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**Press Complaints Commission**

*From the Chairman*

Commissioner Viviane Reding  
European Commission  
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Belguim

6<sup>th</sup> October 2004

*Chairman*  
Sir Christopher Meyer

*Members of the Commission*  
Matti Alderson  
Roger Alton  
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Edmund Curran  
Paul Dacre  
Jane Ennis  
Mary Francis  
Dr. Arthur Hearnden  
Vivien Hepworth  
Peter Hill  
Paul Horrocks  
Charles McGhee  
Adam Phillips  
Eve Salomon  
Dianne Thompson  
The Right Rev. John Waine KCVO

*Director*  
Tim Toulmin

*Jean Commissaire,*

I was very pleased to see that you are to be the new Commissioner for Information Society and the Media. Many congratulations on your appointment.

I am writing to see whether we might have a meeting in the near future. In my role as chairman of the Press Complaints Commission – the organisation which oversees the self-regulation of newspapers and magazines in the United Kingdom – I have noticed that the number of European initiatives, which potentially impact on the regulation of the media, seems to be increasing. I believe it to be enormously important that legislators and policy makers are fully aware of how bodies like the PCC function and how they can deliver high professional standards in journalism, while at the same time preserving freedom of expression.

Previous Directives have allowed Member States to rely on self-regulation mechanisms like ours to deliver the required standards. I hope that this can continue. I would warmly welcome the opportunity to talk all this through with you and your team. Would it be possible to arrange a meeting before the end of this year or early next? My office will be in touch with yours in a few days time.

*Yours sincerely,  
Christopher Meyer*

Sir Christopher Meyer

*bcc to John Grant. cmg*

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