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The President

Mr José Manuel Barroso
President of the European Commission
rue de la Loi 200
B - 1049 Brussels

204197 26.10.2012

Dear President,

Thank you for your letter of 25 October 2012 concerning the resignation of Mr John Dalli from his post as Member of the European Commission and his replacement, with the same portfolio, by Mr Tonio Borg.

Firstly, in relation to the resignation of Mr John Dalli, the Conference of Presidents wishes to be provided by the European Commission with additional and comprehensive information on all circumstances around this resignation. Besides, the Conference of Presidents requests for Parliament to have adequate access to the OLAF final report following the complaint by Tobacco producer Swedish match.

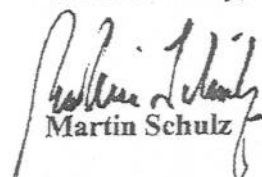
Secondly, concerning the replacement procedure, I welcome your wish for Mr Borg to appear before Parliament without delay and in full compliance with the prerogatives of our Institutions and the framework agreement they have concluded.

At its meeting of 26 October 2012, the Conference of Presidents approved the practical arrangements for holding a hearing with Mr Borg, including a provisional timetable. It is proposed that the hearing takes place on Tuesday, 13 November, from 15:00 to 18:00 and the vote be held in plenary at the November session in Strasbourg.

Furthermore, in line with previous practice, please find attached a questionnaire for Mr Borg: the general part includes questions relevant to the post of Commissioner and the specific one subjects related to his portfolio. The translation in all official languages will follow. I would be grateful if you could ensure that Parliament receives the written replies by noon on Tuesday, 6 November. Parliament's services will be in contact with the Commission to fix all the relevant organisational aspects and ensure that the hearing procedure runs smoothly.

Finally, I would stress that it is the view of our Institution that Mr Borg should not appear officially before Parliament as a representative of the Commission before the end of the hearing procedure.

Yours sincerely,


Martin Schulz

Annex