

Ministry of Economic Affairs
and Climate Policy

> P.O. Box 20401 2500 EK The Hague The Netherlands

Mr Valdis Dombrovskis
Executive Vice-President
of the European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels
Belgium

Date 30 April 2021
Re The Netherlands' Recovery and Resilience Plan

Dear Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis,

As we approach the next stage of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), several member states have submitted their Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) while others are in the process of finalising theirs. We are now entering an important stage in which the Commission will thoroughly assess the plans.

The investments and reforms included in the RRP, as expressed in the milestones and targets, are the starting point for a successful implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility. As you may recall, the Netherlands agreed on the RRF as a temporary instrument on the condition that public investments and structural reforms should be addressed together. The plans should contain reforms addressing the challenges identified in the Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs) or in other relevant documents of the European Semester, next to growth-enhancing investment projects, with a special emphasis on the green and digital transitions. This is essential in order to achieve a long-lasting economic recovery and to strengthen convergence within the European Union.

The Netherlands has not yet submitted its RRP. We aim for an ambitious plan that contains investments and reforms addressing the 2019 and 2020 CSRs. Given the importance of the RRP, we will leave the finalisation of our RRP to the new government which will be formed on the basis of the results of the 17 March elections. This will allow us to include policy measures like structural reforms initiated by the new government. It will also help us reach a high level of ambition in our RRP, anchored in broad parliamentary support, as well as increase public support for the implementation of the milestones and targets in the years ahead. The process of forming a new government is ongoing, and reforms and investments that could be included in the RRP will be part of the discussions in this process. In the meantime, technical preparations and the dialogue with the Commission services continue.

The RRF offers an opportunity to contribute to the recovery of the economic and social damage caused by the Covid-19 pandemic in all Member States, prevent further divergence within the EU and stimulate the green and digital transitions. I wish you and the Commission services the best of luck in the continuation of your important and thorough work on the RRF.

Yours sincerely,

Bas van 't Wout
Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate of the Netherlands

Wopke Hoekstra
Minister of Finance of the Netherlands