

European Parliament
The President



110066 29.04.2002

Mr Jacob SÖDERMAN
European Ombudsman
1, avenue du Président Robert Schuman
Cedex BP 403
F- 67001 STRASBOURG

Dear Mr Söderman,

Thank you for your letter of 7 March 2002 in which you set out your arguments against the age limit applied to competitions.

I am pleased to inform you that the Bureau of the European Parliament decided, at its meeting of 8 April 2002, that the European Parliament will no longer apply age limits to any selection procedure it launches nor agree to the use of age limits in any selection procedure organised by the European Office of Recruitment once it is established.

As for the changes which you have requested to the Draft Agreement between the Secretaries-General on the Common Principles for a Shared Selection and Recruitment Policy, this document is currently being examined by the Bureau of the European Parliament and a decision has not yet been taken. We will inform you as soon as the Bureau has reached a decision on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Pat Cox'.

Pat COX