



Brussels, 15 November 2020

Dear Mr Loop,

We hope that our letter finds you and you family in good health.

We are writing to you in our capacity as Presidents of the Parents Associations (APEEEs) of three European Schools, which are adversely affected by the OIB decision as announced last Friday.

We would like to express our extreme disappointment and astonishment after being informed by parents about your decision to exclude children attending our extra-curricular activities from your after-school childcare services at our Schools' sites.

Firstly, we are very annoyed that APEEEs and the AdP crèches et garderies have neither been consulted nor informed about this decision beforehand despite the long-standing good working relationship and co-operation between APEEEs' extra-curricular activities services and the local OIB correspondents. We would therefore like to be informed about the approach taken and to receive any justification underpinning this sudden decision, which lacked any clear motivation. Are our pupils allowed to attend other OIB after-school childcare sites after participating in our extra-curricular activities?

Secondly, we consider that this decision violates all guidelines and recommendations issued by the Belgian authorities, who authorise extra-curricular activities for children up to 12 years of age. It would be impossible for the colleagues at the local school sites to monitor whether pupils attend other extra-curricular activities outside the school in their free time and, by analogy, they may not exclude children attending extra-curricular activities at the school. Your decision constitutes a clear act of discrimination towards our pupils and their parents and results in an unequal treatment of pupils and parents by the OIB.

Thirdly, your decision puts parents in a very difficult position, coming Friday for Monday, with no time for either the APEEEs or the parents to find alternate solutions.

In conclusion, in the name of the good co-operation among partners in the context of the European Schools and among colleagues in the EU civil service, we would kindly ask you to reverse this decision as of Monday 16 November 2020.

We are ready to take any action required to protect the financial and operational interests of APEEEs as well as of the parents whose children are enrolled with our services.



In a spirit of continuing an efficient and transparent co-operation, I ask you and all those involved in any management decisions affecting the APEEEs to keep us constantly informed, in sufficient time for any consultation, before any future announcement is issued.

Kind regards,

Giles HOUGHTON-CLARKE

EEB2 President

Tassos PAPADOPOULOS

EEB3 President

Kristin DIJKSTRA

EEB4 President