



*The Union for Staff of the European Institution
The President*

Brussels, 23 November 2009

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

Held on 23 November 2009

Approval of 2007 and 2008 Accounts

Franco opened the General Assembly by thanking the treasurer, Michael Docherty, and the members of the Oversight Committee, for their work.

Michael presented the accounts for 2007 and 2008 and asked the Meeting to give its consent to the following recommendations:

1. A clearer and more explicit link between the decision to make funds available and the resultant spending.
2. The decisions taken by the Executive Committee should be framed in such a way as to allow the financial impact to be determined.
3. The Executive Committee should fix, each year, at the moment the budget is fixed, a precise percentage of receipts to allocate to the direct benefit of members (training courses, Article 90 appeals, social events, etc).
4. Recourse to a qualified accountant for production of the accounts.

Michael thinks that given the fact that, in future the accounts will be produced by a qualified accountant, it would be more useful to change the role of treasurer into that of auditor.

Election results, REC ..., Contractual Agents

The problems in reaching a quorum during the elections to the Staff Committee have again demonstrated that colleagues do not feel part of the unions. Kinnock divided the staff and R&D will continue to try to bring the staff together to ensure the survival of a permanent Civil Service.

R&D remains the union which obtained the greatest number of votes, despite having lost two seats. R&D wishes to continue the constant dialogue with its members so that we can share their problems.

The new CDR, which was imposed by the Commission despite the refusal of R&D and all the other unions, has created a climate of discontent among 80% of staff. R&D, being a responsible union that listens to its members, gave assistance to all colleagues who requested it at all stages of the CDR procedure. R&D asked its legal counsel to prepare model appeals, according to Article 90 of the Terms and Conditions, for members who wished to submit such, and is advising all members to take out "legal insurance" negotiated by R&D for its members. More and more, to have our rights recognised, we must submit claims and sometimes even go to the Tribunal.

Concerning our members who are contractual agents, R&D has secured the start of negotiations for new Implementing Rules for Contractual Agents to define a better recruitment policy and career structure for grade AC 3bis. A special meeting for our Contractual Agent members will be organised so as to let them know about progress in these matters, to listen to these colleagues' specific needs, and to finalise positions for submission to the Executive Committee.

Future Activities and Federal Constitution for R&D

The next challenges facing us– the new External Action Service, the negotiations on the "Method" , etc, are quite large and unions must not be divided in front of the administration. R&D is continuing to work for greater unity among the other unions.

R&D is now present in various Institutions and Agencies and needs to provide itself with a Federal Constitution to provide better coordination of the work of the different sections.

R&D will be inaugurating a new communications policy towards its members and colleagues in general, by calling in, if necessary, a communications specialist.

Franco proposed that in the future R&D should organise general meetings for members more regularly. He closed the General Meeting by thanking all members present.

An appeal was sent out to all members to take a more active part in union activities.

R&D wishes you all a Happy Christmas.