



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

Jean-Claude TRICHET
President

24 August 2009

Mr. Brian Lenihan TD
Minister for Finance
Department of Finance
Government Buildings
Upper Merrion Street
Dublin 2
Ireland

Re: ECB Opinion on changes to financial support measures for credit institutions (CON/2009/56)

Dear Minister,

I write further to your request of 3 July 2009 to postpone publication of ECB Opinion CON/2009/56. The Governing Council has previously stated that that ECB Opinions requested by national authorities would, as a general rule, be published immediately. However, in exceptional cases, a delay in publication was deemed acceptable in cases where the ECB has been consulted on a confidential draft legislative proposal where immediate publication of the Opinion would unduly interfere in the domestic adoption process.

The ECB Opinion in the present matter represents such an exceptional case, in which the requested delay in publication is justified. I wish to advise you therefore that the ECB has agreed to your request of 3 July 2009 until the exact publication date is known. I understand that your Department may be in a position to determine this before the end of October 2009, and that the relevant information will be conveyed to the ECB Legal Services.

With best regards,