



Brussels, 23 December 2020
2020-12-LD-32-GM/hm

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN SCHOOLS BRUSSELS STEERING GROUP

Dear Sir,
Dear Madam,

I am writing to inform you that the Board of Governors of the European Schools approved the new mandate and the new composition of the 'European Schools Brussels Steering Group' at its meeting of 1, 2 and 3 December 2020.

In the meantime, the Belgian Authorities organised a meeting of the Task Force, chaired by the *Chef de Cabinet* (Chief of Staff) of Prime Minister De Croo, Mr Ruben Lecok, which I attended.

During that meeting, I highlighted the following points:

- 1) the making available of the Evere site with effect from September 2021 and the risks associated with a possible delay;
- 2) the making available on a permanent basis of the Berkendael site;
- 3) the critical situation due to overcrowding of the EEB1-Uccle, EEB2-Woluwé, EEB3-Ixelles and EEB4-Laeken sites;
- 4) the subsequent requirements as from September 2024 (in three years' time the site in Evere will also be full); when EEB5 becomes available, the European Schools will still need a sixth school in Brussels;
- 5) the renovation requirements of the sites currently available.

The *Chef de Cabinet* of Prime Minister De Croo emphasised the following:

- 1) the commitment of the current Government, which inherited the situation, to do everything in its power to make the Evere site available with effect from September 2021 (investment of €25m);
- 2) to study the possibility of making the Berkendael site available to the European Schools on a permanent basis;
- 3) to monitor the renovation requirements of the sites currently available;

- 4) as regards subsequent requirements from September 2024 onwards, Mr Alain Hutchinson, the Brussels Government's Commissioner for Europe and International Organisations, referred to the possibility of considering the creation of a network of Accredited European Schools;
- 5) to make EEB5 available by September 2028 at the latest.

Thank you for giving all due attention to this letter.

Yours faithfully,



Giancarlo MARCHEGGIANO
Secretary-General of the European Schools