

20 February 2012

Memo on the lease of the Science/Montoyer Building in Brussels

On 24 March 2010, the Bureau had adopted its medium-term buildings policy with the aim of improving Parliament's working conditions following the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon;

In Brussels, Parliament provides office space to three other institutions, i.e. the Ombudsman, the Court of Auditors and the European Data Protection Supervisor. These institutions have to leave the currently occupied building early 2012; therefore, Parliament has to find a building to house the other institutions.

Following the Bureau decision, a property market survey with publication has been carried out in Brussels, with a purpose to identify buildings which would enable Parliament to increase the floor area available for its own needs and to house the other institutions (lot II).

The three institutions for which the European Parliament is renting the office space are paying rent to Parliament and will continue to do so pro rata of the occupied surface in accordance with agreements between Parliament and the institutions concerned.

According to these provisions the lease of the part of the building occupied by the three institutions is financially neutral for the European Parliament. The institutions concerned will pay the rent and the charges to the Parliament for surfaces used by them. Any remaining office space will be used by Parliament's secretariat.

Of the 2 offers submitted for the purpose to house the other institutions one offer was deemed suitable by the Multidisciplinary Committee on Property Purchasing on the basis of the cost performance assessment. The other offer was incomplete and therefore not acceptable.

At its meeting on 14 November 2011, the Bureau authorised the Secretary-General to conclude the negotiations on the lease contracts for the building Science/Montoyer.

The Bureau also requested the President to refer the matter in due course to the Committee on Budgets in order to seek its opinion on the financial aspects of its decision in relation to Article 179(3) of the Financial Regulation.