

RULES GOVERNING REPRESENTATION OF THE STAFF OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

TITLE I – STAFF COMMITTEE

Rule 1

Within the meaning of Rule 9 of the Staff Regulations of officials of the European Communities (hereinafter ‘the European Union’) and the European Atomic Energy Community, as well as Article 1 of Annex II to those Staff Regulations, the Staff Committee of the European Parliament, as established by the latter, shall be the sole body which represents the interests of staff employed at all the places of work of the Institution and shall ensure permanent contact between the Institution and staff.

Rule 2

1. The Staff Committee shall perform the duties conferred upon it under the Staff Regulations and other regulations and provisions brought into force by the Institution. It shall contribute to the smooth running of the services by providing a channel for the expression of opinion by the staff. It shall bring to the notice of the appropriate bodies of the Institution any difficulty having general implications concerning the interpretation and application of the Staff Regulations. It may be consulted on any difficulty of this kind.
2. The Committee shall submit to the appropriate bodies of the Institution suggestions concerning the organisation and operation of services and proposals for the improvement of staff working conditions or general living conditions.
3. The Committee shall participate in the administrative bodies established by the appropriate authorities and in the interinstitutional bodies provided for by the provisions applicable.
4. The Committee shall participate in the management and monitoring of social bodies created by the Institution in the interest of staff. The Committee may, with the agreement of the Institution, create any service of this nature.

Rule 3

The Staff Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure and any other rules which it needs in order to function.

Rule 4

1. The Staff Committee shall comprise full members whose term of office shall be three years, in accordance with the provisions laid down in Titles II, III and IV of these Rules.
2. However, should the Staff Committee as a whole resign, the first ballot of the elections shall begin within fifty working days of the resignation's taking effect.
3. The outgoing Staff Committee shall continue to deal with current business until a new Staff Committee takes office.
4. The duties undertaken by members of the Staff Committee and by officials and other servants, within the meaning of Rule 5 of these Rules, appointed by delegation of the Committee to a body provided for under the Staff Regulations, to an interinstitutional body or to a body established by the Institution or by the appointing authority or by the Staff Committee on the basis of provisions of the Staff Regulations shall be deemed to be part of their normal service within the Institution.
5. The fact of performing such duties shall in no way be prejudicial to members of the Staff Committee or officials and other servants appointed by delegation of the Committee to any of the bodies referred to above.
6. The Staff Committee shall decide whether or not it is appropriate to establish delegations representing the specific interests of staff in accordance with the applicable provisions of its rules of procedure. It shall liaise with those delegations.
7. The Staff Committee shall liaise with other bodies representing staff working for the political groups or for Members of the European Parliament.
8. The Staff Committee shall also liaise and, possibly, cooperate with staff committees of the other institutions and bodies of the European Union.

TITLE II - GENERAL MEETING OF STAFF

Rule 5

1. The General Meeting of staff shall be composed of the electors of the Staff Committee.
2. All officials and, pursuant to Article 7 of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants, other servants holding a contract extending over more than one year or for an indefinite period shall be entitled to vote and to stand for election to the Staff Committee. The holder of a contract of a duration of one year or less who, on the date of the first ballot of the election to the Staff Committee, has completed at least six months' uninterrupted service in the Institution shall also be entitled to vote.

Rule 6

1. The General Meeting, within 30 working days of the constituent meeting of the Staff Committee, shall appoint a chairman and three vice-chairmen and a secretary of meetings for the

duration of the Staff Committee's term of office plus, following a call for nominations made by the oldest member of the General Meeting.

2. The chairman, the three vice-chairmen and the secretary shall constitute the Bureau of the General Meeting.

3. In the event of the chairman or other Bureau member resigning, the General Meeting shall be convened, pursuant to Rule 9 of these Rules, by the Staff Committee in order to replace, by election, the Bureau members who have resigned. The Bureau members appointed by the General Meeting shall remain in post until the end of the term of the Staff Committee in office when they were appointed.

4. The Bureau shall draw up and submit the agenda, plus any annexes thereto, shall help to verify electors' attendance and credentials before the start of General Meetings, and in the course thereof, shall establish that there is a quorum for a General Meeting to be held, and shall draw up the minutes of the meetings.

Rule 7

1. The chairman of the General Meeting shall open, adjourn and close the sittings. He shall direct all proceedings of the General Meeting, ensure compliance with these Rules, maintain order, verify, in collaboration with the Bureau of the General Meeting, electors' attendance and credentials, call speakers, declare debates closed, put questions to the vote, and announce the results of votes.

2. The chairman may propose that speaking time be limited. The General Meeting, if it accepts such a proposal, shall stipulate the duration of speaking time.

3. The chairman shall sum up the question under discussion and call speakers to order. As a member of the General Meeting, the chairman may speak in any debate. He shall temporarily give up the chair to a vice-chairman if he is absent during the Meeting.

4. In the event of a vote, the chairman shall be assisted by two tellers appointed by him after approval by the General Meeting during the sitting.

Rule 8

1. The General Meeting shall appoint, on a joint proposal from lists with at least one elected representative on the outgoing Staff Committee, at least one full teller and three substitute tellers, per list, from among the electors.

2. Full and substitute tellers shall not be members of the Staff Committee or candidates for election to the Staff Committee. In addition, they shall not be members of delegations or candidates for elections to delegations.

3. Any full or substitute teller who resigns or is relieved of his duties shall be replaced by a new teller appointed, on a proposal from the list which nominated the teller who resigned or was relieved of his duties, by the chairman of the General Meeting, the Bureau of the General Meeting having been heard.

4. Immediately following the appointment of full and substitute tellers, the General Meeting shall appoint auditors - two full auditors and two substitutes - responsible for auditing the accounts of the Staff Committee and reporting to the General Meeting at least once a year on the Committee's financial management, pursuant to Rule 9(2) of these Rules.

5. The auditors shall continue in office until the next General Meeting responsible for commencing the procedure for elections to the Staff Committee is held.

Rule 9

1. The ordinary annual General Meeting shall be held at least once during the first half of the year in order to hear the Staff Committee's activity report for the previous year based on the annual report.

2. On that occasion, the General Meeting shall also hear the auditors and grant discharge to the Staff Committee in respect of its financial management for the previous year.

3. A General Meeting shall also be held (in order to organise elections) at least sixty days before the end of the Staff Committee's term of office.

4. A General Meeting shall also be held in exceptional circumstances if it is convened pursuant to Rule 11 of these Rules.

Rule 10

The General Meeting may organise its proceedings in different sessions at Parliament's various places of work. Should technical facilities be available, General Meetings may be held by videoconference linking the three main places of work of the Institution.

Rule 11

The General Meeting shall be convened by its chairman on the fifth working day after he has received a request to that effect or, if circumstances require this, within three days of receiving a written request from either:

- the President of the European Parliament, or
- the Bureau of the European Parliament, or
- the Secretary-General of the European Parliament, or
- the Staff Committee, or
- at least fifty electors.

In duly substantiated exceptional cases the Staff Committee may, however, decide to ask that a General Meeting be convened with a shorter period of notice.

Rule 12

1. The notice convening the General Meeting shall set out the points to be submitted for discussion at the meeting according to the agenda. Adoption of the agenda shall be the first item on the draft agenda. Adoption of the agenda shall be by show of hands.
2. The notice convening the General Meeting may make provision for an item under which any other business may be dealt with, though no decision may be taken on matters discussed under that item at that General Meeting.
3. If the draft agenda includes discussion on a stoppage of work, that discussion shall be the only item on the agenda.

Rule 13

1. If a General Meeting is convened in order to adopt a text, the draft of that text shall be enclosed with the notice convening the meeting.
2. Any elector present at the General Meeting may submit amendments to the text to be adopted. Those amendments shall be tabled in writing to the chairman or Bureau of the Meeting and may be tabled in any of the official languages of the European Union, provided that they are accompanied by a translation in one of the languages in which there is interpretation.
3. The chairman shall rule on the admissibility of amendments in the light of the provisions applicable, in particular paragraph 4 of this Rule, and shall inform the General Meeting accordingly before opening the vote, which shall be by simple majority of those present.
4. An amendment shall be inadmissible:
 - (a) if its content has no direct bearing on the text which it seeks to amend;
 - (b) if it seeks to delete or replace a text in its entirety;
 - (c) if it seeks to amend more than one of the articles or paragraphs of the text to which it relates.
5. Amendments shall be put to the vote before the text to which they relate, in the order in which they have been tabled.
6. By way of derogation from paragraph 3, if mutually exclusive amendments are moved to the same part of a text, the amendment that departs furthest from the text, as ruled on by the chairman, shall be put to the vote first. If it is adopted, the other amendments shall stand rejected. If it is rejected, the amendment which, according to the same criterion, is next in priority shall be put to the vote and similarly for each of the remaining amendments. In case of doubt as to priority, the chairman shall decide.
7. The chairman shall ensure that the draft text and amendments put to the vote and adopted allow a coherent final text to be compiled.

Rule 14

1. An elector who asks the chairman of the General Meeting for leave to speak on a procedural motion, in particular:

- to raise a point of order;
- to move the closure of a debate;
- to move the adjournment of a debate;
- to move the previous question.

2. The above matters shall take precedence over substantive matters, the discussion of which shall be suspended while they are being considered.

3. Only the following shall be heard in debates on the above matters: three electors, at most, who state, before the debate, that they are for the motion and three electors, at most, who state, before the debate that they are against the motion. The chairman of the Meeting shall ensure the correct application of this provision and may decide on the speaking time granted to the speakers.

4. The chairman shall decide on proposals to vote on any procedural motions.

Rule 15

1. The names of electors who ask leave to speak shall be entered, with a view to speaking, in the order in which their requests are received.

2. Electors may speak in any official language of the European Union, provided that there is interpretation. The chairman may call on members to speak in one of their working languages or, if necessary, in one of the languages for which there is interpretation.

3. If a speaker departs from the subject, the chairman of the General Meeting shall call him to order. If a speaker has already been called to order twice in the same debate, the chairman may, on the third occasion, forbid him to speak for the remainder of the same debate on the same subject.

4. In accordance with Rule 7(2) of these Rules, the chairman of the Meeting shall manage speaking time granted to speakers.

Rule 16

1. The General Meeting shall be quorate to deliberate, settle its agenda and put questions to the vote, provided that at least one hundred members are present.

2. Apart from votes on the stoppage of work or the case provided for in paragraph 3 of this Rule, voting shall be by a show of hands.

3. Voting may be by secret ballot if this is requested by at least fifty electors present at the General Meeting.

4. In the event of a tie, the motion shall stand rejected.

5. Any elector who asks leave to speak to give an explanation of vote shall be permitted to do so after the results of votes have been declared.

Rule 17

1. Notwithstanding Rule 16(1), of these Rules, the presence of at least 300 electors shall be necessary when a vote is taken on a stoppage of work.
2. The General Meeting shall hold a debate on a stoppage of work.
3. Voting on a stoppage of work shall be by secret ballot.
4. Should the special quorum referred to in paragraph 1 not be reached, voting on a stoppage of work shall be by referendum within a time-limit set by the meeting, pursuant to the applicable provisions of these Rules.

Rule 18

1. Electors may submit to the chairman of the General Meeting a motion of censure on the Staff Committee.
2. The motion shall be presented in writing, entitled 'motion of censure' and supported by reasons; it shall be signed by at least two hundred members of the Meeting. The Staff Committee shall be notified thereof by the chairman of the General Meeting.
3. Should a motion of censure be tabled, the General Meeting shall be convened no later than fifteen working days after the chairman of the General Meeting has received the motion.
4. The General Meeting shall hold a debate on the motion of censure and direct the Committee of Tellers to make arrangements for voting by referendum within ten working days.
5. If the motion of censure is adopted, the Staff Committee shall immediately be relieved of its duties and the General Meeting shall set, in accordance with the applicable provisions of these Rules, the date for the election of a new Staff Committee.

Rule 19

1. For each General Meeting, minutes shall be drawn up, including a list of members who attended the Meeting, by the Bureau, under the responsibility of the chairman and published within eight working days of the Meeting.
2. Also within eight working days, texts adopted by the General Meeting shall be forwarded by its chairman to the bodies and authorities for which they are intended and shall be published on the General Meeting's Intranet site.

TITLE III - COMMITTEE OF TELLERS

Rule 20

1. The Committee of Tellers shall be made up of full tellers. Substitute tellers may attend meetings of the Committee on Tellers as observers only.
2. The Committee of Tellers shall be responsible for organising and running Staff Committee elections and other elections, referendums and consultation exercises organised in accordance with these Rules.
3. The Committee of Tellers shall assist the chairman of the General Meeting with conducting the votes provided for by the relevant provisions of these Rules, in particular votes on stoppage of work and motions to censure the Staff Committee.
4. The Committee of Tellers shall also, when requested, assist the Staff Committee in organising elections to delegations and advisory bodies of the Staff Committee.

Rule 21

1. Only full members of the Committee of Tellers shall be entitled to participate in adopting the decisions of the Committee of Tellers. If a full teller is unable to attend a meeting, he or she may give a proxy to another full teller or to a substitute so as to exercise his or her right.
2. Substitute tellers may attend meetings of the Committee of Tellers, pursuant to Rule 20(1) of these Rules, and shall be regularly informed of the decisions and activities of the Committee of Tellers.

Rule 22

1. The chairman of the General Meeting shall chair the constituent meeting of the Committee of Tellers.
2. The Committee of Tellers shall elect a chairman, a vice-chairman and a secretary from among its members.
3. Immediately following its constitution, the Committee of Tellers shall adopt, by a majority of its members, its rules of procedure, which shall be forwarded for information to the Secretary-General of the European Parliament, the chairman of the General Meeting and the chairman of the Staff Committee.
4. Decisions of the Committee of Tellers shall require the support of a majority of its members present, the quorum being constituted in all cases by half the members.

Rule 23

1. The Committee of Tellers shall continue in office until a new Committee is appointed.

2. Seats left vacant by tellers, members or substitutes who resign or are relieved of their duties by the chairman of the General Meeting at the express request of, and duly substantiated by, the lists which had nominated them shall be filled, in accordance with Rule 8(3) of these Rules, by tellers appointed by those lists.

TITLE IV – ELECTIONS TO STAFF COMMITTEE

Rule 24

1. The elections to the Staff Committee shall be organised under the responsibility and supervision of the General Meeting and of the Committee of Tellers.

2. Elections to the Staff Committee shall be valid only if two thirds of the electors take part. However, if that quorum is not established, the second ballot shall be valid if the majority of the electors take part, with no quorum being required for any third ballot to be valid.

3. The first ballot of the elections shall be held between twenty and fifty working days before the date upon which the Staff Committee's term of office expires, including a plenary session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, without prejudice to the provisions applicable should the Staff Committee resign or be relieved of its duties.

4. August and the end-of-year holiday period shall not be included in the ballot period. Accordingly, the period of between twenty and fifty working days shall be calculated without taking account of the period from August until the first working day in September, or of the interval between the start of the end-of-year holiday period and the first working day after that period.

5. The General Meeting shall set the date and duration of the first ballot for the elections. In duly substantiated exceptional cases the General Meeting may decide to extend the duration of the first ballot. An extension may not exceed five working days.

Rule 25

1. If the Committee of Tellers finds that the quorum stipulated for the first ballot has not been reached, it shall not count the votes and a second ballot shall commence within twenty working days of the first.

2. August and the end-of-year holiday period shall not be included in the second-ballot period. Accordingly, the reference period shall be calculated without taking account of the period from August until the first working day in September, or of the interval between the start of the end-of-year holiday period and the first working day after that period.

3. The list of candidates and the electors' list for the second ballot shall be the same as for the first.

4. If the Committee of Tellers finds that the quorum required for the second ballot has not been reached, it shall not count the votes and a third ballot shall be held within twenty working days of the second.

5. August and the end-of-year holiday period shall not be included in the third-ballot period. Accordingly, the reference period shall be calculated without taking account of the period from August until the first working day in September, or of the interval between the start of the end-of-year holiday period and the first working day after that period.

6. The list of candidates and the electors' list for the third ballot shall be the same as for the first and second.

Rule 26

1. The elections shall be organised by the Committee of Tellers.

2. The Committee of Tellers shall be allowed a period of at least forty working days within which to organise the elections.

3. At the request of the Committee of Tellers the Secretary-General may appoint two observers (including one from the Legal Service) to attend meetings of that committee when it is dealing with matters relating to Staff Committee elections.

Rule 27

1. The electors' list shall be drawn up by the Committee of Tellers on the basis of information supplied by Parliament's Administration.

2. At least fifteen working days before the first ballot commences, the list of electors shall for a period of eight working days be published on the Intranet site of the Committee of Tellers and be publicly displayed.

3. During those eight working days, electors may submit their observations in writing to the Committee of Tellers.

4. The Committee of Tellers shall rule on any observations made and draw up the definitive electors' list on the last working day before the first ballot commences.

5. The Committee of Tellers shall announce the dates, times and places of the elections and the voting procedure at least ten working days before each ballot commences.

Rule 28

1. Nominations shall be received by the Committee of Tellers at least twenty working days before the first ballot opens. A nomination shall include the candidate's surname, first name(s), staff number, staff function group, office address, place of employment and signature, together with the title of the list on which he or she is standing.

2. A nomination submitted by an individual shall be deemed to constitute a fully-fledged list.

3. Each list shall bear a title and identify the person responsible, who may not be a teller.

4. Each person responsible for a list shall submit his or her list of candidates electronically to the Committee of Tellers (together with the original nomination papers, duly completed and signed) within the time limit stipulated. The Committee of Tellers shall acknowledge receipt of the nomination papers.

5. No list may comprise more candidates than there are seats to be filled on the Staff Committee. No one may stand as a candidate on more than one list.

6. Fifteen working days before the first ballot commences, the Committee of Tellers shall assemble, publish on the Intranet and publicly display the lists of candidates in all the places of work in an order chosen by lot. The order of names on each list shall be that in which they were submitted electronically.

Rule 29

For their election campaigns, all candidates shall have access to the same material means of official publicity (made available by Parliament), regardless of other means of individual or group publicity which they may employ.

Rule 30

1. The Committee of Tellers shall prepare the ballot papers. If appropriate technical facilities are available, the ballot papers shall be prepared for the use of optical readers.

2. The ballot paper shall contain the lists of candidates under their titles and presented separately in an order determined by lot, as provided for in Rule 28(6) of these Rules. It shall show each candidate's function group (as specified in Article 5 of the Staff Regulations) and place of employment. 'AA' shall appear alongside the names of candidates who are 'other servants' within the meaning of Article 1 of the Conditions of Employment of other servants.

3. Above each list's title there shall be a box for entering list votes. A further box shall be placed opposite the surname of each candidate.

4. The voting procedure shall be set out on the back of the ballot paper.

Rule 31

1. The polling stations shall be set up by the Committee of Tellers at Parliament's three main places of work. They shall comprise polling booths and provide an adequate supply of ballot papers at the discretion of the Committee of Tellers.

2. When an elector calls at the polling station he shall show his service card and shall be given a ballot paper which he shall complete immediately in the polling booth.

3. Before an elector puts his ballot paper in the ballot box the Committee of Tellers shall mark the paper with its stamp. Any unstamped ballot paper shall be invalid.

4. No campaign publicity shall be permitted within the polling station.

Rule 32

1. Each elector shall have as many votes as there are members of the Staff Committee to be elected.
2. He may cast those votes for lists of candidates (list vote) or for individual candidates (individual vote). If he votes for a list, he gives one vote to each of the candidates on that list, thus casting as many votes as there are candidates. If a vote for a list is followed by a vote for one or more candidates on that list, only the vote for the list shall count.
3. A vote for a list with fewer than 29 candidates for election to the Staff Committee shall not prevent voting for other candidates on other lists, provided that the total number of votes cast does not exceed 29.
4. A ballot paper shall be invalid:
 - if the number of votes cast on it is greater than the number of seats to be filled;
 - if it contains any distinguishing mark;
 - if the section for use by the Committee of Tellers has been filled in by the elector himself.

Rule 33

1. Voting shall be secret.
2. Voting shall take place during working hours.

Rule 34

1. The right to vote is personal. However, any elector who is on leave, who is absent because of sickness or as a result of an accident, or who is travelling as part of his duties, during the voting period, may vote by proxy. To give his proxy, he shall use the voting card provided by the Committee of Tellers and attach thereto a photocopy of his staff card. The proxy shall vote, in accordance with the applicable provisions of these Rules, on behalf of the elector who is not voting in person. An elector may hold no more than two proxies.
2. The Committee of Tellers shall file proxies in alphabetical order in the register at each polling station. The Committee of Tellers shall make a distinguishing mark against the name of the proxy holder.
3. Proxy votes shall not be counted unless the requirements have been met.

Rule 35

1. Postal voting shall be restricted to electors at whose place of employment no polling station is provided and to electors who, during the voting period, are not in active employment (leave on personal grounds, secondment, non-active status, leave for military or community service, parental or family leave).
2. Ballot papers shall be sent to them at least ten working days before the date of the poll,

together with voting instructions and a brown envelope on which the address of the Committee of Tellers is pre-printed.

3. A postal vote shall be cast by returning the completed ballot paper to the Committee of Tellers. The ballot paper shall be placed in an unfolded sealed white envelope on which no distinguishing marks may be made. The white envelope shall be placed in the brown envelope, which shall bear the correct details. Any such envelope which fails to reach the Committee of Tellers before polling closes shall be declared invalid.

4. If, during the ballot, the electors in question are in a place where a polling station has been set up, they may vote there in person.

5. The Committee of Tellers shall organise ballots in such a way that they can be scrutinised on the basis of a single electronic register.

Rule 36

1. Votes shall be counted in public and the count shall take place under the responsibility of the Committee of Tellers, which shall organise it. The Committee of Tellers shall organise the count so as to ensure transparency and accessibility for the electors.

2. So that operations proceed properly, and in order to prevent any disruptions, the Committee of Tellers may organise the count in a suitable venue accessible to only one representative from each list. In that event, the Committee of Tellers shall ensure that vote counting operations are broadcast.

3. Optical readers or other technical facilities may be used for the count.

Rule 37

1. The Staff Committee shall consist of twenty-nine members.

2. The members of the Staff Committee shall be elected with seats being allocated amongst the lists in proportion to the number of votes obtained by their candidates, pursuant to the applicable provisions of these Rules.

3. Lists failing to obtain at least five percent (5%) of all votes shall be excluded from the allocation of seats. Their votes shall not be taken into account for the allocation process.

4. Seats not filled at the end of this first allocation shall be allocated to the lists with the most remaining votes ('largest remainder' method).

5. The total number of votes obtained by candidates included on the lists involved in the allocation of seats pursuant to paragraph 3 of this Rule shall be divided by the number of seats to be allocated based on the provisions of these Rules, thereby determining the electoral number. The first whole number immediately above the quotient obtained in this way shall be known as the 'electoral number'.

6. Seats shall be awarded within each list to the candidates polling the greatest total number of votes (list votes and individual votes).

7. Among the elected representatives there shall be at least:

- one representative of each function group of officials (AD and AST), as specified in Article 5 of the Staff Regulations;
- one representative of other servants as defined in Article 1 of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants;
- six candidates employed in Brussels and six candidates employed in Luxembourg and in the other places of work as a whole.

8. Should one of the conditions laid down in paragraph 7 of this Rule not be fulfilled, the candidates obtaining the greatest total number of votes (list votes and individual votes) shall be elected. This procedure may not change the number of seats obtained by each list.

9. Should two candidates obtain an equal number of votes, the younger candidate shall be elected.

Rule 38

The result of the ballot, established by the Committee of Tellers, shall specify:

- a) the number of persons on the electors' list;
- b) the number who have voted;
- c) the number of votes cast for each list and for each candidate;
- d) the percentage obtained by each list;
- e) the number of proxy votes;
- f) the number of blank ballot papers;
- g) the number of spoiled ballot papers.

Rule 39

1. After the count, the Committee of Tellers shall draw up and publish a list of elected representatives.

2. The non-elected candidates of each list shall be entered in the minutes in the order of the number of votes they obtained.

3. The Committee of Tellers shall draw up the minutes of the electoral proceedings within twenty-five working days of publication of the list of elected representatives, after any complaints have been dealt with in accordance with Rule 42 of these Rules.

4. It shall forward a copy of those minutes and of that list to the Secretary-General and to the oldest elected member and shall publish them on the Intranet site of the Committee of Tellers.

Rule 40

1. A member of the Staff Committee who resigns shall be replaced by the first of the unsuccessful candidates from the list on which he was elected, provided that Rule 37(7) of these Rules is complied with.

2. However, if all the candidates on that list have been elected, the outgoing member shall not be replaced.

3. If the outgoing member stood as an individual, he shall not be replaced.

TITLE V – COMPLAINTS

Rule 41

The Committee of Tellers alone shall be competent to deal with any disputes concerning, or any complaints concerning the organisation of elections to the Staff Committee, subject to appeal to the Court of Justice of the European Union. These complaints must reach the Committee of Tellers, in writing, within ten working days of publication of the notification of the decision or act in question. The Committee of Tellers shall respond to these complaints within ten working days of the date they are received.

Rule 42

Complaints concerning electoral proceedings must reach the Committee of Tellers, in writing, within ten working days of publication of the list of elected representatives. The Committee of Tellers shall respond to these complaints within ten working days of the date they are received.

TITLE VI – REFERENDUM AND CONSULTATION EXERCISES FOR STAFF

Rule 43

1. A referendum shall be organised solely to decide on a stoppage of work, a motion of censure and revision of these Rules.

2. The chairman of the General Meeting shall direct the Committee of Tellers to organise the referendum.

3. The ballot shall last ten working days.

4. Postal or electronic voting shall be used for the referendum. Electronic voting shall be used for the referendum if the technical facilities concerned ensure that voting is secret.
5. A referendum shall be valid if a majority of electors take part in it.
6. Votes shall be counted in public.
7. A majority of votes cast shall be required for a result, which shall be declared immediately after the end of the count.
8. The validity requirement under paragraph 5 shall not apply to a referendum on revision of these Rules, for which no quorum is required unless the purpose of the revision is to amend Rule 1 of these Rules.

Rule 44

1. The Staff Committee may decide to hold consultation exercises on subjects of general interest for staff.
2. Consultation exercises shall be organised by the Committee of Tellers and shall be carried out by means of postal or electronic voting. Electronic voting shall be used for consultation exercises if the technical facilities concerned ensure that voting is secret.
3. The Staff Committee may decide to consult staff by means of electronic polling.

TITLE VII – REVISION OF RULES

Rule 45

1. Proposals to revise these Rules shall be submitted:
 - either by the Staff Committee;
 - or in a request signed by at least two hundred electors.
2. Proposals shall be submitted to the General Meeting convened in accordance with Rule 11. If approved by the General Meeting in accordance with Rule 16, they shall be submitted to the electors in a referendum within twenty working days.

Rule 46

If the electors confirm by referendum the adoption of a proposal for revision of these Rules made by the General Meeting, the new text of the amended provisions shall enter into force twenty working days after the result of the referendum has been declared.

TITLE VIII – FINAL PROVISIONS

Rule 47

These Rules, submitted on ... 2012 to the Secretary-General of the European Parliament, shall also be forwarded to the President and Bureau of the European Parliament.

Rule 48

These Rules cancel and replace all earlier provisions.

Adopted by the Staff Committee 6 February 2012

Adopted by referendum 4 April 2012