



ESRB Secretariat

18 November 2013

ESRB/2013/0158

ESRB response to the European Ombudsman in case OI/4/2013/CK

Introduction

The ESRB is responsible for the macro-prudential oversight of the financial system within the European Union, and is part of the European System of Financial Supervision (ESFS). The Secretariat of the ESRB is ensured by the European Central Bank (ECB). The ECB carries out, and is responsible for, all matters relating to the recruitment of ESRB Secretariat staff, as well as other logistical and administrative tasks.

Responses

In his letter of 12 August 2013, the European Ombudsman, following his report of 26 February 2013 and his visit to the ESRB Secretariat on 14 June 2012, and based on the information provided to him by the ESRB Secretariat, invited the ESRB to reply to two additional questions addressing the composition of selection board members constituted for the purpose of staff recruiting:

- a) *Are the names of selection board members disclosed to the candidates? If so, at which stage of the selection procedure? Are the names published proactively, or are they made available upon request?*

As explained in the context of the Ombudsman's visit, the ESRB Secretariat relies completely on the ECB's rules for recruitment matters. The ESRB is not an EU agency, but a body with no legal personality. The ECB provides logistical, budgetary and human resources support to its Secretariat and is responsible for the recruitment process as part of its support mission (Council Regulation (EU) No 1096/2010).

As regards the disclosure of the names of the selection board members, the ECB informs the applicants of the names of the latter only if they have been pre-selected and invited for an interview.

- b) *In case your Agency has adopted a proactive policy of disclosing the names of selection board members, what are the measures it has taken in order to ensure compliance with data protection requirements?*

Data protection is ensured insofar as the names of the selection board members are released only to the pre-selected applicants and sufficiently late so as to avoid the latter from trying to contact the panel members.