ORAL QUESTION O-0002/02 pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure by Klaus-Heiner Lehne, Markus Ferber and Malcolm Harbour, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group to the Commission

Subject: Detached national experts

The role of detached national experts in the Institutions of the European Union is crucial in order to improve the exchange of professional experience and knowledge of European policies: national experts can offer the EU Institutions their own professional experience and expertise and bring to their employers the knowledge of EU issues gained during their detachment.

Taking account of the important contribution to the effective implementation of EU policies given by detached national experts, does the Commission intend to adopt new rules in order to strengthen their role and competencies in the context of the reform of EU staff policy?

Does the Commission intend to increase their number in view of the enlargement of the EU?

Tabled: 15.01.2002 Forwarded: 17.01.2002

Deadline for reply: 24.01.2002

459187.EN PE 295.260