



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 21.10.2003
C(2003) 3750 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 21.10.2003

**establishing the ad hoc ethical committee foreseen by the Code of Conduct for
Commissioners**

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Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the Code of Conduct for Commissioners,

Whereas the Code of Conduct for Commissioners foresees the establishment of an ad hoc ethical committee to assist the Commission when it is required to take a decision, pursuant to that Code of Conduct, on the occupations in which Commissioners intend to engage during the year after they have ceased to hold office,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Purpose

The ad hoc ethical committee foreseen by the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, hereinafter referred to as 'the Committee', is hereby established.

Article 2

Remit

1. The task of the Committee shall be to advise the Commission, on request, on whether a Commissioner's intention to engage in an occupation related to the activities forming part of the Commissioner's portfolio during his or her full term of office is compatible with the third subparagraph of Article 213(2) of the Treaty.
2. The Commission shall set the time limit within which the opinion shall be given.

Article 3

Co-operation with the Committee

The Commissioner concerned shall co-operate fully with the Committee, in particular by providing all the relevant additional information requested.

Article 4

Composition

1. The Committee shall consist of three members selected for their competence, experience and professional qualities.
2. Appointment as a member shall require, in particular, independence, an impeccable record of professional behaviour as well as a sound knowledge of the existing legal framework and the working methods of the Commission

Article 5

Appointment

The Commission, on the proposal of its President, shall appoint the members of the Committee.

Article 6

Term of office

Members of the Committee shall be appointed for a term of three years, renewable once. A member who resigns before completion of the term of office shall be replaced for the remainder of the term in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 5.

Article 7

Chair

The Committee shall elect a chairperson from among its members.

Article 8

Deliberations

1. The Committee shall be convened by the chairperson, further to the request for an opinion presented by the Commission.
2. The Committee's deliberations shall be confidential.

Article 9

Opinions

Where an opinion is not adopted unanimously, it shall include any dissenting point of view.

Article 10

Reimbursement of expenses

The Commission, in accordance with the relevant administrative rules, shall reimburse travel and subsistence expenses for the Committee's meetings.

Done at Brussels, 21.10.2003

*For the Commission
The President
Romano PROD!*