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MINISTRY FOR NATIONAL ECONOMY  
MINISTER

**Sigbjorn Johnsen**  
Ministry of Finance  
PO Box 8008 Dep, N-0030 Oslo  
Norway

22.08.2011

09/3079-78

Arkivnr.

07.2011.

Dear Mr. Johnsen,

With reference to your letter on the Deposit Guarantee Schemes Directive I would like to inform you that the ECOFIN Council adopted its general approach in June meeting.

Hopefully, this text could ease your concerns, as it says that voluntary Deposit Guarantee Schemes operating on a contractual basis could continue to provide additional coverage and they shall not be subject to the Directive for the part exceeding the protection stipulated by the Directive. However, it should be ensured that such Schemes have adequate financial means and comply with state aid rules.

Furthermore, it may be possible to seek further exceptions when incorporating the Directive into the annexes of the EEA Agreement.

Yours sincerely,  
Dr. György Matolcsy