



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY

The Director-General

Brussels,
HR.E.4/VDB

Ms Kathrin Máthé,
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Mr Giles HOUGHTON-CLARKE,
President APEEE BXL II,
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Ms Kristin Dijkstra,
President APEEE BXL IV,
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**Subject: Selection of the new Secretary-General of the European Schools
Your note dated 12 August 2021.
Our ref.: Ares(2021)5113476**

Dear Ms Máthé, Dear Mr. Houghton-Clarke, Dear Mr Papadopoulos, Dear Ms Dijkstra,

Thank you very much for your letter insisting on the key role played by the Secretary-General of the European Schools ahead of the extraordinary meeting of the Board of Governors scheduled on 30 August to appoint the new Secretary-General.

I thoroughly agree with you that this is a very demanding position. I am convinced that my services are preparing this meeting with the necessary care in order to ensure that the best candidate among the few ones applying for it is appointed.

The Commission shares the priorities to be addressed that were pointed out by your survey that I welcome.

When it comes to your recommendation that all candidates for this and other senior positions in the system are asked to go through a professionally managed assessment centre, please keep in mind that the selection framework is strictly defined by the document “*Revision of the ‘Profile, Duties, Rules for Appointment and Service Regulations of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General’* adopted by the Board of Governors.

I noted that you stated that the Secretary-General only has a small head office staff to manage the school system. Here, I would like to clarify that a substantial number of recruitments took place over the last 5 years, leading the Central Office of the Secretary-General to count around 100 collaborators. In the very restrictive context affecting the staff recruitments of the institutions that we have been facing over the recent years, this represents a huge budgetary effort.

Yours sincerely,

Electronically signed

Gertrud Ingestad

c.c.: Mr Marco Umberto MORICCA, DG. HR.E
Ms Marta SILVA MENDES, DG.HR.E.4