



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Directorate-General Enlargement

The Deputy Director-General

Brussels, 23 NOV. 2012  
D(2012)

**Subject: Next year's cycle of SAP Dialogue Meetings**

Dear Minister Çitaku,

*Dear Vlora,*

In July we held the Plenary of the 2012 Stabilisation and Association Process Dialogue. I would like to thank you for a constructive, lively and well-organised meeting which closed the 2012 SAPD cycle of SAPD meetings.

The 2012 cycle was an invaluable input to October's Feasibility Study. We are grateful for the close co-operation between your services and mine, which has ensured that the meetings serve not only to assess Kosovo's progress but also to target follow-up actions and how to use our assistance best to complement policy priorities.

You will find enclosed the conclusions of the Plenary, as drafted up by our services. I hope that you can agree to them and they can therefore be formally adopted; these conclusions can serve as the framework for discussions during next year's meetings.

Following the Feasibility Study, we would propose adjusting the 2013 cycle to accompany the SAA process whilst maintaining the positive and constructive practices that both sides have worked hard to develop. We believe that it could be useful to set aside separate, targeted and detailed sessions during the relevant sectorial meetings to examine Kosovo's progress on the conditions listed in the Feasibility Study. This could be, if you agree, the main adjustment to the meetings.

At the same time, it will be important to maintain an overview of all policy areas as reflected in the annual Progress Reports. Kosovo's work on the Feasibility Study conditions should complement other areas of Kosovo's own reform process and overall European perspective. It will be important to use the meetings to identify assistance needs in a way that not only ensures coherence between our policy objectives and the assistance but also prepares for the sector approach under IPA II.

The calendar that I would propose for the 2013 cycle is annexed. Since we try to alternate the venues of meetings, many of the 2013 cycle will take place in Bruxelles. These dates have already been shared with your services informally, and I hope that you can agree to this calendar. As is currently the case, we precede each meeting with a discussion with civil society on the subjects under discussion.

*Ms Vlora Çitaku*  
*Minister for European Integration*  
*Pristina – Kosovo*

Whilst we are confident that the dates of all of the meetings can be finalised, you will understand if we might need to adjust the calendar to take account of other events. In particular, you will note that we have decided, contrary to previous years, not to start the cycle with the Justice, Freedom and Security sectorial meeting since we are already planning a Structured Dialogue on Rule of Law for the end of January.

I look forward to another cycle of constructive meetings next year, during which we can gather information which can serve as an important input to the next Progress Report as well as accompany Kosovo in opening the negotiations.

Yours sincerely,



Joost KORTE

Enclosure: Conclusions of 2012 Plenary  
2013 Calendar of meetings.

c.c.: D. Shasha (CEO, MEI)  
J. Sindelkova (Füle Cabinet)  
P. Mirel, C3  
S. Zbogar, T. Gnocchi, C. Stock, P. Schmelzer (EUO)

### Timetable for 2013 cycle of SAP Dialogue meetings

Trade, Industry, Customs and Taxation	BXL	27 February 2013
Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, Food Safety	BXL	11-12 March 2013
Justice, Freedom, Security	BXL	19-21 March 2013
Internal Market, Competition, Consumer and Health Protection	BXL	16-17 April 2013
Transport, Environment, Energy, Regional Development	Pristina	15-16 May 2013
Innovation, Information Society, Social Policy	Pristina	30-31 May 2013
Economic and Financial Issues, Statistics	BXL	13 June 2013
Joint Monitoring Committee	Pristina	10 July 2013
Plenary	Pristina	11 July 2013
Structured dialogue on Rule of Law	Pristina	End January