of the European Commission*

Bruxelles, 17-10-2008  
PRES (2008) D/2012

Dear President,

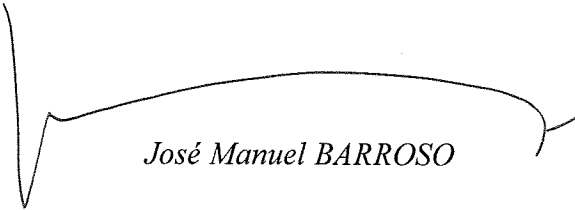
*In reply to your letter of 14 October 2008 and in view of the meeting between Commissioner Ashton and parliamentary committees responsible for her portfolio, which will take place on 20 October, I have the pleasure to send you Commissioner Ashton's replies to the general and specific questionnaires. Translations will be sent directly to your services organising the meeting. I am very grateful to you and your services for agreeing with a very tight schedule.*

*Commissioner Ashton responded to the questionnaires with great care and she will be delighted to answer any additional questions during the exchange of views with the parliamentary committees.*

*I am glad that, following her nomination by the Council on 6 October 2008, Commissioner Ashton will have this opportunity to introduce herself to the parliamentary committees responsible for files falling under her portfolio. The Commission attaches great importance to the provisions of the Framework Agreement on the replacement of a member of the Commission during its mandate and to respect of Article 215 TEC.*

*I would be grateful if you could treat this letter as part of the questionnaire package which the Parliament will publish on the web pages devoted to Commissioner Ashton's presentation.*

*Yours sincerely,*



*José Manuel BARROSO*

*Mr. Hans-Gert PÖTTERING*  
*President of the European Parliament*  
*Rue Wiertz*  
*1047 Brussels*