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E-000945/2021

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Vestager
on behalf of the European Commission
(30.4.2021)

The Commission treats all COVID-19 related State aid notifications as a matter of utmost priority. Currently, the Commission has no pending notifications regarding the measures described in the Honourable Members' question.

On 6 October 2020, the Commission approved under the State aid Temporary Framework, the Italian scheme 'partial exemption from the payment of social security contribution in disadvantaged areas' (case SA 58802¹), following its notification by Italy to the Commission on 30 September 2020. This scheme was recently prolonged for the second time until 31 December 2021 by a Commission Decision adopted on 18 February 2021 (case SA.61940²), following its notification by Italy to the Commission on 13 February 2021.

As regards a potential contribution of EU funds to any of the measures in question and pending the ratification of the Own Resources Decision, the Commission is currently discussing with the competent Italian authorities possible measures to be included in the programmes' modifications to be submitted formally by Italy.

¹ Approved by Commission Decision C(2020) 6959 of 6 October 2020, published in OJ C/50/2021, 12 February 2021, p. 7.

² Approved by Commission Decision C(2021) 1220 of 18 February 2021, not yet published.