



Brussels 23. 06. 2020  
HR/GI

**NOTE TO THE ATTENTION OF CHAIR OF CENTRAL STAFF COMMITTEE,  
CHAIRS OF LOCAL STAFF COMMITTEES  
AND CHAIRS OF REPRESENTATIVE TRADE UNIONS AND STAFF ASSOCIATION**

**Subject: Workplace of the future and functioning of the CPPT**

I refer to your note of 1 April 2020 addressed to President von der Leyen concerning the Workplace of the Future and concerning the functioning of the CPPT joint committee (*Comité de Prévention et de Protection au Travail*) and to which she has asked me to reply.

The decision of the staff representatives in the CPPT to resign was taken good note of. It is a decision that I have found regrettable, especially as it has come at a time when the full functioning of this important joint committee is necessary. This in view of the significant challenges that are before us in terms of building and workplace design, especially in the 'new normal' following the COVID-19 crisis.

I can only confirm that the mandate of the staff representatives remains attributed and that their absence from the CPPT, which was constituted in line with the applicable rules, cannot withhold the administration from soliciting opinions from the CPPT. I repeat therefore our call to re-assign members to the CPPT as soon as possible, and take the opportunity assess the important files the CPPT will have before it, jointly with the representatives of the administration.

Among the reasons that were given for the resignation was the lack of cost-related information in the files provided to the CPPT. Please note that budget related questions are the responsibility of the budgetary authority and the remit of the CPPT is in the areas of safety, health and hygiene at the workplace. As regards the deadlines for consultation of the CPPT, these have been taken good note of as well, and it will be ensured that reasonable deadlines remain applicable as foreseen in the rules.

Lastly, as regards the workplace of the future, we have worked to ensure a governance structure for future decisions in this regard. The constitution of the Steering Committee as foreseen in the Communication on the Workplace of the Future is one of the options for such governance and it carries my support. I have confidence that this solution, or another appropriate structure, can soon be proposed in a meeting of the Corporate Management Board.

Gertrud INGESTAD  
(e-signed)

Copies: M. Moricca, M Roques, M. Sakkers, M. Vanhoorde, M. Duluc (DG HR)