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Le Président

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**Jesper Kongstad**  
Deputy Chairman of the Administrative Council  
of the European Patent Organisation

Zeichen/Reference/Référence

**JK/kn**

Datum/Date/Date

**26.01.2010**

Dear Mr Daintith,

Thank you for your letter dated 13.01.2010, in which you make inquiries as to the procedure to be followed pertaining to the election of the next President of the European Patent Office.

Let me refer to documents CA/103/09 Rev. 2 - establishing the basic procedure, as well as CA/131/09 and CA/178/09 - reflecting the further decisions of the Administrative Council, in October and then in December 2009, relating to the follow-up to be given. In particular, the last-mentioned decision led to the convening of a meeting on 2 and 3 February 2010.

As you can see from the public available information, the Council is working diligently to find a successor to Alison Brimelow, using an election procedure which involves all the Member States and thus clearly does not foresee any kind of "selection committee".

As to my person and functions, allow me to draw your attention to the decision taken by the Council to consider that the reasons which led me to step down provisionally from my activities as Deputy Chairman had ceased to exist. I have therefore now the obligation to fulfil the duties by the Vice Chairman - which I shall do with the aim, which you probably share, of achieving a quick and efficient finalisation of the ongoing procedure.

Chairing the next meeting in my capacity as Deputy Chairman - acting in the absence of the elected Chairman - will certainly be a challenge, but be ensured that I will do my very best in a neutral and impartial way to find a solution.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Kongstad". The letters are cursive and connected, with a prominent initial "J".

Jesper Kongstad  
Deputy Chairman of the Administrative Council

cc. President of the Office, with a request to publish this letter on the intranet