

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



DG Budget and Administration
Security and Infrastructure Directorate
The Director

Brussels,
EEAS.DG BA.SI

**NOTE TO MME. MARTINEZ-CARBONELL,
DIRECTOR HR.**

**MR. F. CALEPRICO,
HEAD OF DIVISION OF BA.HR.3**

Subject: Creation of a new Delegation posting category "Child Free Posting"

The increased activity and sophistication of several 'Terrorist Armed Groups' (TAG) has caused the degradation of the security environment in several countries in the west African Sahel region, in particular affecting the Delegations to Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger.

Although the children of expatriates have not yet been specifically targeted and Field Security has no information of such a threat, the children of expatriates do represent a potential soft target and unlike Delegations and official accommodations there are no realistic measures that can be taken to improve security at international schools and in the daily transit to and from such schools.

Therefore, BA.SI.1 Field Security requests BA.HR/ HR.3 to undertake the creation of a new category of expatriate postings i.e. "Child free Postings".

Comparable to the existing framework of "Non-family Postings", countries will be declared "Child-Free Postings" when the security situation does not allow **underage dependents** to live together with the official, i.e. where the residual risk for the domestic situation is considered to be at a level that it has to be avoided. This measure is a consequence of fulfilling the duty of care the institution has for **under age dependent family members** living with the expatriate staff in a third country. It applies to all expatriate staff in the Delegation (both EEAS and Commission staff) in cases where the security risks to families cannot be adequately mitigated.

The rule for all "Child-Free Postings" is that no **underage dependents** and no **underage visitors** are to be allowed to live or visit with the staff member in his or her accommodation.

Until the formal creation of the posting category "Child-Free Posting", BA.SI.1 Field Security strongly advises all expatriate staff members and respective dependents posted in **Mali**, **Burkina Faso** and **Niger** to request Authorization for Voluntary Departure of Staff' dependants and that for the ongoing and next rotation exercise staff members are advised that it is strongly recommended not to depart to the posting with their children.

(e-signed,)

Björn Larsson

C.c.: L. Bagur, V. Flynn (DEVCO),

K. Vervaeke, P. Cavendish, I. Razaaly, R. Facchini, D. Gonzalez Hernandez, A. Mesquita (EEAS),

J. Lamy, J. Sanchez Alegre (DEL-Burkina Faso),

A. Holleville, S. Pinto Da Franca Roux (Del-Mali),

D-E. Ionete, B. Friedling (Del-Niger).