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P. NIKIFOROS DIAMANDOUROS

Mr. Janusz LEWANDOWSKI, MEP  
Chairman of the committee on budgets  
Bât. Altiero Spinelli 05 F 361  
60, rue Wiertz / Wiertzstraat 60  
B-1047 Brussels

Strasbourg, 30 -08- 2004

**Re.:** Report on the implementation of the revised staff grade structure after May 2004. Joint declaration of Parliament and Council on the amending budget 4/2004.

Dear Sir,

Please find hereafter the answers requested by the budget authority when it adopted the amending budget number 4/2004:

**1. Concerning the implementation of the revised career structure, after the new staff regulations entered into force.**

Following the adoption of the new career structure, the establishment plan of the European Ombudsman was adapted according to the following rules:

- a) All officials recruited before the 1st of May 2004 were reclassified according to article 2 of annex XIII of the new staff regulations.
- b) All officials recruited after the 1st of May were classified in accordance with the new staff regulations and in particular with articles 5, 12 and 13 of annex XIII of those regulations.

As a consequence, all the vacant posts on the establishment plan on that date were downgraded, according to the equivalence tables laid down in these articles <sup>1</sup>. The only exceptions were the middle and upper management posts, which remained at the equivalent new grades in the new career structure <sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Two A7 posts were downgraded to A\*7 and 1 C5 post was downgraded to C\*1.

<sup>2</sup> The Secretary General post remained at the A\*15 grade and the middle management post in administration at A\*12 grade

**2. Concerning the number of vacant posts per grade as from 30 June 2004**

On 30 June 2004, the following posts were vacant:

- The Secretary General's post (A\*15)
- A principal administrator post (A\*12)
- Two new legal officers posts for enlargement (A\*7)
- A secretarial post for enlargement (C\*1)

All these posts had been authorised for only six months. The three last posts for enlargement will be filled as from September, once the competitions organised will be completed and their results will be available.

The A\*12 post will be published in September.

The A\*15 post (Secretary General) will only be filled after the election of the new Ombudsman by Parliament has taken place.

**3. Number of Heads of Unit/ Heads of Division in 2003/2004/2005**

In 2003, only two Heads of Division/Heads of Unit existed in the European Ombudsman's office. The situation will remain the same in 2004. In 2005, there will be at least one more Head of Unit/Director general post (the Secretary General's post).

**4. Global cost of heads of unit (additional steps)**

In 2004, the additional costs will represent 8 months of an additional step for the two existing heads of unit, which will mean **12.814,23 €** extra costs.

I remain at your disposal should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



P. Nikiforos DIAMANDOUROS