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ANLAGE 1

(bei Antwort bitte GZ und DOK angeben)

Dear colleagues,

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the finalization of the draft of the joint request to the European Commission for enhanced cooperation to implement a financial transaction tax.

We strongly believe in the need for a fair contribution from the financial sector to cover the costs of the financial crisis. It is our firm conviction that this objective can best be achieved by means of a financial transaction tax. Therefore we support the harmonized implementation of a financial transaction tax through enhanced cooperation based on the European Commission's proposal for a Council Directive on a common system of financial transaction tax.

Our governments decided to play an active part in this process and, by means of this letter, we wish to encourage and invite you to participate in enhanced cooperation as well. Your participation would be very important and valuable, and it would also enable you to be involved in the negotiations on the Commission's proposal for enhanced cooperation on a financial transaction tax from the outset.

We would be very grateful if you were to show your willingness to go forward with this issue and participate in this matter.

To achieve the objective adopted on 28/29 June 2012 by the European Council in the Compact for Growth and Jobs of establishing enhanced cooperation by December 2012, the request should be submitted as soon as possible.

We are therefore sending you the request that we have already signed and forwarded to the European Commission, and we invite you to join us by doing the same and sending a corresponding request to the European Commission as well. We should aim to accelerate the process so that the requests reach the European Commission as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble

Pierre Moscovici