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Original: EN

‘BREXIT’ – Consequences for the European School System

Meeting on 4, 5 and 6 April 2017 – Berlin

**1. Background**

On 23 June 2016, the people of the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union.

In the meantime, the UK-Government has confirmed that it will carry out their will and has prepared the necessary national legal acts that passed the House of Commons and the House of Lords in March 2017.

It is most likely the UK Government will invoke Article 50 of the Treaty of the European Union by the end of March 2017.

This decision will affect directly and indirectly the system of the European Schools.

In this context also Article 31.1 of the ‘*Convention Defining the Status of the European Schools’* needs to be recalled where it is stated: ‘*Any Contracting Party may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Luxembourg Government; the latter shall inform the other Contracting Parties upon receipt of the notification. Denunciation shall be notified by 1 September of any year in order to take effect on 1 September the following year.’*

It is obvious that with the decision to invoke Article 50 of the Treaty of the European Union the European Schools have to get prepared to deal with the consequences of the ‘BREXIT’ and a potential denunciation of the Convention defining the Statute of the European Schools.

It is therefore proposed to mandate a Working Group to deal with the consequences of the ‘BREXIT’ and also to address the consequences of a potential denunciation of the Convention.

**The main duties of the working group will be**

* to analyse the legal situation,
* to follow up the negotiations in the EU institutions,
* to analyse the risks,
* to define measures to mitigate the risks and provide an action plan,
* to prepare concrete proposals.

The Working Group should present mid-term reports to each meeting of the Board of Governors and provide concrete proposals – depending on the outcome of the negotiations between the EU institutions and the UK Government – and a final report to the Board of Governors in April 2019.

**The Working group should be composed of**

* the Secretary-General,
* the Deputy Secretary-General,
* the Legal Assistant to the Secretary-General,
* three members of the Board of Governors (troika format),
* one representative of the European Commission,
* one representative of the Directors,
* one representative of CdP,
* one representative of Interparents.

The Working group may decide to invite additional experts (in particular the Head of Unit HR, Head of Unit Pedagogical Development, Head of Unit Baccalaureate, Internal Control Coordinator) and will cooperate closely with the delegation of the United Kingdom.

**2. Proposal**

The Board of Governors is invited to approve the setting up of the Working Group ‘BREXIT’.

**ANNEX**

**FACT SHEET AND REPORT OF WORKING GROUPS**

**TITLE OF THE GROUP: ‘BREXIT’ ID CODE:**

**TYPE\*:**

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| **Composition of the group** | **Names** | **Country/School** |
| **Chair** | Deputy Secretary-General of the European Schools |  |
| **Members** |  | Three representatives of the BoG (troika format)  Representative of the Commission  Representative of the Directors  Representative of the Staff Committee  Representative of Interparents  OSGES (Secretary-General)  OSGES (Legal Assistant) |
| **MANDATE GIVEN BY THE BoG/BI/JTC ON (DATE):**  The main duties of the working group will be   * to analyse the legal situation, * to follow up the negotiations in the EU institutions, * to analyse the risks, * to define measures to mitigate the risks and provide an action plan, * to prepare concrete proposals. | | |
| **DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF THE WORK:** February 2019  **START OF THE WORK:** April 2017  **END OF THE WORK:** April 2019  **PRESENTATION FINAL DOCUMENT AT THE MEETING IN:** April 2019 | | |
| **PRIORITIES OF THE WG**  **2017:** legal analysis and risk assessment  **2018:** implementation of an action plan and preparation of decisions | | |
| **PLANNING/BUDGET:**  **Number of meetings organised 2017:** 4  **Number of meetings foreseen 2018:** 4  **Budgeting: (OSG)** Will be clarified after designation of the members of the working group.  **Committed: (OSG)** | | |