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Mr Paweł ŻABOKLICKI Secretary General Union of the Baltic Cities Rådhuset Akseltory DK-6000 KOLDING

Dear Mr Żaboklicki,

On behalf of the President of the European Commission, Mr José Manuel Barroso, I would like to thank you for your letter of 6 December 2004 and for the enclosed joint statement of four Baltic Sea Organisations concerning the European Territorial Cooperation and the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument. Mr Barroso received this document with great interest, and transmitted it to the Cabinet of the Member of the Commission in charge of Regional Policy.

President Barroso sends his best regards.

Yours sincerely,

P-0. Tedro Cymbrog João VALE DE ALMEIDA