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À: contact@emta.com
Cc: RIZEA Roxana Silvia; PANZETTI Fabrizia; COUNET Cecile
Objet: "Ref COVID-19 resilience and regeneration – Public Transport as powerful lever for Europe's recovery" D(14337)

Dear EMTA President Pedersen,
Dear EMTA Secretary General van der Ploeg,
Dear EMTA Board Members,

I would like to begin by thanking you for your open letter and valuable input, regarding the *"COVID-19 resilience and regeneration – Public Transport as powerful lever for Europe's recovery"*.

From the outset, I would like to join you in expressing my firm belief that the public transport systems are essential for city living and daily mobility, while transport, as a whole, bears a crucial importance for the functioning of the EU's internal market and its effective response to the current public health crisis provoked by the Covid-19 outbreak.

These past few weeks, we have experienced an extraordinary and unexpected situation. Throughout the European Union, we have taken unprecedented decisions and measures, trying to anticipate the rapidly changing circumstances in order to protect our citizens, our workers and our businesses. Faced with this dramatic situation, with a duty to defend lives, livelihoods, and stability for all, the European Union is acting. And we must prove to our citizens that the European Union is the answer to this emergency and the further crisis which will follow.

The EU institutions have already taken significant measures: the package of urgent measures from the European Commission; the decision to suspend the Stability and Growth Pact; the promise by the European Central Bank to do whatever it takes to maintain normal financing conditions; and the clear steps taken by the European Commission to protect the Single Market. In the same spirit, in a gesture of maximum responsibility, the institution that I am leading, showed no hesitation to be at the service of our citizens. As legislators, in the European Parliament, we are determined to make our contribution in the fight against this pandemic. Consequently, on March 26, the European Parliament has approved, in an extraordinary format, the wider package of urgent measures, aiming at substantial support for all those sectors that are suffering from the COVID-19 outbreak. Moreover, in another extraordinary mini-plenary session held between 16th and 17th April, the European Parliament has adopted a wide-encompassing position on the COVID-19 outbreak, putting forward through a plenary resolution, its vision on the measures to be adopted in response to the crisis emerging from the outbreak, as well as welcoming the EU's fiscal measures and liquidity support to address the pandemic.

To conclude, I would like to assure you that the European Parliament is doing everything in its powers to face the current challenges and contribute actively by supporting a rapid recovery of our economic sectors and activities, for the good of our citizens and the protection of our consumers.

Kind regards,

David Maria Sassoli