

**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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**Mrs Astrid Thors
Member of the
European Parliament
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99/065-Bunyan (follow-up)

Dear Mrs Thors,

During its meeting of 20 June 2002, the Committee on Petitions discussed the Special Report from the European Ombudsman to the European Parliament following the draft recommendation to the Council in complaint 917/2000/GG by Mr Bunyan from Statewatch, for which you are the Rapporteur. In this meeting, I stated on behalf of the General Secretariat of the Council that Mr Bunyan's request of 25 January 1999 would be reconsidered. I herewith send you a copy of the letter addressed to Mr Bunyan on 17 July following the re-examination of his request.

I also have the pleasure of informing you that, in the light of the Ombudsman's Special Report, all Directors-General of the Council Secretariat have received the following instructions:

- all texts submitted to the Council or its preparatory bodies and which affect the decision-making process or reflect the state of work regarding a certain dossier, shall be produced as ST (Standard) documents. In conformity with the existing internal rules for the establishment of Council documents (called "Workflow"), the references of all these documents will be automatically entered in the Council's Public Register;
- all "room documents", "non-papers" and the like submitted during meetings of the Council or of its preparatory bodies shall be mentioned in the "Outcome of Proceedings" of those meetings or in a list to be annexed thereto.

I trust that these measures will meet the concerns you expressed in the Petitions Committee.

Yours sincerely,

For the General Secretariat

Hans Brunmayr

Deputy Director-General

Annex