

AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CYPRUS
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

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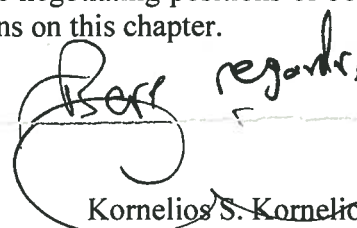
Brussels, 18 October 2012

Dear Thorir,

On behalf of the Member States of the European Union, we would like to inform you that following the screening of the *acquis* in Chapter 3, Right of Establishment and Freedom to Provide Services, the EU considers that Iceland is sufficiently prepared at this stage for negotiations on Chapter 3. You are therefore invited to submit your negotiating position to the Accession Conference with a view to the opening of this chapter.

In addition to the issues covered in the screening report, it has been agreed that the issue of restrictions on establishment, as well as that of access to ports and access to services for fishing vessels flying the flag of a state with which Iceland has not negotiated an agreement on straddling fish stocks, which was initially covered in the screening of Chapter 13 - Fisheries, will be dealt with during the accession negotiations under Chapter 3 - Right of Establishment and Freedom to Provide Services.

The EU underlines that the opening of this chapter depends on the negotiating positions of both parties and is without prejudice to future progress in the negotiations on this chapter.

Best regards,

Kornelios S. Korneliou

H.E. Mr. Thorir Ibsen
Ambassador
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