

Mr. Jyrki Katainen
Vice-President of the European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200/Wetstraat 200
1049 Brussels
Belgium

Vienna, 24 October 2014

Dear Vice-President,

First and foremost I would like to thank you for your letter of 22 October 2014 and your preliminary analysis of Austria's Draft Budgetary Plan for 2015.

We note with satisfaction that the Commission acknowledges that Austria did indeed improve compared to the DBP for 2014, despite the much weaker economic environment than envisaged in spring.

Please let me once again reassure you, that Austria is committed to the Stability and Growth Pact as it is a core element of the EMU. Hence I am pleased to inform you, that currently I lead intensive discussions with all my colleagues in government aiming at identifying further measures for 2015.

The federal government stands by the measures envisaged in the Government's programme, as well as the valid decisions submitted to you by my predecessor in office. Moreover, I would like to point out that it has always been the federal government's position to achieving the MTO by 2016.

In due time I will be able to provide you with more details.

Yours sincerely,

