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*Coordination of the Secretaries-General of the Political Groups
February 2021 - April 2021*

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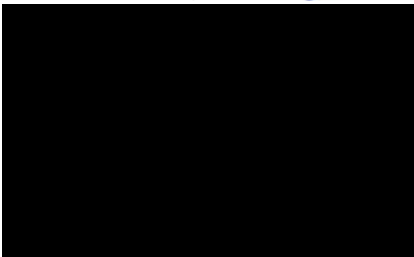
Mr. David Sassoli
President
European Parliament


Dear Mr. President Sassoli,

I would like to inform you that the political groups have agreed upon the creation of a standing ECON-BUDG working group on the scrutiny of the recovery and resilience facility (RRF), which could be formally adopted without debate in the Conference of Presidents meeting of 4 March.

Please find attached in annex a draft proposal with the modalities for the working group.

Yours,



CC: Mr. Klaus Welle, Secretary General; Mr. Lorenzo Mannelli, Head of Cabinet of the President;  Secretariat of the Conference of Presidents

PE 690.215/CPG

ANNEX

PROPOSAL FOR A STANDING ECON-BUDG WORKING GROUP ON THE SCRUTINY OF THE RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY (RRF)

In order to ensure the democratic scrutiny and accountability of the use and implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility, as foreseen in the RRF regulation, a Working Group of the BUDG and ECON committees will be established.

AIM

- The Working Group constitutes the operational format for the Recovery and Resilience Dialogue on the implementation of the facility as foreseen in Article 26 of the Regulation, conducting horizontal and sectoral analysis, based on all available information, such as the recovery and resilience plans of the Member States, the assessment by the Commission, the main findings of the review report, the status of fulfilment of the milestones and targets, procedures related to payment and suspension, and any other relevant information and documentation provided by the Commission in relation to the implementation of the Facility, on the basis of the RRF Regulation;
- This scrutiny includes upcoming delegated and implementing acts based on the regulation, such as those setting out the common indicators to be used for reporting on progress and for the purpose of the monitoring and evaluation of the Facility towards the achievement of the general and specific objectives, including the methodology for social, green and digital objectives under the facility;
- It furthermore includes the monitoring of the Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard, which constitutes the performance reporting system of the Facility.

STRUCTURE

- The Working Group will have 27 Members (7 EPP, 5 S&D, 4 RE, 3 ID, 3 Greens/Efa, 2 ECR, 2 The Left, 1 NI) nominated by the political groups, which could include the coordinators of political groups and/or rapporteurs/shadows on the RRF. The RRF's impact on the EU's policies should be reflected on the WG's composition, including Members of the associated committees EMPL, ENVI, ITRE and TRAN within it, besides a majority of members nominated from the BUDG and ECON committees. The groups should agree among themselves to ensure that each committee has at least one member included in the WG composition.
- The Chairs of the BUDG and ECON committee will co-chair the Working Group and will be counted within the quota.
- Political groups should be allowed to nominate a maximum of 2 substitutes, that may attend if and only if one of the designated members of the WG cannot make it to the WG meeting.

WORKING METHOD

- The Working Group may prepare BUDG-ECON Working Documents, letters for the BUDG-ECON chairs to the Commission, as well as other relevant documents.

- Results of the Working Group may form part of annual BUDG-ECON INI reports to be voted in the BUDG-ECON committee with the involvement of the associated committees on the implementation of the Facility, as well as BUDG-ECON resolutions pertaining to the objectives laid out above.
- The Working Group is the main preparatory and follow-up body for the bi-monthly structural dialogue BUDG-ECON exchanges with the Commission on the matter; in case the bi-monthly dialogue cannot be organised within the BUDG-ECON framework, the Working Group may host the dialogue.
- The Working Group may invite relevant Commission officials and experts to inform its work.
- The Working Group will work in a transparent way. Unless requested by the Commission or the Council for duly justified reasons, its meetings will be open to all MEPs to listen.
- In case of need, Plenary follow-up should be given via BUDG/ECON resolutions.

SUPPORT

- Parliament will ensure in-house support to the Working Group by staff from the BUDG and ECON secretariats and other relevant services.