



MINISTER OF FINANCE
OF THE NETHERLANDS

The Hague, *December 17th, 2015*

Dear colleagues,

I am writing you on the need for more transparency in Eurogroup-affairs. We have to do our work in difficult times. Just recovering from the financial crisis, fighting unemployment and debt in many of our countries, we are now facing new challenges of migration and terrorism.

Maintaining the trust of our constituents is crucial for the legitimacy of all our difficult decisions. This is certainly true for the work we do in the Eurogroup. Even though we are an informal group, we take far-reaching decisions influencing the future course of member states and our currency zone as a whole, decisions for which we should be accountable.

For that reason and as a matter of principle we should aim to be as transparent as possible on our work in the Eurogroup. I therefore ask your personal political support for three proposals, outlined in the annex to this letter. They aim to make our work more transparent in the preparation of our agenda, publicizing the 'summing-up letter' of the outcome of our meetings and making the work documents public as much and as soon as possible. So the public at large and the press are as well informed as possible and cannot only take note but also be involved in the ongoing process of strengthening the Eurozone.

I am sending this letter with the proposals to all the colleagues of the Eurogroup and would appreciate hearing your personal reaction before officially bringing it to the table in one of our upcoming meetings.

Hoping for your support and open to your suggestions,

I wish you and your families a very merry Christmas.

Jeroen