



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK
EUROSYSTEM

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Mario DRAGHI
President

Mr Notis Marias
Member of the European Parliament
European Parliament
60, rue Wiertz
B-1047 Brussels

Frankfurt, 30 June 2015

L/MD/15/400

Re: Your letters (QZ-71 and QZ-72)

Honourable Member of the European Parliament, dear Mr Marias,

Thank you for your letters, which were passed on to me by Mr Roberto Gualtieri, Chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, accompanied by a cover letter dated 7 April 2015.

The role of the European Central Bank in providing advice and expertise in the context of the economic adjustment programme for Greece was clarified in a letter of reply that I sent to your honourable colleague, Mr Kostas Chrysogonos, MEP, on 15 January 2015.¹

The Economic Adjustment Programme for Greece included various reforms aimed at improving the tax structure and the overall design of the tax system, as well as measures designed to enhance the efficiency of tax administration and to better fight tax evasion. A key overarching objective of these reforms was social fairness and the creation of an environment in which all citizens pay their fair share of taxes and where tax rates can consequently be lower than in an environment of widespread tax evasion.

¹ The letter is available on ECB's website at http://www.ecb.europa.eu/pub/pdf/other/150126letter_chrysogonos.en.pdf

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Similarly, the measures on the pension system have been designed to be progressive and they have been mostly applied mainly to pensions above €1,000. The goal of the reform is to increase the actuarial fairness of the pension system and to ensure the system's viability also for future generations.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

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