

# **Bulletin**

#### **Information Bulletin** Addressed to the members of the association

### **June 2022**

### SEPS is at the disposal of all its members. The secretariat can be reached

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Please leave a message in case of no answer

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Version française au verso

11.07.2022 NM/64/22.18 EN

SEPS Administrative Board 2020 – 2022 <sup>*</sup>		
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Secretary admin of the ASBL Nicole Caby		
Ambassador PMO (JSIS). Helen James		
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. Anna Angela D'Amico; Evelyne De Houwer; Patrizia De Palma;		
. Rosario De Simone; Barbara Félix; Petrus Kerstens;		
Antonio Pinto Ferre	ira; Cristiano Sebastiani, Milvia van Rij Brizzi	

<sup>\*</sup> Elected on 13.02.2020 but to be confirmed by the General Meeting in early June

**Bulletin editorial team** (FR & EN) October 2020 Nicole Caby; Serge Crutzen; Anna D'Amico; Luigia Dricot; Helen James; Hendrik Smets; Yasmin Sözen; Milvia van Rij Brizzi

# Membership fee: 30 €

It is requested in January and no longer on the anniversary date of SEPS / SFPE membership

However, new members who register after 30 June 2020 by paying the membership fee, will not need to pay for the 2021 fee. The next payment will only be needed in January 2022.

> Bank account: IBAN: BE 37 3630 5079 7728 BIC: BBRUBEBB

### **Changes of e-mail address**

Many members forget to inform us of their change of e-mail address.

# **Call for volunteers**

The "COVID" period dispersed the volunteers.

The Daily Management Group would like to reconstitute the action groups that respond to the demands of the members.

- SEPS has identified around fifty action groups that must be active to fulfil the tasks of supporting members, defending members' interests, managing the association and complying with the rules imposed by our non-profit association status (ASBL).
- In addition, duty stations must resume in the new offices of the SEPS, still at 105 avenue des Nerviens, 1040 Brussels.
- According to the statutes, the SEPS takes its decisions on the basis of around fifty "Effective Members". Too many effective members appointed in the last 5 years are no longer available. A new call is necessary (see page 17 and appendix 5)

### A new appeal<sup>1</sup> for "effective members" is therefore launched to those who feel able to dedicate part of their time to colleagues.

Whether they are in Brussels or elsewhere : SEPS operates by applying the rules of teleworking.

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### General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Dear Member

We take the protection of personal data very seriously and we are committed to respect the General Regulation on the Protection of Data (GRPD).

Our contact information is used exclusively to ensure our responsibility towards you, as a member, for frank and transparent information on the activities of the Association and the decisions taken by the Administrative Board.

The information you have trusted us with is used entirely for internal purposes. It is not made available to third parties (PMO, DG HR,) without your express permission.

The Association commits itself to protect this information against any form of dissemination and not to make it available to anyone, except where obliged to under the law or when undertaking an act at your request, within the limits of the social objectives of the Association.

Of course, you can access, rectify or delete this information at any time. You may object to the use of your information and have the right to withdraw your consent at any time by sending us an e-mail or a request by post.

Serge Crutzen for the SEPS/SFPE Management

#### **Information Meeting**

#### Au Repos des Chasseurs

Avenue Charles-Albert, 11 1170 Bruxelles (Boitsfort) +32(0)26604672

#### <u>On</u> 6 October 2022<sup>2</sup>

#### Following the traditional pattern, from 10:30 to 16:30

- Latest developments of SEPS/SFPE
- Friendly lunch
- Commission report on the Staff Regulations and Pensions
- Evolution of JSIS and GIP
- Multilingualism
- Difficulties faced by members.
- Questions

#### General meeting and information meeting On 8 December 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As a function of the COVID 19 pandemic evolution – decision on 10 December 2022

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### I. Letter from the Editor

Our June General Assembly is one of the signs that this year 2022 has to be seen as a creeping return to normality. Associations are trying to fulfil their objectives which includes meetings of members. This is essential !

Nevertheless, it may be difficult to go "back to normal" as many people have got into the habit of working from home. We will see virtual or mixed meetings continue, while at the same time associations revive team-building events for their own staff.

At our General Assembly this year, we resolutely moved back to meeting physically and concluded the formal part of our agenda with the quitus given to the administrators, the nomination of new administrators and the decision to reorganise the activities in our new offices.

The war in Ukraine and the assistance that has been provided to refugees has occupied a good number of our volunteers in a variety of tasks.

Our preoccupations concerning salary adjustments seem very egotistical in this difficult period as well as our tools for well-being, which are the stability of our pensions and the method of adjusting this pension to inflation.

It is very probable that Chapter VII of the Multi-Annual Financial Framework will need to be reviewed relative to the adaptations calculated by Eurostat. We will therefore have to prepare ourselves for a new wave of social dialogue.

# II. <u>Summary of the General Assembly and</u> information meeting of 23 June 2022

#### Live meeting

A meeting of one day with a convivial lunch at the Repos des Chasseurs ! We have not had a full meeting since 2019. The news was first announced in the Bulletin of March 2022, sent out on the internet on 14 April and by post on 15 May. The invitation was repeated by e-mail on 8 June 2022 to those who have provided us with a valid email address.

### A. General Assembly

#### 1. Accounts for 2021

The accounts report is provided in Annex 1. The accounts are provided separately for SEPS-Brussels, SEPS-Italia ad SEPS-Luxemburg.

### 2. Budget for 2022

The budget was presented to the Administrative Board and approved by written procedure on 5 December 2021.

The 'extraordinary' budget is difficult to define as the legal costs of a lawyer are determined by the advances made on the cases.

Hendrik Smets highlights the problem of the rights to national pensions, transferred to the Commission but rendered useless by a full career at the Commission (Enrichment without cause by the Commission). This action might result in an appeal during 2023. However, we must find a colleague who is about to retire without benefitting from his/her rights transferred to the Commission and begin the procedure within 3 months of his/her retirement: Article 90§2 against the obligation to request the recuperation of the national pension rights after 10 years (and 6 months) of service. It would be logical for such a decision to be taken at the end of service, in full knowledge of the facts. Cf VIII.7 hereafter

Some candidates have manifested themselves, but they still need to agree to undergo this procedure, even if the costs are carried by SEPS.

Hendrik Smets highlights the probability of continuing an appeal against the Belgian Federal pensions service when it comes to the repaid national pension rights of a European civil servant. There are therefore three concurrent appeals under way: reversion of pensions; return to work after invalidity; recuperation of national pension rights after useless transfer to the Commission. It is difficult to assess when legal feels will be required.

The 2022 budget was approved unanimously by the General Assembly.

#### 3. 2021 Activity report

This 'formal' report for this COVID period can be obtain from the secretariat. The activities foreseen continue as the program for 2022.

### 4. Program 2022

A succinct description of the 2022 program is given in Annex 2. COVID permitting, the duty presences will be reorganised and the activities and habitual meetings of SEPS will be resumed. A group to defend our acquired rights has been created to respond to possible attacks from the Member States following the Commission's report on the application of the 2014 Staff Regulations reform.

#### 5. Administrators' discharge

Given the approval registered for both the accounting report and the activity report, the administrators have unanimously been granted their discharge.

#### 6. SEPS-Italia antenna

As announced in an earlier Bulletin, the antenna was created in 2021 and is evolving autonomously. Stefan Nonneman has been nominated by SEPS-IT as the contact person and he therefore sits as an observer on the Administrative Board. Given the importance of the link with SEPS-IT and the interest that Stefan has in the management of SEPS and more particularly in the insurances, the Administrative Board has proposed to the General Assembly that Stefan Nonneman be nominated as Administrator.

#### 7. SEPS-Luxemburg antenna

This antenna was created in 2017 at the European Parliament in Luxemburg by Jean-Louis Cougnon. (Konrad Adenauer building – office 01GO24 KAD 01GO24). The antenna has until now been unable to find any volunteers in Luxemburg to assist in developing and managing this section, although logistic support has been offered and a provision of €2000 has been transferred by SEPS-Brussels to an account at the BIL, opened in the name of SEPS.

The Administrative Board considers that this antenna could evolve in the way of the Ispra antenna, but it cannot rely on local volunteer input as does SEPS-Brussels and SEPS-Italia. Interest could be revived in Luxemburg on the basis of the list of SEPS members who live in Luxemburg.

### 8. SEPS-SFPE: An international charity with antennas in BE, LU, IT ?

The question has been put to the Administrative Board: Should SEPS be developed as SEPS-International with several antennas: SEPS-BE; SEPS-IT; SEPS-LU; SEPS-FR, ... Hendrik Smets has proposed to give us an analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of the status of international charity.

It is clear however that the current Administrative Board remains the management committee of SEPS. Several members of the Administrative Board are in favour of becoming an international charity, without waiting for the development of further antennas. The AB has therefore asked Hendrik Smets to define the steps towards this status in detail. The GA has adopted the AB's proposal.

#### 9. PMO-JSIS ambassadresses

Helen James is the SEPS ambassadress at PMO (12.02.2022). The AB has decided to nominate Giuseppina Corda ambassadress at PMO-RJSIS. The nomination of ambassadress is contingent upon the nomination as Active Senior by DG HR D. This nomination also needs to be approved by PMO. A SEPS-PMO meeting is planned, to also address the complementary health insurances to JSIS and collaboration with Afiliatys.

#### **10. Effective members – appeal**

The voting members at the General Assemblies should be at least 50. Given the consecutive absences of several of these members, it is necessary to nominate several new voting members. Such nominations need to be undertaken by the GA, ideally on proposal from the AB. We need to find the necessary volunteers.

Our internal regulations stipulate up to 75 effective members **The AB is therefore launching a call for volunteers!** In view of the next general assembly foreseen for 8 December 2022

Georges Distexhe, who volunteered before the meeting, was nominated by the Assembly.

#### 11. Nomination of two administrators

Given Jean-Pierre Amond's involvement in the Insurances group and also as official auditor of the accounts, the AB proposes to the GA that Jean-Pierre Amond be nominated as administrator. Given the importance of SEPS-Italia and the nomination of Stefan Nonneman as contact person between Italy (Ispra) and Brussels, the AB proposes to the GA that Stefan Nonneman be nominated as administrator.

The General Assembly approved the nominations of Jean-Pierre Amond and Stefan Nonneman as administrators. Their mandate will however end with that of the present Administrative Board (2020-2022) on 31 January 2023.

#### 12. Nomination of the auditors of the accounts

Filomena Paolone and Jean-Pierre Amond undertook the audit of the 2021 accounts. Filomena has accepted to continue this task. As administrator Jean-Pierre Amond can no longer undertake this task (but will be heavily involved in the task). Jacques Delincé has volunteered for this task in 2023 and has therefore been nominated by the GA. A call is launched for a third volunteer.

SEPS/SFPE

### 13. Elections of the AB 2023-2025

The internal regulations foresee the renewal of the Administrative Board every three years. The mandate of the present AB ends on 31 January 2023. The elections will therefore be launched end December 2022 during the GA foreseen for 8 December 2022.

Internet will be used for those members who have provided us with a valid email address.

#### a. Timing

- Submission of candidacies 07.12.2022
- Dispatch of voting envelopes as from end December 2022
- Deadline for receipt of votes: 31.01.2023
- Opening of voter choice envelopes at N105 as from Monday 13.02.2023

- **Constitution of the Administrative Board**: 16.02.2023 (?) by a special session of the GA, in accordance with the voting regulations, now an integral part of the internal regulations.

#### b. Organisation

The electoral office will be nominated at the GA of 8 December 2022: a chairperson and three members

### **B.** Information relative to SEPS

#### 1. Moving office from/to N105

The proposal to move to Van Maerlant did not seem to us to be judicious.

We would like to remain in N105 and obtain more space. (cf VIII.1, hereunder)

SEPS will occupy more offices situated at 105 avenue des Nerviens, on the ground floor, but now to the right as you enter the building, no longer to the left.

#### 2. Insurances – presentations by SEPS

# a. Seminars for the preparation for retirement (EC and the CEU), Midday conferences, correspondence

SEPS presents the complementary health insurances policies to JSIS up to 20 times in a year to the Commission, the Council, the European Parliament, to the EU Court of Justice, to the agencies; during the seminars for preparing for retirement and at the Midday conferences.

After 2 years of presentations by video-conference, the live presentations have recommenced at the Council.

Other than the presentations it is necessary to respond to some 20 odd questions during each seminar (sometimes more). These questions can be complex and implicate certain aspects of the Staff Regulations, of the JSIS in addition to the specificities of the 8 insurances on offer.

Documents are distributed to the participants:

- A dossier on the insurances (EN and FR) created and updated several times a year by SEPS.

- A summary on two pages intended for new recruits (EN and FR)
- A power point presentation of the insurances (EN and FR)

#### b. Insurance group SEPS/Afiliatys

These presentations, which have been developed since 2008, are made by Serge Crutzen. He also answers the majority of questions and ensures that the documents available are continuously up-dated.

It is no longer possible to rely on a single person. A group "Insurances SEPS/Afiliatys" has been created. The terms of reference are annexed to the March 2022 SEPS Bulletin. This group needs to evolve. AIACE and the unions have been invited to participate. There are not enough volunteers for the presentation of the insurances in EN and in FR. A new call for volunteers will be made.

#### c. Training "information all insurances"

Training meetings are organised at N105, without success as far as participation is concerned. Until now, other than Serge Crutzen, only one other person has made a presentation : Jean-Pierre Amond (on 15.05.2022).

SEPS cannot abandon or minimise this activity, which is important not just for colleagues, but also for our reputation.

#### 3. Afiliatys

#### a. Reorientation of Afiliatys

A "newsletter from Afiliatys" informed members of the change in orientation of the association: AFILIATYS will devote the majority of its resources to the implementation of the complementary health insurance to JSIS HOSPI SAFE. The associated personalised service will evidently be maintained.

AFILIATYS will also continue to offer you, on its website (<u>www.afiliatys.eu</u>) the various special advantages still offered by more than one hundred partners, but based on a more virtual and simplified approach. In the short term the objective is to insert on our site a link to the webpage of the partner, which will provide the details of the specific offers available for members of Afiliatys, with the conditions and modalities associated with these benefits. $\mu$ 

#### b. Strengthened collaboration with Afiliatys

SEPS contributes enormously to the development and the follow up of the Afiliatys insurances (cf hereafter) SEPS also collaborates with Afiliatys in several aspects of the management of the charity.

This collaboration could be reinforced in the coming months.

#### 4. Action "Ukraine Refugees"

A few members of SEPS are actively involved in assisting Ukranian refugees in Brussels, working with staff unions of the European Institutions and the Commune of Etterbeek in particular through its CPAS and other structures (Contact: Luigia Dricot-Daniele).

SEPS has made a transfer of €1000 to the inter-union account to provide direct assistance in the form of basic necessities. A grant of €1000 had already been made on 15 March to the account "Consortium Ukraine 12 12" (by written procedure on 13 May 2022).

An appeal for funds was also launched to all members of SEPS on 20 May 2022 which appears to have yielded a sum significantly over €1700.

In addition, SEPS has put in place a group of volunteers who are teaching children and adults French, Dutch and English.

The Inter-union has published some information which can be found in Annex 3.

#### 5 - Promotional activities

In agreement with DG HR D1 – Assistance to pensioners

**a. Creation of a flyer** which presents the objectives of SEPS and appeals for participation. This flyer has been created but grammatical errors have forced OIB to redo the document (EN & FR)

**b.** An annual e-mail to all staff: This mail aims to highlight the fact that there is not only AIACE who can represent pensioners and those on invalidity. This mail will be sent out by DG HR D.

**c.** A letter from DG HR D2 to all active staff who have decided to retire. This letter aims to point out that there is not only AIACE to represent retirees and colleagues on invalidity.

#### d. Making our Bulletin and the flyer available at the "Welcome/departures office"

#### e. An article about SEPS in every edition of Info Seniors

**f**. The distribution of **an envelope to participants at live seminars** for preparation for retirement. This envelope will be prepared by the secretariat of SEPS (as in 2009 and 2019) and will contain the flyer, the latest information bulletin, the membership application form and the modalities concerning payment of fees.

At the request of several members of the **AB a conference will be proposed under the auspices of the staff unions on the subject of complementary health insurances policies and about SEPS** in order to ensure future pensioners have all the necessary information about these insurances well before retirement, as in certain cases, these insurances require a medical questionnaire for those who are within 6 months of retirement. But how do we reach 50,000 colleagues?

#### 6. Contribution by Active Seniors to internal competitions

An appeal was launched by DG HR for assistance with the activities of EPSO and DG HR. To respond to DG HR, an appeal was made to members by e-mail, which has resulted in several replies.

This activity is coordinated by Milvia van Rij-Brizzi, who offers a report on this subject in Annex 4.

### C. Commission report on the 2014 Staff Regulations

As explained in earlier Bulletins, the Commission's report on the implementation of the Staff Regulations of 2014 opens the door to discussions on our pensions system, and the method for adapting salaries and pensions.

These five yearly reports by Eurostat on pensions and the method have demonstrated that the regulations have been and are respected, that the actuarial evaluations correspond to expectations and that the national experts have approved these reports.

It is however clear that since the adoption of the 2014 Staff Regulations several Member States have repeated their desire to establish "a civil service that the EU can permit itself to sustain". They would like that the pensions budget be lower than it is currently:  $\in$ 1.6 billion and that it does not reach  $\in$ 2.3 billion a year from 2040 to 2050,

even if the reforms of 2004 and 2014 have made possible global savings of €15 billion.

**Annex XI – Method** for the adaptation of salaries Report COM(2022) 180 of 26.04.2022 **Annex XII – Pensions system** this report will not be available before the end of the year

#### 1. Conclusion of the Commission report on Annex XI

In line with Article 15(3) of Annex XI to the SR, the Commission will rely on the provisional application of the current Method beyond 2023, whilst ensuring the continued annual reporting to the European Parliament and the Council on data pertaining to the budgetary impact of remuneration and pensions.

### 2. Positions of CoRePer

The "Method" has not solicited any particular demands from the CoRePer. Until now! In the past, the Staff Regulations Group of the Council has induced the CoRePer to ask the Commission to generate savings on pensions. This demand risks being made again. It is even likely to be insistent when it comes to the report on the pensions system.

The Commission report on pensions is not yet available.

#### 3. Position of the staff unions:

They oppose any kind of modification to the Staff Regulations

Preserve the Staff Regulations of the European public service, guarantee of its independence and attractiveness, necessary for preserving its efficacy and not propose any new reform to the Staff Regulations, which today, would only undermine the working conditions and the remuneration of the EU staff.

#### 4. Letter to the Commissioner

SEPS has informed the Commissioner of its availability in the event discussions or negotiations were to take place subsequent to the Commission's report on the application of the Staff Regulations. Our primary objective is to defend our acquired rights! The Commissioner has replied amiably – Annex 4.

During the meeting of the Staff unions and the Personnel Committee with Commissioner Johannes Hahn, in charge of the Administration, the Commissioner confirmed that the Commission does not intend to undertake any reform of the Staff Regulations and that the

additional needs resulting from the application of the method for adapting salaries and pensions will be invoked to ask for a revision of Chapter VII during the updating of the Multi Annual Financial Framework.

He is aware that the increases foreseen for the end of 2022 (after the intermediary adjustment of June) will elicit a lot of controversy among the Member States but the Commission will defend the principles of the Method and the equilibrium of our pensions system.

#### 5. Defence group

In anticipation of likely social dialogue meetings, a defence group has been created under the guidance of Milvia van Rij-Brizzi and Luigia Dricot-Daniele. Volunteers will be contributing: Serge Crutzen, Peter Kerstens, Jacques Delincé and other members of the AB who are ready to do so.

Preparative discussions have already begun: Milvia and Luigia are going through the archives of the 2014

reform to be ready for the initial dialogue meetings with the staff unions. The "Pensions" group of SEPS, also interested in this subject, will be consulted regularly.

### **D. Evolution of JSIS**

Report from Monique Breton, vice-president of the CGAM.

Monique Breton presented the current state of work of the CGAM relative to the development of the GIP.

- Modification to Chapter "recognition of serious illness" and the specific case of handicap

- Modifications foreseen to the reimbursement ceilings and to keeping them more regularly up-dated.

- The importance of the possibility to benefit from the national health system, if it is financed through the national budget, as in Italy, (United Kingdom), Greece, Denmark,... Cf III here below.

### III. The activities of the CGAM

Summary of the information submitted during the meeting of the GA of 23.06.2022 by Monique Breton, Vicepresident of the CGAM.

#### 1. Modification of the regulations

Dental costs are badly reimbursed by JSIS. Within the framework of the revision of the GIP, the regulation covering dental costs is being discussed. It is intended to do away with the annual ceiling for certain interventions.

It is also intended to create separate headings dedicated to specific interventions such as prevention.

The basic problem with dentistry is that dental fees are barely regulated. The moment we increase the reimbursement ceilings, dentists will increase their fees and take for themselves the benefit of these raised ceilings.

### 2. The raising of ceilings

The CGAM voted to increase the ceilings for crowns and for oral health care. This proposal has been submitted to the College of Heads of Administration to come into force. This proposal also contains an increase in the ceiling for consultations with medical specialists, for hearing aids and others.

#### 3. Making use of a national insurer or a mutual benefit fund

In the Netherlands, the agreement with CZ, permits affiliates residing in the Netherlands to obtain health care, to benefit from an advance from CZ for the required treatment. CZ sends the bill, affiliate by affiliate, to the Liquidator Bureau in Brussels, who issues the usual invoice. This constitutes progress: patients pay identical costs to those applied to Dutch nationals, they do not have to advance any money and they only have to reimburse the 15% or 20% to PMO (taking account of ceilings too). These reimbursements are automated.

Negotiations are underway between PMO and a Belgian mutual benefit fund in order to offer a mutual benefit affiliation card to affiliates of JSIS. These affiliates will continue to be covered by JSIS (not by the mutual benefit fund) but this procedure would make it possible to avoid the frequent discriminations. On the basis of this card the bills would be sent to the mutual fund, which would control them as it does for all those it insures. It would pay the fees and recuperate the expense from JSIS. The advantages are numerous and substantial.

- Ease of access to treatment as a holder of a mutual benefit fund card
- Prevention, detection and fight against discrimination and abuse
- Access to regulated tariffs, to medication on sales price terms
- Advance on costs, thereby reducing need to resort to own funds

- The reimbursement of the advances to JSIS will be clearer, automatic, with the possibility of paying back in instalments.

- Savings will be made, which will enable ceilings to be raised, reimbursements to be improved.

But, all is not yet wrapped up.

A budget has been foreseen by DG DIGIT to undertake the necessary IT development that PMO needs. It relates to receiving bills via an application.

#### 4. Making use of the national systems

#### National health system and JSIS: we can benefit from both systems in parallel!

The parallel coverage by several systems exists since the beginning of the Staff Regulations and JSIS was created to serve as a minimum equivalent coverage for all European civil servants and agents. The JSIS's reason for being resides in the absence of harmonisation of the social security systems within Europe.

Virtually all the big international organisations, with several locations, have a common health insurance system for their staff, financed one third by the staff and two thirds by the employer.

Staff members do not know what attitude to adopt when confronted with this duality. Many pensioners are afraid they will lose the advantages of JSIS, particularly the freedom to choose medical treatment. In the event of difficulty in financing JSIS, are we not at risk of being obliged to base ourselves in part or wholly on the national

# IV. The saga of the adaptation of pensions

#### 1. Intermediary adaptation – June 2022

An intermediary adaptation of 2.4% was granted in June 2022.

This needs to be considered in combination with the new correction coefficients. It also needs to be considered in relation to the exchange rate for countries that are not in the Eurozone.

#### 2. Adaptation of salaries end 2022 – perspectives

The Bulletin of December 2020 explained the outlook for the adjustment of salaries and pensions for the three succeeding years: 2021, 22, 23.

At the end of 2020, the salary adaptation should have been 3.2%: 0.7% for inflation (JBLI) and 2.5% to achieve equivalence with the salaries in Member States (GSI). We were granted only 0.7% due to the application of the exception clause resulting from the drop by 5.9% of GDP. The 2.5% has been postponed to when GDP will have reached its 2019 level.

GDP returned to 2019 levels this year. The 2.5% blocked in 2020 (GSI) will therefore be liberated in December 2022 with effect from 1 July 2022.

GDP has not dropped until now. The exception clause will probably not be applied in 2022.

Inflation will certainly remain high and will justify another adaptation at the end of 2022, which will be added to the intermediary adaptation.

However, GSI (the parameter of parallelism relative to EU national salaries) of July 2021 - June 2022 could be negative. If this is confirmed, 50% will be applied at the end of 2022 and would result in a reduction of the 2.5% of 2020. If not, the total GSI would exceed 2.5%.

It is therefore the possibility of a substantial adaptation at the end of this year but it is not be possible to evaluate this before October 2022. It is however important to know that DG BUDG has foreseen this salary increase in the 2023 budget. However, DG BUDG still needs to find the money<sup>3</sup> !

#### Correction coefficients

Logically, the new correction coefficients will be defined at the end of 2022.

Nothing can be guaranteed before October 2022

#### 3. Ajustements to the indexation of pensions in June

Some additional adjustments need to be made to certain pensions as a follow-up to the midyear indexation in June 2022. These adjustments concern <u>correction coefficients or</u> <u>exchange rates</u>, and do not affect the fixed pension increase of 2.4%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Commissioner Hahn confirmed that the additional needs arising from the application of the method of adjustment of salaries and pensions will be invoked to request a revision of heading VII in the update of the MFF.

You are not required to take any action. If necessary, adjustments to your pension will be made automatically, depending on your place of residence and the currency in which your pension is paid.

Pensioners residing **outside the European Union (except for UK)** are **not affected** by these corrections.

Pensioners residing in the Eurozone (except for Germany) are not affected by these corrections.

If you reside outside the Eurozone, in Germany, or in the UK, the adjustments to your pension will be as follows:

• For pensions paid outside the Eurozone, including the UK, with correction coefficient applying

During the 2022 interim update, an error relating to the exchange rates used for payments outside the Eurozone was detected. In accordance with Article 63 of the Staff Regulations, the exchange rates applicable on 1 July 2021 and not on 1 January 2022 should have been used. A correction will be made on the July 2022 payment with retroactive effect to 1 January 2022.

#### • For pensions paid in the UK without correction coefficient

UK pensions without correction coefficient paid in GBP are not affected by this correction. In accordance with Article 45 of Annex VIII, the most recent exchange rates used for the implementation of the general budget of the European Union (monthly rate) must be used.

• For pensions paid in Germany with correction coefficient applying

During the 2022 interim update, the German pension coefficient has not been adjusted in accordance with Eurostat calculations (decrease from 101.3 to 100). A correction will be made on the July 2022 payment, with retroactive effect to 1 January 2022.

We thank you for your understanding and remain available to answer any questions sent to <u>PMO-PENSIONS@ec.europa.eu</u>.

# V. <u>Notional pension fund and contribution</u> <u>from active staff</u>

As of 31 December 2021 the new amount of this notional fund is €126 billion, an increase of €10 billion relative to 2020.

Commissioner Hahn has confirmed that the additional needs resulting from the application of the method for adapting salaries and pensions will be invoked to demand a revision of Chapter VII when the MFF is up-dated.

The total number of "members of the pension system" increased by 3 282 individuals (+3.6%) within one year.

The contribution to the pension fund for actuarial equilibrium in 2022 should remain where it has been since 2020: 10.1% of basic salary. This should be confirmed in October.

## VI. <u>Call for volunteers – Duty stations are set</u> <u>to resume</u>

Luigia Dricot Daniele, Secretary General

After this long period of restrictions due to COVID, which has left many colleagues destitute, SEPS will shortly be resuming volunteer activities.

Although the association was at your side in one way or another throughout this period, it is comforting to be able to resume live social activities.

Are there any among you who would be ready to give some of your time towards assisting these colleagues?

SEPS needs to be able to count on a sufficient number of volunteers to be able to guarantee a presence at its offices or to be available at the end of the telephone line to provide advice, among others and thus to permit retired colleagues to be able to obtain a favour or advice.

The association hopes there will be many of you to answer this appeal for volunteers and would ask you to let us know your preferences by filling in the table found as Annex 5 of this Bulletin.

## VII. Information and reminders

Much of the information offered to you under this chapter of the Bulletin does not concern all members but may interest a good number of them. It is being sent to you on the basis of experiences made by members of SEPS who man the permanent telephone line or at the request of PMO.

Some of this information may also duplicate information provided in the form of the information bulletin of DG HR D1 "Info Senior" and earlier SEPS-SFPE Bulletins. However, it is essential to insist on certain rules and repeat them: the PMO services ask us to do so.

### 1. SEPS has moved offices on 30 June 2022

Though staying in the same building - 105 avenue des Nerviens, 1040 Brussels - SEPS has moved to different offices on the ground floor (to the right on entering the building).

The association has more space and will reorganise its daily duty station presences as from the beginning of September.

Appointments remain possible in the meanwhile: info@sfpe-seps.be or +32 475 472 470

### 2. Seniors Space is open

The Seniors Space has reopened its doors at 105 avenue des Nerviens (N-105) room 00/38 – Monday to Friday from 08h30 to 17h45.

This space was created by DG HR specifically for pensioners. Four computers are available there which provide access to My IntraComm and to the web page for pensioners. Access to internet is secure.

There is a box where you can deposit your requests for reimbursement of medical expenses.

Pensioners of the Commission can enter on presentation of their (new) pensioner's badge

### 3. Pensioner's access badge

**Pensioners of the Commission** need to obtain the new access badge which they can request from the Security Bureau, PLB 3, **by obtaining an appointment** by e-mail at the following address:

HR-DS-CARTES-DE-SERVICE-BRUXELLES@ec.europa.eu

Pensioners from other institutions are admitted on presentation of the access badge delivered by their own institution.

#### For Council colleagues

o Accreditation bureau – Building Justus Lipsius (rue de la Loi 175) open Monday to Friday from 07h30 –19h00

o Pensioners can go there without appointment (avoid going when European Summits are being held, during which time access to the building is restricted)

o There is no telephone number, but pensioners can use this e-mail address -

<u>access.general@consilium.europa.eu</u> – for any questions relating to the badges and access to the building.

#### For European Parliament colleagues

o Accreditation service

o <u>SAFE.TA-Securite@europarl.europa.eu</u>

o Tel: +32 2 28 43988/ +32 2 28 41389/ +32 2 28 32736

#### For CESE colleagues

o Accreditation bureau : 99 rue Belliard – JDE 0.007

Colleagues who retire deposit their badge as active staff members at this office and in exchange receive the pensioners' access badge valid for 5 years, renewable.

o On the expiry date, they submit their expired badge and receive the new one.

o This bureau is open Monday to Thurday from 08h30 – 12h30 and from 13h00 to 17h00; Friday from 08h30 to 12h30 and from 13h00 to 15h00.

E-mail: <u>accreditation@eesc.europa.eu</u> – tel: 02 282 22 25

### 4. Is prior authorisation necessary?

You do not know whether a prior authorisation is necessary? It costs you nothing to ask if you are not sure. What are you risking?

- That one tells you that it was not necessary? OK!
- That one tells you OK you are authorised and you can be reimbursed? (very important)!
- That one tells you that you do not fulfil the conditions to be reimbursed! Darn, but it is very important to know this!

Whoever needs to go to hospital and/or receive substantial health care without asking for prior authorisation may run serious risks.

Recommendation:

When treatment is likely to cost large amounts, it is always prudent to introduce a request for prior authorisation, accompanied by the surgeon's cost estimate and/or that of the hospital.

### 5. PMO telephone open hours during summer

#### **PMO-Pensions**

During the summer holiday period the telephone line of Pensions +32 2 297 88 00 will remain accessible during the following schedule:

- ✓ 1 31 July 2022 inclusive, Monday and Wednesday from 09h30 to 12h30
- ✓ 1-31 August 2022 inclusive, Wednesday from 09h30 to 12h30

For declaring a death, the number +32 2 295 20 17 remains available Monday to Friday, from 09h30 to 17h00.

#### PMO – JSIS

From 1 July to 31 August 2022 inclusive, the following telephone lines will be accessible from 10h00 to 12h00

JSIS CONTACT Brussels +32 2 29 97777 Ispra +39 0332 78 57 57 Luxemburg +352 4301 36100

DIRECT BILLING Brussels +32 2 29 59856 Ispra +39 0332 78 99 66 Luxemburg +352 4301 36103 PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE Brussels – Ispra – Luxemburg +32 2 29 53866

JSIS ON LINE – Access and EU LOGIN Brussels +32 2 29 76888 Ispra + 39 0332 78 30 30 Luxemburg +352 4301 3610

### Appoibntments PMO-JSIS at MERO

By tel : +32 2 29 9777 or by Email : <u>PMO-RCAM-BRU-RDV@ec.europa.eu</u>

### 6. Legal advice available from SEPS/SFPE

If you need legal advice for problems with regard to your relations with the Commission services (application of the Staff Regulations) or in connection with your private affairs (inheritance or fiscal problems) Hendrik Smets, Doctor in Law and licensed notary, Vice-President of SEPS/SFPE in charge of legal matters, is at your disposal, to give you an opinion in all discretion and respecting his probity as a former European civil servant.

You can contact Hendrik Smets by e-mail: <u>hendriksmets@yahoo.fr</u> or by telephone: +33.563.67.88.83

Hendrik Smets will make an initial analysis of your question and will propose either a solution or a consultation with a lawyer, free of charge <u>for all members who have paid their</u> <u>membership fees.</u>

### 7. Legal advice – Assistance of a lawyer – Reminder

If you need legal advice for problems with regard to your relations with the Commission services (application of the Staff Regulations) or in connection with your private affairs (inheritance or fiscal problems) Hendrik Smets, Doctor in Law and licensed notary, Vice-President of SEPS/SFPE in charge of legal matters, is at your disposal, to give you an opinion in all discretion and respecting his probity as a former European civil servant.

You can contact Hendrik Smets by e-mail: <u>hendriksmets@yahoo.fr</u> or by telephone: +33.563.67.88.83

Hendrik Smets will make an initial analysis of your question and will propose either a solution or a consultation with a lawyer, <u>free of charge for all members who have paid their</u> <u>membership fees</u>.

### 8. <u>Accumulation of a Community pension with a</u> <u>national pension – Reminder</u>

Hendrik Smets would like to draw the attention of members to his article on this subject, which appeared in earlier editions of our Bulletin.

European civil servants who have not transferred their national pension rights to the Community system and who benefit from a Community pension can now introduce a request for a pension for the years of service with a national employer.

This is also valid for those who have already introduced such a request and have had it rejected.

Hendrik Smets is at their disposal to guide them through their (new) request.

Hendrik Smets, Vice-President in charge of legal matters

### VIII. <u>Annexes</u>

### <u>Annex 1</u>

### Accounts 2021 and budget 2022

See French version overleaf

### Annex 2

### Summary of the 2022 Work Programme

### <u>Preamble</u>

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SEPS/SFPE will remain attentive to all discussions on our pensions system, knowing that

- The limitations of the Multi-annual Financial Framework will have a tendency to consider pensions

to be a charge, even though we have "paid for our pensions": the notional pension fund (more than €126 billion) is proof of this.

- The Commission's report of 4 August 2021 which covers the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2019 will be followed by a final report which will be presented to the European Parliament and the Council in 2022 on the basis of which the Commission will present, as needed, a legislative proposal in order to

o Modify the provisions of the Staff Regulations relative to the operation of the pension scheme

o Modify the provisions of the Staff Regulations relative to the method for the adaptation of pensions (Annex XI).

Since November 2021, preparatory discussions have begun: the archives of the 2014 Reform have been recovered in order to be ready for the first social dialogue meetings with AIACE and the staff unions. The preparatory social dialogues will probably commence in 2022. The "Pensions" group, which is interested in this subject will regularly be consulted in order to feed into the discussions.

- The AB will be specifically kept up to date with the hope that its members can contribute to the studies and discussions.

As in the past, SEPS/SFPE will remain attentive to the discussions and to any changes in the attitude of PMO with regard to the application of the rules of JSIS.

Although this is of no great importance to pensioners, SEPS/SFPE will follow, as much as it can, the work of DG HR with regard to the elaboration of the new work methods.

As usual, SEPS/SFPE will do its utmost to inform members and to obtain the view of members in order to pass them on during the committee meetings.

To the extent possible, SEPS/SFPE will reply to questions from members, it will help them to communicate with the Administration/PMO and resolve the disagreements that might enfold.

Legal support is available.

Of particular note: collaboration with Afiliatys relative to insurances and certain social activities.

# I. Management activities of the Association

#### 1. <u>Those activities that are of an administrative nature are as</u> <u>follows:</u>

o Daily administration, financial management, management of the list of members

o Meetings with the DMG (Daily Management Group) consisting of the secretary general, the treasurer and the president

o Meetings of the Administrative Board - by correspondence if necessary

o The statutory General Assemblies of June and December 2022, if possible live

o Reports to the clerk of the Commercial tribunal (Moniteur belge) and to the Ministry of Finance

o Organisation of information meetings, where possible live

o Management of relations with DG HR&S, Directorate D, with DG PERS & ADMIN and the medicosocial service of the Council and with PMO

o Collaboration with the staff unions in select areas (JSIS, pensions, ...) without compromising our independence

o Dialogue with AIACE to defend our interests

o Use of teleworking, tele-conferences and written procedures at the level of the secretariat of the Daily Management Group and of the AB. This is a necessity at this time of the COVID 19 crisis.

### 2. Management of the office at N 105

In as much as the COVID 19 crisis permits, the office at the avenue des Nerviens should be he centre of contact and activity of SEPS/SFPE.

Gina Dricot, Secretary General, manages this office N105 and the activities that occur there.

### 3. Office at 175 rue de la Loi – c/o Council of the EU

This office, at Justus Lipsius, JL 02 CG 39, is the administrative centre of the charity (correspondence – copies, official dossiers for the Belgian national authorities – archives). It is managed by Nicole Caby (together with the president)

### 4. <u>Revival of the working groups</u>

The working groups identified in 2019, with their objectives, their leader and participants have been reviewed in the hope to be more effective in 2020, despite the COVID crisis. The essential activities will however continue by Internet, if necessary.

# II. Activities related to the objectives of the programme

#### 1. Defence of our acquired rights

# The main objective remains the effective defence of the acquired rights of pensioners: the pension, the method, the adaptation of remuneration to the cost of live

**pensioners**: the pension, the method, the adaptation of remuneration to the cost of living, the joint health insurance scheme, the allowances .

The priority is already given to participation at every activity necessary to defend the interests of pensioners.

The priority files / events / meetings to follow are:

- Possible discussions relating to the pensions system (2022 and probably rather 2023) and the creation within the AB of SEPS/SFPE of a "Pensions" group
  - Follow up to the EUROSTAT reports of June 2017 and the meetings of TGR
  - Follow up the injunctions of COREPER, picked up by the Council, to make savings
  - Follow up on the recession resulting from the COVID 19 crisis
  - Follow up to the reduction of Chapter VI of the MFF (2021-2027)
  - Follow up on the Commission's report of 5 March 2022 on the application of the SR
  - Not to be forgotten that "Generation 2004" is in conflict with pensioners
- Interunion meetings; social dialogue meetings
- Management committee of the Health insurance system (CGAM): evolution of JSIS
  - For the simplification of procedures which can become burdensome for pensioners
  - For the increase of certain reimbursement ceilings
  - For the potential modification of certain GIP
  - For improved support for assisted living and support to the handicapped
- Technical Group on Remunerations (TGR) (video-conferences)
- Seminars for the preparation for retirement either by video-conference or live
- Administration of social services of the Commission (CASS)

#### 2. <u>Communication</u>

Information should always be disseminated in paper form. The method of communication is the **information Bulletin** (exclusive to members); if necessary "**Flash info**" are sent out. The months of publication of the Bulletin are: December-January, March, June, and October.

**The internet site of SEPS/SFPE** has been totally modernised and is constantly being updated by a technician (Benoit Walkiers) together with Gina Dricot and Anna D'Amico.

**The information meetings** will be organised as a function of the evolution of the pandemic.

**The seminars for preparing for retirement** remain a relatively heavy task. For 2021 there were however only 12 video-conferences (Commission and Council, EN and FR)

#### Activities to promote SEPS

In agreement with DG HR – Assistance to pensioners, several activities will be undertaken during 2022.

#### 3. <u>Assistance to members</u>

The main objective of SEPS/SFPE remains the effective defence of pensioners' acquired rights: pension, health insurance scheme, allocations, complementary insurances to JSIS... The second objective is communication

(Bulletin and information meetings). However, since 2014 it is the third objective which has grown in importance and now dominates: assistance to members.

#### a. Replies to members' questions

The "simple response" to questions demands a real investment and commitment from the secretariat, from several members of the AB and from volunteers. These questions give life to the information meetings and to several chapters of the Bulletin.

Those who man the telephone (+32 (0)475 472 470 7/7 & 24/24) or who answer e-mail questions (<u>info@sfpe-sep.be</u>) are generally well aware of the difficulties of pensioners and well informed about the rules of the Staff Regulations or of JSIS.

This assistance in no way substitutes for PMO, or for the Social Services, but often colleagues want to know what to do, with which urgency, which form to fill in, or where to find it... and need this information in the stress of an immediate health problem or other, outside the office hours of PMO.

For this essential activity, where the JSIS is concerned, Helen James, Ambassadress for PMO 3 is both available and effective.

Often SEPS/SFPE puts questions to PMO on behalf of one of its members (PMO Contact on-line or if justified, directly with the Head of the Liquidator's Bureau, or the head of unit 'Pensions' or the head of unit 'JSIS') If necessary and duly motivated, SEPS/SFPE can go to the welcome space of PMO (MERO) on behalf of one of its members to present their dossier. The AB has decided to nominate Giuseppina Corda ambassadress at PMO-JSIS.

Many pensioners do not have an "EU Login" (ECAS) account and do not therefore have access to JSIS on-line,to My IntraComm, to SYSPER Post Activity, or to PMO Contact (Staff Contact). SEPS/SFPE can often help to obtain that which members need: information, forms, attestations, contact,...

Following the DG HR C1 bulletin "Senior info" the mobile telephone number of SEPS/SFPE is no longer specifically for "Assistance to members of SEPS/SFPE", but is now of more general use.

### b. Duty stations

Duty station presences are organised by the secretary general and should resume in September 2022.

#### c. Legal assistance

For whoever needs legal advice for problems relating to relations with the services of the Commission (application of the Staff Regulations – pensions) or about personal issues (inheritance or fiscal problems) Hendrik Smets, Dr of law and licensed notary, Vice-President of SEPS in charge of legal matters, is available to

give advice in all discretion and within his probity as a former European civil servant.

Hendrik SMETS can be contacted by e-mail : hendriksmets@yahoo.fr or by telephone +33.563.67.88.83 (France).

Henrik will make an initial assessment of the questions and propose a solution, or suggest an initial consultation with a lawyer, free of charge for those members who are up-to-date with their membership fees.

Monique Breton, jurist, member of the AB of SEPS/SFPE, active at the Court of Justice, provides a very important contribution. (Monique.Breton@curia.europa.eu) . She is Vice-President of the CGAM.

#### d. Insurances

For the information of colleagues on the subject of complementary health insurances to JSIS, SEPS keeps a regularly up-dated dossier on these insurances. Given the frequent changes of broker, of annual premiums, of coverage (for example the influence of BREXIT), this up-dating represents an almost full-time job.

The Council, DG HR, the Executive Agencies, the EP in Luxemburg, JRC in Ispra, the JRC in Petten, foresee conferences for the presentation of the complementary insurances and on the pension scheme in EN and FR to sensitise active staff to these issues well before retirement.

### III. <u>Collaborations</u>

#### Collaboration with Afiliatys

This collaboration is based on information and the management of the complementary health insurances and on participation at certain charitable events and on collaboration in certain administrative dossiers. Afliliatys accounts for 40,000 members and probably close to 10,000 pensioners.

#### Collaboration with those staff unions who wish to do so

For the moment those pensioners who are members of a union which has already decided to cooperate with SEPS/SFPE can inscribe themselves without paying the membership fee.

#### AGE Platform Europe

By supporting the European network AGE, SEPS/SFPE can influence certain policy aspects to defend pensioners in Europe. SEPS/SFPE priorities are, however, different.

### Annex 3

### Message from the Common Front to help Ukrainian <u>Refugees</u>

#### R&D – TAO - SAVE EUROPE – SFE - FFPE GENERATION 2004 - U4U USHU

Dear colleagues,

Many of you took part in an exceptional action, which is all too rare, and you can be very proud of it!

With your support of over €10,000 and donations, the trade unions have together to implement this action which aims to:

- Distribute basic necessities to over 2,000 refugees every week;
- Have €0 administration costs. 100% of your donations went directly to the purchase of food/basic goods;
- Providing war refugees with free food.

#### THIS SUPPORT IS <u>VITAL</u> AND WE ARE ONCE AGAIN CALLING ON YOU

In order to achieve this challenge, we still need to fight. We will continue to gather all the good wills and we still need your help to ensure that this direct action of **extreme urgency** continues until the full deployment of national aid.

In order to act transparently, an account has been created to receive donations:

GRAACE/UKRAINE NO. BE20 0017 6787 9156 WITH THE COMMUNICATION "UKRAINE INTERSYNDICAL ACTION"

This is a real challenge for us. Both as servants of the Institutions and towards our brothers and sisters in Humanity who are suffering the horrors of war.

#### THERE ARE NO SMALL CONTRIBUTIONS, ONLY BIG INACTIONS.

#### The mobilisation in the Institutions continues!

Language courses are now available solely on a voluntary basis for many SEPS colleagues.

But it is also a network that slowly allows families to integrate and become, as quickly as possible, autonomous.

We also salute **the commitment of numerous associations and agents** who are joining, each at their own level, in this great action, whether through donations in kind or in time.

Once again, we would like to thank the Commission services (**OIB**) who continue to repatriate the food parcels from the Commission's post offices to the distribution centre.

We also thank the **SEPS** pensioners' association, and we welcome the support of the **AIACE** in passing on the information to its members as we continue to do our utmost to mobilise our senior citizens, our politicians and all available goodwill.

- ✓ Trade Unions support the creation of new common fronts. Whether it is our institutions, trade union associations or staff from all walks of life.
- ✓ Trade Unions encourage common approaches across the divide to strengthen the de facto solidarity of staff associations across all the divisions that will never serve us.
- ✓ Trade Unions support all actions at the level of the institutions to serve the interest and the image of the European civil service by making our European values concrete.

### THANK YOU!

#### Annex 4

### Call to volunteers from DG HR for recruitment selection

#### Report by Milvia van Rij-Brizzi

The Director General of DG HR has made a call to the two associations representing retired staff from the European Institutions, SEPS and AIACE, asking for support in the forthcoming selection process.

DG HR-B.1 explained the challenge in the course of a bilateral meeting with a representative of SEPS, Milvia van Rij Brizzi.

#### In summary

- DG HR needs to organise 17 internal competitions between now and July 2024; as well as a certain number of external competitions and specialised internal competitions more specifically aimed at management positions.

- EPSO has accumulated a backlog because of the pandemic and other issues. It is not in a position to assist or support DG HR for the internal competitions. DG HR is therefore in need of resources to carry out its workplan.

- DG HR intends to create a small task force including the other organisation representing retired staff, AIACE, to ensure proper coordination among all parties contributing.

- DG HR is to produce a one-pager providing an overview.

The needs are varied and complex:

- Devise tests for the candidates; talent screening for established officials of grade AD9 and above; for lower grades the tests will be focussed on multiple choice on European knowledge; specific knowledge of the area of the competition; written test; interview.

- Questions on EU knowledge need to be relevant; the same goes for the specialised fields. DG HR needs people that can generate such questions.

- For the written tests, DG HR needs both ideas of what could be asked and on marking.

- DG HR expects to organise one AD5 competition per year; the one that will be launched in September will be the test case that could become the template for all the others.

DG HR would like to tap on our collective experience and needs people that can generate questions.

However, the Staff Regulations limit the participation of non-active staff. The opinion of the LS of the Commission has been asked on the margin of manoeuvre for non-active staff to be members of juries/selection committees, although non-active staff can preside a jury and be markers. DG HR envisages providing training to the markers.

For what concerns security and IT, DG HR indicated a particular need for technical means, particularly for remote tests (i.e. CA in delegations will not be asked to come to Brussels). Most of the work will be done remotely and DG HR will further reflect on the security of the system. Still, it considers that the risk of leakages will be limited because of the combination of the number of questions and the various steps foreseen for their collection/completion/finalisation.

Marking however will be more delicate and DG HR will need to consider how to proceed concretely. It is not excluded that the markers might be provided with Commission PCs, but this is a matter that still needs to be discussed and evaluated internally.

DG HR is also looking into the matter of compensations, but there is no clarity yet. DG HR has confirmed that "active senior" contracts will be signed with all those volunteering, independently from which Institution they retired.

The tentative timetable of the first competition for AD5 is as follows: End Sept: questions need to be ready >Sept/Oct: notice published > November: end of publication > End November: test > Dec/Jan: corrections > Feb: orals > May: The End.

#### State of play

Fourteen members of SEPS have volunteered their services and Akke Draijer-de Jong has volunteered to represent the SEPS volunteers in the task force.

Some fundamental questions have been raised by the volunteers of SEPS on which we need to receive clarity from DG HR before the work can begin in its earnest.

These concern:

SEPS/SFPE

- Need for a precise indication of both the timing/planning, the weekly effort (man/hours) required and how the teams will work – composition, burden-sharing.

- The level of security/reliability of the IT tools used by retired staff cannot be guaranteed to be appropriate or compatible with Commission standards. Also retired staff are not equipped to communicate by SECEM or any other encrypted system. The risk of leakages and fraud is not negligible and needs to be addressed.

- Policies have changed and new priorities have been set. Access to the information and IT systems of the Commission are limited for retired staff, it will therefore be necessary to gain from within information that cannot easily be obtained outside the EC. This can only be done through close collaboration and probably physical meetings involving active seniors and colleagues of the various DGs called to contribute. It is important to know how this cooperation will be structured.

- The constraints on the administrative budget are well known. However, DG HR should confirm that identification of questions/tests, jury interviews and selections will be by physical meetings in Brussels.

- It will also be necessary for DG HR to confirm and clarify the level of support DG HR is ready to give to the volunteers, i.e. parking spaces when called for meetings; reimbursement of travelling costs for those that do not live in the Brussels region or in Belgium, IT support in case of need, etc.

### <u>Annex 5</u>

### Appeal for volunteers

See French version overleaf

### <u>Annex 6</u>

### Call for volunteers

The association SEPS/SFPE is looking for an official or a contractual agent, close to retirement, who:

- 1. Will not reach the 70% of pension rights needed to obtain a full pension,
- 2. Has NOT transferred his/her national pension rights,

See French version overleaf

### Proposal for a Membership card

Several members of our association have requested membership cards.

In order to satisfy this request, we have elaborated a card which was approved by our Administrative Board by a majority of votes obtained by the deadline of 23 April 2021.

We are now in a position to offer this membership card and would like to insist that **this is not in any fashion an insurance card**. Its usefulness resides above all in the useful information it contains in case of need. It can be drawn up in EN, FR or DE according to request.

As you can see it will take the format of a credit card and will contain:

 $\sqrt{0}$  On the face:

Other than the information relative to SEPS/SFPE, your name and surname, **the personal details that you like or not to communicate to us:** 

- Your photo, to be sent to us if you wish
- Your pension number, if you wish
- $\sqrt{0n \text{ the reverse}}$ :

Some essential information concerning JSIS, PMO 4 and Assistance to pensioners (Unit D1)

 $\sqrt{}$  Procedure to be followed to receive this card:

To receive this membership card with the requested options, just place a X in the appropriate box and send us the document:

Preferably to our e-mail address: info@sfpe-seps.be

Or by letter to our current address (given the current impossibility to access our offices): SEPS/SFPE, 2A rue Emile Pirson – 5140 Sombreffe, BE

#### <u>Photo</u>

I would like to have my photo, annexed hereto / which I will send you by post, on the card	YES	NO
Pensioner number I would like to see my pension number indicated on the	е	

card, which I give you herewith or will send to you YES NO

(Illustration of the card : see French version overleaf)

### Annex 8

### In memoriam – up to June 2022

Nom, Prénom	Birth	Death	Instit
CAMPLLONCH Jose	25-03-46	03-06-21	СМ
KOEHLER Eberhard	09-10-44	11-02-22	DUB
KARAMITROS Evaggelos	14-07-31	17-02-22	СМ
GROUX Jean-Louis	17-09-31	07-03-22	COM
REMIGY Anne	29-09-30	12-03-22	PE
VANDEVELDE Stefaan	01-03-51	14-03-22	COM
GODIN Pierre	15-05-52	15-03-22	COM
MAURY Charlotte	01-02-30	15-03-22	COM
MISEROCCHI Cesarina	01-11-24	18-03-22	COM
TORRES SAAVEDRA Jose	09-11-60	19-03-22	CES
CONFORTINI Alessandra	27-06-47	22-03-22	COM
CERDENA SANTANA Asuncion	21-09-58	23-03-22	COM
BEVILACQUA Gaetano	23-07-39	24-03-22	COM
SIMEONE Enrique	24-10-58	24-03-22	COM
STUDNICKOVA Blanka	10-06-76	24-03-22	COM
HOJ Per	01-06-52	25-03-22	COM
NICORA Franco	10-05-42	25-03-22	COM
FOURIAU Roger	10-03-30	26-03-22	COM
WILS Marc	17-12-56	26-03-22	COM
RAUH Frank	17-04-42	29-03-22	COM
ROCCO Paolo	03-02-35	29-03-22	COM
ROESCH Felicitas	12-07-35	29-03-22	PE
SCHNABEL Willi	02-01-42	29-03-22	COM
DE ALMEIDA Luis	18-07-43	01-04-22	COM
DRAWIN Hans-Werner	21-01-30	01-04-22	COM
LEONARD Martine	24-04-61	01-04-22	COM
MC CLUSKEY Brian	11-06-37	02-04-22	COM
BELLETER Helena	12-07-45	03-04-22	COM
DAXHELET Gustave	08-08-40	03-04-22	PE
ERDINI Gabriella	08-05-48	03-04-22	CM
JOELS Richard	16-10-51	03-04-22	COM
LEITH Klaus	20-09-57	03-04-22	COM
TAMAGNINI Carla	02-01-29	03-04-22	COM
ZANATTA Yves	19-01-47	04-04-22	COM
HAMILTON Patricia	05-11-31	05-04-22	COM
VANDERBRUGGEN Maurice	26-12-35	05-04-22	COM
STRUB Rosemarie	31-01-48	06-04-22	COM

GONZALEZ-SANCHO Emilio	04-02-42	07-04-22	СМ
RODRIGUEZ FEO Maria Cruz	03-05-47	07-04-22	COM
LAZUCKIEWIEZ Casimir	22-09-58	11-04-22	PE
MUNSCH Fernand	07-02-33	11-04-22	COM
ZIMMER Balduin	20-06-36	11-04-22	COM
CASTELLETTI-LIEBENWEIN Claudia	29-11-36	14-04-22	COM
HOLTZ Sigrida	25-04-44	14-04-22	CM
THOMSEN Ove	02-11-37	14-04-22	COM
COSSE Jean	16-07-31	15-04-22	COM
THONUS Yvette	12-07-40	16-04-22	COM
MARTIN GOMEZ Pedro	13-11-52	17-04-22	COM
PHILIPPE JOSEPH	28-02-37	17-04-22	PE
BARBIERI Sandro	20-07-33	19-04-22	COM
DUPRAT Anne	11-01-37	20-04-22	COM
PRIPLATA Marie Olga	01-09-41	20-04-22	COM
BRUTEAU-VANDECAPELLE Viviane	15-10-26	21-04-22	CM
MARIOTTO Mario	24-08-31	22-04-22	COM
GOSETTI DI STURMECK Francesco	28-04-48	24-04-22	EEAS
MOTTET Emile	19-09-32	25-04-22	COM
PEDERSEN Lars	31-07-52	02-12-21	COM
BASCHAB Ingrid	01-10-41	28-03-22	COM
VINAMONT-HALLET Denise	21-12-14	17-04-22	COM
MATHIEU Roger	21-10-33	18-04-22	COM
STEINMETZ Michel	08-12-49	18-04-22	PE
COQUERELLE Michel	19-12-32	19-04-22	COM
DESSARDO Giovanni	17-04-29	20-04-22	COM
OLIVEIRA Francisco	03-05-49	20-04-22	COM
COSGRAVE Michael	20-12-41	23-04-22	DUB
GUENTHER Horst	05-05-26	23-04-22	COM
BOEYKENS Muriel	14-03-39	24-04-22	COM
CASEY William	11-11-27	24-04-22	COM
SIMON Hans-Josef	26-02-35	24-04-22	PE
CABUY-AMAT Marcelle	21-08-30	26-04-22	CM
DERO Rodolphe	16-05-54	26-04-22	COM
DINOPOULOS Pavlos	12-07-45	28-04-22	COM
SIGNORINI Urbana	06-04-43	28-04-22	CM
FELLENS Sylvere	21-04-50	01-05-22	PE
MARTINS BARREIRA Maria Cristina	24-12-57	01-05-22	EEAS
DENZER Marianne	23-02-32	02-05-22	COM
MILAN Aldo	21-02-38	02-05-22	COM
MOLLOY Mairi	29-07-60	02-05-22	CJ

ROBALO CORDEIRO Antonio José	01-09-55	04-05-22	CJ
STANER Andre	26-10-31	04-05-22	COM
RENIERS Fabienne	27-04-61	05-05-22	COM
RICHTER Karl	21-05-32	05-05-22	COM
VAN HOREN Jean	26-04-41	05-05-22	СМ
PRAOLINI Valente	18-09-27	06-05-22	COM
REMY Jacqueline	28-11-33	06-05-22	COM
SEVI Domenico	27-07-40	09-05-22	COM
CASSANELLI Giordano	03-04-40	10-05-22	COM
FABER Adolphe	26-01-36	10-05-22	COM
HUETTENHOELSCHER Rudolf	29-04-31	11-05-22	COM
KAVOURAS Panayotis	31-10-55	12-05-22	PE
BUKH Birgitte	22-04-43	13-05-22	COM
CRABBE Leon	26-12-36	13-05-22	СМ
BARBAS Antonios	28-05-57	13-05-22	COM
COLUCCI Angelo	21-02-35	14-05-22	PE
ROSIGLIONI Pietro	25-01-37	15-05-22	СМ
DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA Luigi	17-10-27	17-05-22	СМ
TOFT-NIELSEN Peter	20-05-45	18-05-22	CES
BEYNON Carol	06-01-42	19-05-22	COM
DELAGO Christina	22-07-42	19-05-22	COM
MENIL Beatrice	09-10-37	20-05-22	PE
GRADIN Anita	12-08-33	23-05-22	COM
DE WOLDE Harmannus	20-03-32	06-04-22	COM
BARBIAN Erwin	18-01-36	09-05-22	COM
MAZEAU Lyne	16-07-30	19-05-22	CJ
MAINERI Silvano	24-05-38	21-05-22	COM
KALA Louise	20-11-43	21-05-22	COM
CURATOLO Alessandro	09-04-51	22-05-22	COM
PROTAR Pierre	12-10-42	22-05-22	COM
CANCELLIERE Giuseppe	26-07-47	22-05-22	PE
JANSSENS Karel	23-04-25	23-05-22	COM
MINSHALL Karen	05-05-47	24-05-22	COM
BOUANICH-LAURENT Danielle	13-06-37	25-05-22	COM
DE COSTER Laurent	06-01-40	25-05-22	СМ
DE WINDT Paul	19-01-35	25-05-22	COM
DE GENST Irene	26-02-44	26-05-22	COM
VAN LANCKER Nelly	19-04-37	26-05-22	COM
BOULE-JAMET Marie-Francoise	12-12-31	27-05-22	COM
RYELANDT Bernard	01-08-36	28-05-22	COM
DE WAELE Peter	20-04-63	29-05-22	POL

WEBER Janine	22-10-44	29-05-22	CC
KAPOUSSOUZIS Dimitrios	09-05-59	30-05-22	EEAS
BARILE Vincenzo	13-02-38	30-05-22	COM
DUJARDIN Roger	06-05-32	31-05-22	COM
ROSE Hans-Dieter	08-11-22	01-06-22	COM
QUADFLIEG Felicienne	10-06-31	01-06-22	COM
CHILDS Royden	20-02-36	03-06-22	COM
SLOTBOOM Johan	16-01-53	03-06-22	CM
LUCCHINI Claude	01-05-37	05-06-22	COM
HERR Adelheid	23-05-48	07-06-22	PE
SANTONE Giuseppe	08-08-46	08-06-22	CM
UZUREAU Claude	21-08-30	08-06-22	COM
CAPORALE Charles	27-04-27	11-06-22	COM
PEREIRA FARINHA Luis	13-05-59	11-06-22	COM
ALBIGOT-ROBERT Christiane	27-10-41	12-06-22	PE
BAURIN-SMET Janine	02-02-33	12-06-22	COM
DEPREZ Georges	14-04-30	12-06-22	COM
ANGLES GUY	14-01-39	14-06-22	PE
DE MELLO CORREAMaria Teresa	20-06-54	14-06-22	CM
SOULARD Francoise	02-11-48	15-06-22	CM
MC CURRACH-DE CLER Marianne	18-07-51	16-06-22	COM
VANDER MAREN Nelly	11-11-41	16-06-22	COM
DOCQUOIS Danielle	30-03-46	19-06-22	COM
ROSSI Luigi	17-03-30	22-06-22	COM
PIRIOU Marie-Pierre	31-08-48	23-06-22	COM
POWELL Michael	15-04-36	23-06-22	COM
HENRY Monique	23-11-40	26-06-22	COM
LASSAL-LEFEVRE Jeannine	30-06-31	26-06-22	COM

# Files and documents available. Order form

Please send this reply slip to the secretariat

I should like to receive the English edition of the following documents By Post/Email

#### SEPS Vade-mecum

Part 2 (forms /pers. data)	0/0
Part 3 (addresses PMO – ADMIN) Ed. February 2022	0/0
Part 4 (reimbursement forms – RCAM/JSIS) (June 2020)	0
Supplementary health insurances Edition (November 2021)	0/0
Invalidity allowance and survival pension (Hendrik Smets)	
Orphan survivor's pensions(Hendrik Smets	0/0
EU Officials and taxation (Me. J Buekenhoudt)	0/0
Inheritance (Me. J Buekenhoudt) (May 2020)	0/0
JSIS Guide (was sent by post to all pensioners) (Replacing part 1 of the Vade-mecum)	0/0

Please send these documents (by Post or by Email) to:

Surn <i>am</i> e	
First name	
Address:	
Emailaddress:	•
Date: Signature:	

To be sent to

### SFPE-SEPS

175, rue de la Loi Bureau JL 02 40 CG39, **BE-1048 Bruxelles** 

> Or By Email: info@sfpe-seps.be

# **Application form**

I, THE UNDERSIGNED (1)
Maiden name for married women (1)
PERSONNEL /PENSION N°:DATE OF BIRTH :
NATIONALITY:Language desired for documents (2): FR/EN
HOME ADDRESS (1)
HOME Tel: GSM*:
E-mail:
FORMER STAFF MEMBER OF (Institution + DG or Dept.):
DONE AT:
DATE: SIGNATURE:
The annual subscription of $\notin 30$ is payable <u>on 1 January</u> . New members joining after 30 June will not be required to pay their second subscription until the second of January following their enrolment.
SEPS ING Bank account: <b>IBAN BE37 3630 5079 7728 BIC: BBRUBEBB</b> Communication: <b>Annual subscription + names and pension Nr.</b>
Please return this application form to: SEPS/SFPE Office 02 40 CG39 175, rue de la Loi, B-1048 BRUSSELS Or info@sfpa_sens_ba
Or <u>info@sfpe-seps.be</u> (1) Capital letters please (2) Please cross out where appropriate (*) optional

To be sent to

### **SFPE-SEPS**

# 175, rue de la Loi Bureau JL 02 40 CG39, **BE-1048 Bruxelles**

Or Email: <u>info@sfpe-seps.be</u>

### **STANDING ORDER**

(Please send direct to your bank)

I, the undersigned, .....

to pay the sum of  $\in$  30 and on 15 January each year, until further notice, the same sum of  $\in$  30 by debit of account N° .....

to: SEPS - SFPE JL Office 02 40 CG39 175 rue de la Loi 175 B 1048 Brussels

Account N° IBAN BE37 3630 5079 7728 BIC BBRUBEBB ING Bank Brussels Reference: Annual subscription + Names and personnel/pension number

DATE: ..... SIGNATURE: .....

To be sent to your bank