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30 March 2020

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To:

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION** 

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Subject:

Confirmation of intent of Government of Montenegro to sign the Joint

Procurement Agreement (JPA)

Dear Mr 5.1.2e

Having in mind serious development of COVID-19 pandemic spreading throughout Europe and rest of the world, including Montenegro, we are all aware that strict mitigation measures that have been introduced are necessary to save as many lives as possible. In this regard, Montenegrin Government is making all possible efforts to limit the spreading of the virus, with many preventive measures that are currently in force. EU support, which has been announced in relation to these efforts, is very much appreciated and will help to improve the efficiency of our response to this unexpected situation.

As we were informed by our counterparts in Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, participation of Western Balkan countries in the procurement mechanism of medical equipment regulated by Joint Procurement Agreement is now possible. Having in mind the importance of this cooperation mechanism in order to procure promptly and reliably the medical equipment which is needed in this situation, Government of Montenegro fully supports its establishment and confirms the intention to sign the Joint Procurement Agreement, as soon as we receive the final version of the document which will be processed through regular Governmental procedure.

Let me once more express our gratitude for the possibility to become part of this important mechanism, which will for sure support out joint efforts to save as many lives as possible, as the most important asset during these outstanding circumstances. In this regard, please accept assurances of my highest consideration.

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Copied to:

5.1.2e Hrapović, Minister of Health of Montenegro;
5.1.2e , DG NEAR, Director of Directorate D.

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