## Official adress of Minister of Finance of the state of Northrhine-Westphalia to governments in countries within Europe

Dear Minister,

the tax authority of the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia constantly works to fight tax fraud. During their work our tax fraud investigators have gained knowledge about citizens of your state. The investigators have informed me that nationals of your state have placed considerable funds at banks in Switzerland.

I herewith inform you, that I will forward this information to Germany's Federal Central Tax Office (Bundeszentralamt für Steuern (BZSt)). The Federal Tax Office will approach you and provide the opportunity to gain access to the data.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Norbert Walter-Borjans

Minister of Finance State of North Rhine – Westphalia

## Response (examp.):

"...as regards the fact that you will forward information to Germany's Federal Central Tax Office about citizens, please be advised that we will be waiting for the information which they will send to us...."

"We appreciate your willingness to share this information with us and are waiting to be contacted by your federal tax authority. It is our firm belief that tax avoidance and fraud can be reduced substantially only by such international cooperation."