



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

**The Director-General**

Brussels,  
EMPL/VZ/amv/D(2014)

Mr Gabriel Bernardino  
Chair of EIOPA  
European Insurance and  
Occupational Pensions Authority  
Westhafenplatz 1  
60327 Frankfurt am Main  
Germany

**Subject: Call for advice to EIOPA regarding transferability of supplementary pension rights**

Dear Mr Bernardino,

I am pleased to note the successful cooperation between the Commission and EIOPA staff on the topic of supplementary pension rights.

As you are aware, the Commission, the European Parliament and the Council have been active in taking steps towards facilitating worker mobility in the EU. An important step in this context is the ‘Directive on minimum requirements for enhancing worker mobility by improving the acquisition and preservation of supplementary pension rights’, adopted by the European Parliament and the Council on 16 April 2014.

The adopted Directive does not foresee any minimum requirements concerning the transferability of supplementary pension rights. Nevertheless, pension transferability remains an important aspect of worker mobility, and Member States are encouraged to improve the transferability of vested pension rights (recital 24 of the Directive).

In this context, the Commission welcomes EIOPA’s initiative to prepare a “Report on Good Practices on portability (transfers –in and –out) of acquired rights within occupational pension schemes” as announced in EIOPA’s Work Programme 2014.

Within the scope of EIOPA’s work on the above deliverable, the Commission would like to invite EIOPA to provide input and technical advice on the points outlined below. The objective is to inform possible future debates on the transferability of supplementary pension rights.

The Commission would like to receive an overview of the existing arrangements for transfers of acquired supplementary pension rights between occupational pension schemes in different Member States, both within the country as well as well for cross-border transfers. EIOPA may also wish to flag “good” practices related to the transfers of acquired supplementary pension rights.

In addition, the Commission would be interested in quantitative data on transfers of pension assets within the countries and across borders – to the extent that these are available.

Finally, an identification of the main obstacles/difficulties affecting (or preventing) transfer, both within countries and across borders, would be most useful.

The Commission would appreciate to receive EIOPA’s findings on these topics by the middle of 2015.

I look forward to our future cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Michel SERVOZ  
Director-General