



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
BANK OF ALBANIA
GOVERNOR



ALBANIAN ASSOCIATION OF BANKS
CHAIRMAN

No. 154 ref

Tirana, January 9th, 2008

Mr. Biagio Bossone
Convergence Program
c/o World Bank Rome Office

Dear Mr. Bossone,

We refer to our discussions about the need to accelerate financial sector modernization in Albania through the establishment of a dedicated structure that would promote stronger collaboration between authorities and market participants to find workable solutions, based on comprehensive analyses and international experience.

We believe that the SPI Albania public-private structure that you have described could stimulate financial sector modernization. We will work with the Convergence Program to establish it and make it operational with the greatest diligence.

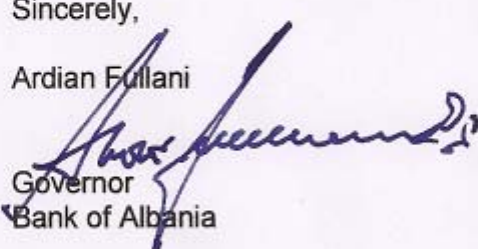
Consistent with Bank of Albania's long-standing commitment to promoting regional collaboration, we believe that SPI Albania should be designed with an objective to support the creation of similar units in our neighboring countries. Bank of Albania will do its best to facilitate contacts with relevant authorities in neighboring countries to have a coordinated development of structures that promote convergence of banking standards and practices towards those of the more advanced EU countries. The Albanian Association of Banks will work with its sister associations in a coordinated fashion.

We strongly support the Convergence Program's desire to seek EU institutional and funding support as presently available under a project managed by Regione Puglia.


We consider this proposed approach, which places significant importance on collaboration among country and regional stakeholders, to be the most appropriate one to support Albania's modernization needs at this stage of its development.

Sincerely,

Ardian Fullani


Governor
Bank of Albania

Edvin Libohova


Chairman
Albanian Association of Banks