



The President

Brussels,  
Team SG(2021)D/618

Ms Emily O'REILLY  
European Ombudsman  
1 avenue du Président Robert Schuman  
CS 30403  
F - 67001 Strasbourg Cedex

**Subject: Follow-up of recommendation regarding transparency of members' expenses (case 1/2020/MIG)**

Dear Ms O'Reilly,

I would first like to thank you for the exchange we had on 18 February 2021 and I am looking forward to further increasing the cooperation between our two institutions.

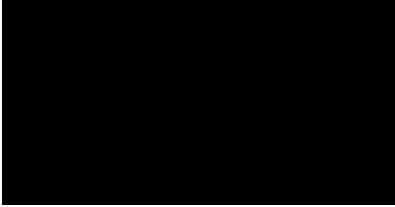
In relation to complaint 1/2020/MIG, and pursuant to my previous letter of 22 January 2021, I am pleased to inform you that the EESC enlarged presidency has taken due note of the need to ensure greater transparency as regards members' expenditure and has decided on the following two actions:

- The EESC website will include detailed information about the applicable rules regarding the reimbursement of expenses and allowances paid to its members (Treaty provisions, Council decision, EESC internal decisions, etc.);
- The EESC will also include additional information in the appendix to its Annual Activity Report (AAR) about the events having taken place outside of Brussels and attended by more than three members, as well as the related expenditure for allowances and reimbursement of expenses. This additional information will be published on the website. Please note that the appendix in question already includes a detailed breakdown of costs for events having taken place outside the EU, both within and outside continental Europe.

The EESC administration is now updating the website, as well as the Annual Activity Report 2020, to include all this additional information.

I hope you will find the above actions satisfactory in light of the recommendation that you have formulated.

Yours sincerely,



Christa SCHWENG

Cc: Mr Gianluca Brunetti, Secretary-General of the European Economic and Social Committee