

**Subject: Proposal for the adoption of an Implementing Decision for the Lyon-Turin Base Tunnel project**

**Ref.**

Dear [REDACTED],

Firstly I would like to thank you for Your letter proposing the adoption of an Implementing Decision by the Commission, after approval by the Member States concerned, in line with art.47.2 of the EU Regulation 1315/2013 for the Lyon-Turin Base Tunnel project, including its access routes, as an indispensable step forward for its implementation.

Having consulted the internal hierarchy of this Administration, the Head of the Italian delegation of the Intergovernmental Committee and the Ministry of International Affairs and having deeply analyzed the previous adopted Implementing Decisions for the other European Transport Flagship Initiatives, we can provide a preliminary positive expression on the principle at the basis of the proposal.

Nevertheless, strategic discussions should be set out in the future in order to initiate the negotiation process together with the French Authorities, the promotor TELT SAS, [REDACTED] and the Commission services for deepening the relevant legal provisions to be included in the aforementioned act, in terms of measures, commitments, constraints, governance provisions and operative milestones.

At this aim we would like to suggest to take these discussions in the framework of the Intergovernmental Committee that appears the proper context, taking into consideration the

characteristics and the perimeter of the Implementing Decision which goes beyond the mere co-funded projects but has a wider scope and perspective, extended also to national access routes.

In conclusion, we consider that this further step will enhance not only the future project implementation under the next financial period 2021-2027, in order to plan and fully optimize the availability of Union and national funding, but also allow to ensure a long-term shared planning for the whole cross-border transport flagship initiative expecting to play a crucial role in the functioning of the Mediterranean Corridor.

Yours sincerely,

