



Les informations paraissant dans la rubrique «Association du personnel» sont publiées sous la seule responsabilité de l'Association du personnel du CERN.

STAFF ASSOCIATION

The information presented in the Staff Association section of the Bulletin is published under the sole responsibility of the CERN Staff Association.

STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING, 3 JUNE 1980

Item 6 of the Agenda : "RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMITS FOR CERN PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES"

With its 3.500 permanent employees, 1.800 scientists using its facilities and 1.500 industrial support workers, CERN is the largest concern in the area.

It is recognised throughout the world as a pilot organization in fundamental research and for its capacity to keep to the forefront in technological innovation.

This success is due to the enthusiastic work of its personnel, selected from the best European specialists from 12 different countries, each with its own history of fierce struggles and devastating wars.

Nevertheless, throughout the 25 years of its existence, CERN has been able to boast justifiably of successful co-operation without the slightest trace of tension between persons from countries as far apart as Greece and Norway, thus showing that it is both possible and exciting to reverse historical trends by using common sense and intelligence.

It is therefore quite natural for the personnel to be disappointed by the resistance shown to granting their spouses and children the right to reside and work in the countries which have so far welcomed and educated them.

Accordingly, in the past few years the staff representatives, who have always been very reasonable in their financial demands, have stressed the need for substantial improvements in the social conditions, which still lag far behind legitimate hopes.

In particular, we should like to be assured by the Host States, before the Organization embarks on the construction of a machine requiring sustained efforts over the next ten years, that our spouses and children will be treated with the respect and consideration due to every person for the preservation of his national identity without losing his fundamental rights of work and residence.

We cannot accept that national identity can be maintained only at the price of becoming the rootless nomads of Europe, after having pioneered its construction.

In brief, the Staff Association, supported by a motion passed unanimously at the General Meeting on 9 May 1980, and by the unions set up by the research workers of most of the Member Countries, requests the Directors-General :

- a. To provide all staff with written information setting for details of the legal rights and duties concerning residence, work and social benefits for family members on the territory of the two Host States. This information should also be given above all to new staff members when their contract with the Organization is signed.
- b. To negotiate better conditions with the authorities of the Host States and also with the CERN Council.

The improvements requested by the Staff Association are as follows :

1. For personnel resident in France :

- that children of both sexes, whether or not they have reached the age of majority, whether or not nationals of E.E.C. countries, should be granted a residence permit of indefinite duration entitling them to work in France on the same terms as nationals ;
- that the children, whether or not they have reached the age of majority, of divorced, separated or retired couples should be granted a residence permit of indefinite duration entitling them to work on the same terms as nationals ;
- that orphans of one parent, irrespective of the length of time they have been resident, should be given a residence permit of indefinite duration entitling them to work when they reach the age of majority ;

- that the husband or wife of a CERN staff member should be granted a residence and work permit of indefinite duration, not dependent on the spouse's employment by CERN ;
- that children who have been educated in France should be able to pursue secondary, higher or university studies in another country without losing the right to a French residence permit ;
- that the 1972 French and Swiss agreements should be revised so that a spouse or children no longer living under the same roof as the staff member would not be forced to leave their employment in Switzerland. The same should apply to cases of retirement, death, separation or divorce of the staff member ;
- that boys over 21 years of age should be able to work in Switzerland without any age restriction.

2. For personnel resident in Switzerland :

- that staff members' children who have completed 5 years of schooling in Switzerland should have the right to a residence permit of indefinite duration (permis d'établissement) at the age of 16 and should be able to retain it even if they leave Switzerland to study at a university in another country ;
 - that orphans should have the right to a residence permit of indefinite duration (permis d'établissement), irrespective of their length of stay in Switzerland ;
 - that the children of couples who have divorced after their arrival in Switzerland should be able to continue to reside in Switzerland and receive their residence permit of indefinite duration (permis d'établissement) ;
 - that the spouse of the staff member should be able to obtain a "B" permit, not dependent on the staff member's contract ;
 - that the spouse should have the right to a residence permit of indefinite duration (permis d'établissement) after 10 years of continuous residence in Switzerland, as granted to other immigrants, even if he/she has not held employment during that period ;
 - that the widowed or divorced spouse of a CERN official should be able to continue to reside in Switzerland until he/she obtains a residence permit of indefinite duration (permis d'établissement) after 10 years of residence in Switzerland ;
 - that staff member's spouse who works and contributes to the AVS should be entitled to receive a pension from it ;
 - that any staff member leaving the Organization after 10 years of contract should be able to obtain a residence permit of indefinite duration (permis d'établissement) in Switzerland or in France.
- c. Finally, the Staff Association asks that a meeting should be organized with the personnel, as requested in the motion, on the day preceding the forthcoming meeting of the CERN Council.

This would give the Delegates of the Member States an opportunity to reply to questions which members of the personnel might wish to ask in this connection.

NB. This document has been submitted to the Management representatives who were present. The Management's reply is given under the Official News of the Weekly Bulletin No.25/80, under the heading Standing Advisory Committee of 3 June 1980.

* * * * *