

BUREAUX INTERNATIONAUX
RÉUNIS POUR LA PROTECTION
DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENÈVE, SUISSE

BIRPI

UNITED INTERNATIONAL
BUREAUX FOR THE PROTECTION
OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

COMITÉ DE COORDINATION INTERUNIONS, SEPTIÈME SESSION INTERUNION COORDINATION COMMITTEE, SEVENTH SESSION

(Genève, 22-26 septembre 1969)
(Geneva, September 22 to 26, 1969)

STAFF MATTERS: POST OF THE DIRECTOR

Report by the Chairman of the Committee

1. Article 9.8 of the Staff Regulations (Statut du Personnel) provides that no staff member shall be in active service beyond the age of 65 years ("Les fonctionnaires ne sont pas maintenus en activité au-delà de l'âge de soixante-cinq ans.") Whether this rule applies to the post of the Director of BIRPI has not yet been tested in practice as no Director of BIRPI has reached the age of 65 years since the entry into force (in 1963) of the present Staff Regulations. In any case, the rule could be put aside by the Swiss Government, particularly on recommendation of the Interunion Coordination Committee. It has been so put aside, in two instances, in the case of the now retired Deputy Director, Ch.-L. Magnin. There is evidence in other organizations under the régime commun of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies to the effect that the executive heads of those organizations may be maintained in active service beyond the normal age limit (see, for example, the recent re-election of the Director General of UNESCO).

2. The present incumbent of the post of Director of BIRPI, Professor G. H. C. Bodenhausen, will reach the age of 65 years on July 11, 1970.

3. The Committee is invited to express its views on the question of whether Professor Bodenhausen should be retained in active service as Director of BIRPI beyond July 11, 1970, and, if so, until what date.

4. If the Committee or the Swiss Government would not wish to retain Professor Bodenhausen in active service beyond July 11, 1970, it would be necessary, in order to avoid that the directorial post remain vacant for several months, to open a competition for candidates before the end of 1969 and convene the Committee in the course of the spring of 1970 to formulate its advice on the candidatures received.

5. In any case, the Committee's views will be communicated to the Swiss Government as Article 4.8 of the Staff Regulations provides that "the Director is appointed by the Government of the Swiss Confederation on the advice of the Interunion Coordination Committee" ("Le Directeur sera désigné par le Gouvernement de la Confédération suisse sur avis du Comité de coordination interunions").