

DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL  
of 30 June 2016  
amending Article 19 of the Service Regulations for  
permanent employees of the European Patent  
Office

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THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN PATENT ORGANISATION,

Having regard to the European Patent Convention and in particular Articles 10(2)(a) and (c) and 33(2)(b) thereof,

Having regard to the Service Regulations for permanent employees of the European Patent Office (hereinafter referred to as "the Service Regulations") and in particular Article 19 thereof,

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Administrative Council of the European Patent Organisation and in particular Article 4(1) thereof,

On a proposal from the President of the European Patent Office, submitted after consulting the General Consultative Committee,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

**I. Amendments to the Service Regulations**

Article 1

Article 19 of the Service Regulations shall read as follows:

**"Article 19**

**Obligations after termination of service**

(1) A permanent employee shall, after leaving the service, continue to be bound by the duty to behave with integrity and discretion as regards the acceptance of certain appointments or benefits.

- (2) A member of the Boards or former member of the Boards intending to engage in an occupational activity, whether gainful or not, within two years of leaving the service shall inform the Administrative Council thereof. If that activity is related to the work he carried out during the last three years of his service and could lead to a conflict with the integrity of the EPO's appeal system, the Administrative Council may, having regard to his interests and to those of the EPO's appeal system, either forbid him from undertaking it or give its approval subject to any conditions it thinks fit.
- (3) The Administrative Council shall notify its decision within two months of the date on which the information was submitted to the first meeting of the Council after its receipt, taking due account of any specific provisions applicable for the submission of documents to the Council laid down in Article 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Administrative Council.
- (4) The decision under paragraph 3 shall be taken after consultation of the Boards of Appeal Committee.
- (5) If no decision has been notified by the end of the period prescribed in paragraph 3, this shall be deemed to constitute implicit acceptance.
- (6) Paragraphs 2 to 5 above shall cease to apply to former members of the Boards who have served five years or less one year after termination of their service.
- (7) The Administrative Council may lay down further terms and conditions for the application of this Article, in particular with respect to the form and content of the information to be provided under paragraph 2.

## II. Entry into force

### Article 2

This decision shall enter into force on 1 January 2017.

Done at Munich, 30 June 2016

For the Administrative Council  
The Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Kongstad". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jesper KONGSTAD