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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Renewal of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period
2020-2025
- Procedure

This note sets out the procedure for the renewal of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). The term of office of the Committee ends on 20 September 2020.¹

I. Applicable provisions

Article 302 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) provides that the members of the Committee are to be appointed for five years. The Council, acting by a qualified majority and after consulting the Commission, adopts the list of members drawn up in accordance with the proposals made by each Member State.

Article 300(2) TFEU stipulates that the EESC is to consist "*of representatives of organisations of employers, of the employed, and of other parties representative of civil society, notably in socio-economic, civic, professional and cultural areas*".

¹ See Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/1600 of 18 September 2015 appointing the members of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period from 21 September 2015 to 20 September 2020 (OJ L 248, 24.9.2015, p. 53) and Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/1790 of 1 October 2015 appointing the members of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period from 21 September 2015 to 20 September 2020 (OJ L 260, 7.10.2015, p. 23).

The composition of the EESC is laid down in Council Decision (EU) 2019/853², adopted in accordance with Article 301 TFEU. The text of the Decision is enclosed in **Annex I** to this note.

II. Procedure

Delegations are invited to prepare their respective lists of proposed members and to transmit these lists to the General Secretariat of the Council no later than **1 June 2020**.

Given the need for the consultation of the Commission (which normally takes up to 6 weeks), the summer break and the fact that the Council Decision on the EESC renewal has to be adopted before 20 September 2020, it is important that the lists are transmitted within the set deadline.

In order to ensure greater gender balance in the lists of nominees for the EESC, the Member States are invited to take into account Council Conclusions of 7 December 2015 on the equality between women and men in the field of decision-making³.

The name of each candidate must be accompanied by his/her post currently held and the suggested affiliation to a group (see the form set out in **Annex II**).

In addition, delegations need to provide the Council Secretariat, in a separate document, with candidates' personal data such as professional address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address and date of birth, as well as a short CV (see the form set out in **Annex III**). Member States should inform the candidates that their personal data will not be included in the appointing Council Decision, but will be forwarded to the Commission and the EESC for internal administrative use only.

Delegations are requested to use the forms set out in Annex II and III and to send their documents by e-mail **in Word format** to the following address:

nominations@consilium.europa.eu

² Council Decision (EU) 2019/853 of 21 May 2019 determining the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee (OJ L 139, 27.5.2019, p. 15).

³ 14327/15.

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/853

of 21 May 2019

determining the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 301 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 300 of the Treaty sets out the rules for the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee.
- (2) Council Decision (EU) 2015/1157 ⁽¹⁾ adapted the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee following the accession of Croatia. The number of members for each of Estonia, Cyprus and Luxembourg was reduced by one in order to address the discrepancy between the maximum number of members of the European Economic and Social Committee set out in the first paragraph of Article 301 of the Treaty and the number of members of the European Economic and Social Committee following the accession of Croatia.
- (3) The preamble to Decision (EU) 2015/1157 states that that Decision is to be revised in time for the mandate of the European Economic and Social Committee starting in 2020.
- (4) On 18 September 2018, the European Economic and Social Committee adopted recommendations to the Commission and to the Council on its future composition.
- (5) The current balance in the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee should as far as possible be maintained as it is the result of successive Intergovernmental Conferences.
- (6) The withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union would result in 24 vacant seats in the European Economic and Social Committee. Therefore, the balance in the allocation of seats that existed before the adoption of Decision (EU) 2015/1157 should be restored.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The number of members of the European Economic and Social Committee shall be as follows:

Belgium	12
Bulgaria	12
Czechia	12
Denmark	9
Germany	24
Estonia	7
Ireland	9
Greece	12
Spain	21
France	24
Croatia	9
Italy	24
Cyprus	6
Latvia	7
Lithuania	9

⁽¹⁾ Council Decision (EU) 2015/1157 of 14 July 2015 determining the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee (OJ L 187, 15.7.2015, p. 28).

Luxembourg	6
Hungary	12
Malta	5
Netherlands	12
Austria	12
Poland	21
Portugal	12
Romania	15
Slovenia	7
Slovakia	9
Finland	9
Sweden	12.

2. In the event that the United Kingdom is still a Member State of the Union at the date of application of this Decision, the number of members of the European Economic and Social Committee shall be that provided for in Article 1 of Decision (EU) 2015/1157 until the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union becomes legally effective. From the date that the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the Union becomes legally effective, the number of members of the European Economic and Social Committee shall be that provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 21 September 2020.

Done at Brussels, 21 May 2019.

For the Council
The President
G. CIAMBA

FORM OF THE DOCUMENT TO BE SUBMITTED FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF
MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

(letter from the Permanent Representation with the Government's proposal)

Subject: **Renewal of the European Economic and Social Committee
for the period 2020-2025**

In the context of the procedure for the appointment of members of the European Economic and
Social Committee for the period from 21 September 2020 to 20 September 2025, the ...

Government hereby proposes the following candidates **/in alphabetical order/**:

Mr/Ms ... [*Forename (lower case) + SURNAME (UPPER CASE)*] (*name identical with that
indicated in the passport*)

Post held: ...

Suggested affiliation: Group I (Employers' Group), Group II (Employees' Group) or Group III
(Various Interests Group)

FORM OF THE DOCUMENT TO BE SUBMITTED FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF
MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Renewal of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period 2020-2025

Candidates' personal data

Country: ...

Members *[in alphabetical order]:*

Mr/Ms ... *[Forename (lower case) + SURNAME (UPPER CASE)]*

Professional address: ...

Telephone number: ...

Fax number: ...

E-mail: ...

Date of birth: ...

Short CV: