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Swiss Delegation to the
Parliamentary Committee of EFTA
States and for relations with the
European Parliament
CH-3003 Bern

www.parliament.ch
efta.aele@parl.admin.ch

Mr Luís Capoulas Santos
Chair of the European Affairs Committee
Assembly of the Republic of Portugal

30 November 2020

Participation of Switzerland at the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC)

Dear Mr Capoulas Santos,

On behalf of the Swiss delegation for relations with European institutions and their member states, I would like to congratulate you on Portugal's imminent presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The Covid-19 pandemic has a major impact on the lives of our citizens and poses significant challenges to our economies. Given the scale of the crisis, a joint and coordinated European response is of particular importance. From a Swiss perspective, throughout the pandemic, the co-operation with the European Union and its member states turned out to be an essential factor in the crisis management. Switzerland and the European Union are longstanding partners, and the mutual benefits of this partnership are considerable. As President of the Swiss parliamentary delegation for relations with the European Union, I am very keen to maintain close and continuous dialogue with our European partners.

The inter-parliamentary events, and most notably the COSAC chairpersons and the COSAC plenary meetings, are an important part of every EU Presidency. Given the need to tackle the challenges of the Covid 19 crisis together and in a coordinated manner, I am certain that Switzerland's participation at these inter-parliamentary conferences during the Portuguese presidency would be of mutual benefit. I would therefore highly appreciate it if you would consider extending an invitation to Switzerland to participate in the COSAC chairpersons and the COSAC plenary meetings.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a successful and enriching EU Council Presidency and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Eric Nussbaumer
President of the EFTA/EU delegation