



Ministry of Finance

> Postbus 20201 2500 EE Den Haag The Netherlands

European Commission
Commissioner J. Hill
Wetstraat 200
1049 Brussel
België

**International Tax &
Consumer Tax**

Korte Voorhout 7
2511 CW Den Haag
Postbus 20201
2500 EE Den Haag
www.rijksoverheid.nl

Inquiries

dhr. mr. J.N.H. van Leeuwen

T +31 70-3428487

F +31 70-3427947

j.n.h.leeuwen@minfin.nl

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Our reference

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Your letter / Your reference

Encl.

Dear Commissioner,

Also on behalf of my colleague the Minister for Security and Justice, I would like to inform you that the Netherlands government very much welcomes the various initiatives that regard increasing transparency relating to tax matters. More in particular, we welcome the recent initiatives to share the information of tax rulings among tax administrations and to share country-by-country reports among tax administrations following the OECD BEPS project. We think all these initiatives will be useful instruments to combat tax avoidance.

Besides these transparency initiatives among tax administrations, there are also initiatives that regard transparency to the public, like country-by-country reporting for the extractive industry and forestry and public country-by-country reporting for banks. Following the Directive for non-financial information the EU Commission will report ultimately in 2018 on the potential expansion of country-by-country reporting requirements for banks to all multinationals.

The Netherlands government also supports the initiatives for public country-by-country reporting. We would, therefore, like to encourage the EU Commission to give priority to the impact assessment for the expansion of public country-by-country reporting, that the Commission announced in the Communication on Tax Transparency to Fight Tax Evasion and Avoidance (18 March 2015, COM(2015) 136 final) and in Article 1(6) of Directive 2014/95/EU on Non-Financial Information, and to deliver this assessment preferably before 2018.

Yours sincerely,

State Secretary of Finance,

Eric Wiebes

c.c. Commissioner P. Moscovici