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Brussels, 10th December 2018

Dear Vice-President Ansip,

We feel compelled to write to you, as a matter of urgency, following the remarks you made about Huawei at a press conference in Brussels on 7 December.

We are particularly concerned about the allegation you made that Huawei is obliged to cooperate with Chinese intelligence services through “mandatory backdoors” in our telecommunications equipment installed in Europe, with a view to us opening our systems so that they can be used to gather national security sensitive information in the countries in which Huawei subsidiaries operate.

This is simply not true. Huawei has never been asked by any government to build any “backdoors”, or interrupt any networks, and we would never tolerate such behaviour by any of our staff. Cyber security has always been our top priority and we have a proven track record of providing secure products and solutions for customers around the world.

In order to help quell these concerns about alleged Chinese government interference in Huawei foreign subsidiaries, we have sought legal advice on the matters you were commenting on at the press conference on 7 December. We attach this confidential advice, supplied to us by the law firm Chen & Co. on 4 December, for your information and we would be grateful if you would read it carefully.

It clearly states that Chinese laws “do not directly oblige foreign telecommunication equipment manufacturers, such as the Huawei overseas subsidiaries, to cooperate with any request by the Chinese government to use their systems or access them in any manner...” The advice also concludes that Chinese national intelligence law “does not authorize the Chinese government to order Huawei (including its overseas subsidiaries)... to hack into products it makes and sells to spy on or disable communications”.


Huawei stands ready to provide any information to you about security-related issues and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss the above with you in more details in a face to face meeting at your earliest convenience.

You will find Huawei entirely cooperative in clearing up any misunderstandings that may have arisen during the current political climate, since we have every intention of continuing, as a private employee-owned company, our longstanding cooperation with the European Commission. We have over 11,000 employees based in Europe, and 18 R&D centers located in 8 European countries, and continue to seek to play our part in helping you further the top priority of the Digital Single Market.


We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Representative of Huawei to the EU Institutions
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Attachment:

Confidential legal advice on government access requests to Huawei systems and devices under the relevant PRC legislation

CC:

Jean-Claude Juncker, President, European Commission
Jyrki Katainen, Vice-President, European Commission
Carlos Moedas, Commissioner
Julian King, Commissioner
Carlos Moedas, Commissioner