Council of the Union: termination-of-service for officials of the General Secretariat

2002/0069(CNS) - 30/09/2002 - Final act

PURPOSE : to enable officials who are affected by the redeployment of human resources in the Secretariat-General of the Council to take early retirement. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Regulation 1747/2002/EC, Euratom introducing, in the context of the modernisation of the institution, special measures to terminate the service of officials of the European Communities appointed to an established post in the Council of the European Union. CONTENT : the Treaty on European Union has extended the scope of the Council's activities and has in consequence increased the role and tasks of its General Secretariat. The General Secretariat of the Council meets a significant part of its needs through internal rationalisation and redeployment. The General Secretariat of the Council is taking the necessary steps, mainly through training, to help redeployed staff to adjust in the most satisfactory and effective way possible. However, the skills of a section of officials, who have reached the age of 55 and who have completed at least 15 years of service, are deemed to be too far removed from the duties to be performed. The General Secretariat of the Council needs new skill profiles and a rebalancing of its establishment plan, but the number of officials retiring in the normal way will not be sufficient to allow the necessary skills to be acquired through recruiting new officials within a satisfactory timescale. Special measures should accordingly be adopted with regard to termination of service together with internal administrative arrangements for effective monitoring of the implementation of this Regulation. These measures must be applied as far as possible with due regard for geographical balance, in compliance with the provisions of this Regulation. These measures must be budget-neutral. To this end a monitoring mechanism should be set up by the budgetary authority. This is the aim of the present Regulation. This Regulation authorises the General Secretariat of the Council, in the interests of the service and in order to take account of the need to renew skills arising from the refocusing of the use of its resources on priority activities, to adopt measures up to 31 December 2004 for terminating the service of officials who have reached the age of 55 and have completed at least 15 years service, with the exception of those in Grades A 1 and A 2, under the conditions specified in this Regulation. The total number of officials to be covered by the measures shall be 94 (12 As, 22 LAs, 8 Bs, 44 Cs, and 8 Ds). Respect for budgetary neutrality shall be monitored during the annual budget procedure. To this end, the Appointing Authority shall, taking into account the link between the number of officials whose service was terminated and the number of officials recruited, report to the budgetary authority at the appropriate time, certifying that the condition of budgetary neutrality is met. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 3 October 2002. The measures shall apply until 31 December 2004.