

Helsinki,

12 -09- 2013

Mr Philippe Diamandouros
European Ombudsman
1 avenue du Président Robert Schuman
CS 30403
F-67001 Strasbourg Cedex
France

Subject: OI/4/2013/CK

Dear Mr Diamandouros,

Thank you for your letter of 12 August, registered by ECHA on 15 August 2013, concerning your own-initiative inquiry OI/4/2013/CK.

I am pleased to answer your two concrete questions as follows:

1. ECHA has in the meantime implemented a new approach on communicating the name of selection panel members to candidates. In practice this means that candidates invited to interviews receive with the invitation letter automatically the names of the Chair and the other members of the selection panel. A disclaimer is added which raises awareness about possible implications related to contacting panel members as well as conflict of interest considerations.

The same information is automatically provided to applicants which are not invited to interviews or which are considered ineligible. Incomplete applications, e.g. without the required CV, are not considered by the selection panel and the reply letters to the applicants do, therefore, not provide for the composition of the selection panel.

2. Data protection aspects are addressed in the context of the nomination of selection panel members by the appointing authority. As part of this process, each panel member signs a declaration of confidentiality and agrees, separately, per signature to the transmission of personal data.

I hope this answers your questions. Please contact me if you or your services require any further clarification.

Yours sincerely,


Geert Dancet
Executive Director