

## Outside the EU Local Committee

**Representing Commission staff all over the world**

From 18 to 27 June, Commission staff in the over 140 delegations – among them Tokio, Belgrade and the UN, pictured above – will vote their representatives.

**T**he ‘Outside the EU’ Local Committee is a specific local section of the Commission’s Staff Committee. Local sections were established in 1997 to ensure that staff in each geographic location are adequately represented.

#### How does it fit into the overall staff representation?

As its name suggests, the ‘Outside the EU’ local section represents every category of Commission staff (officials and other agents, including Local Agents) in active service in EU Delegations. This section has a considerable mandate given that there are now more than 140 Delegations dotted all over the globe, with approximately 3,500 Commission staff among their ranks.

The ‘Outside the EU’ local section has a crucial role to play in ensuring that the rules established by the Commission

regarding staff are fully respected at all times.

#### How is this section composed?

The section is made up of 14 couples of full and deputy members, all of whom are elected for a period of three years. The last elections took place in March 2009, so it is time to vote for a new Committee.

#### When can I vote? And how?

The elections will take place for a ten-day period from 18 June to 27 June included.

Make sure your voice is heard, exercise your right to vote. All colleagues on the electoral roll can vote electronically *via* ECAS. Moving with the times, there is no longer any need to cast a physical ballot.

The ‘Outside the EU’ Electoral Office published the notice of elections in early May and soon Commission staff in Delegations

will be provided with a link in order to vote.

You will have access to the various Lists of Candidates and you will be entitled to vote for a maximum of 14 couples (full and deputy members).

#### Where do I get information about the candidates?

All lists of candidates have now been submitted to the Electoral Office. Candidates are probably already contacting you, their constituency, providing you with their motivation to run for the local section and being eager to answer all your queries and present their views on future priorities for staff based in Delegations.

Just check your e-mail box, and watch out for posters and leaflets around your building.

OUTSIDETHEEU LOCAL SECTION

▷ <http://tinyurl.com/CLPelections2012-del>

## What is at stake for the period 2012-2015?

Possibly the greatest recent change has been the creation of the European External Action Service and the immediate impact it has had on staff in Delegations. Now more than ever there is a need to guarantee a forceful and experienced staff representation which will closely monitor the implementation of all decisions and rules impacting on Commission staff serving in third countries.

It is common knowledge that staff will be faced with a multitude of challenges and opportunities over the next three years. Financial constraints persist, the Commission will be expected to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness in all its external action, decisions will be taken concerning amendments to the Staff Regulations, new programming priorities for external cooperation actions for 2014-2020 will be defined, the accompanying DG DEVCO workload assessment and resulting rebalancing exercise will be implemented, and much more. Staff must be consulted on all these vital issues and their representatives must be ready to act wisely and knowledgeably. The period ahead will be bumpy and the ‘Outside the EU’ Local Committee will play its part.