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DECISION OF THE BUREAU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

of 15 June 2026

amending the Implementing Measures for the Statute for Members of the European Parliament

(C/2026/4079)

THE BUREAU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 223(2) thereof,

Having regard to the Statute for Members of the European Parliament ([1]), and in particular Article 27 thereof,

Having regard to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament,

Whereas:

(1) On 12 June 1990, the Bureau of the European Parliament ('the Bureau') adopted the Rules governing the Voluntary Pension Scheme ([2]) ('the Scheme').

(2) The rights and obligations applicable to Members and other beneficiaries under the Scheme are set out in Annex VII to the Rules Governing the Payment of Expenses and Allowances to Members of the European Parliament (PEAM rules), as referred to in Article 83 of the Implementing Measures for the Statute for Members of the European Parliament ([3]) ('the Implementing Measures').

(3) The Bureau instructed the Quaestors to set up a fund ('the Fund') for the management of contributions to the Scheme and the execution of pension payments. Based on the Quaestors' decisions of 28 November 1991 and 14 July 1993, a non-profit organisation ('the ASBL') was established under Luxembourg law, the statutes of which were approved by the Bureau on 8 July 1993. The ASBL, acting in its own right, set up a *société d'investissement à capital variable* for the management of the Scheme's investments. Parliament has no direct influence on the decisions of the ASBL, which is a separate legal entity.

(4) Members were able to join the Scheme on a voluntary basis from August 1989 until the end of the sixth parliamentary term (2004 to 2009). On 15 July 2009, the Statute for Members of the European Parliament ('the Statute') entered into force, providing for a common pension regime for Members. The Scheme was closed to new memberships.

(5) Since 2009 the financial situation of the Fund has rapidly deteriorated due to, *inter alia*, the termination of the contribution payments and insufficient investment returns.

(6) The Bureau intervened several times to improve the Fund's sustainability, notably by its decisions of 1 April 2009, 10 December 2018 ([4]) and 12 June 2023 ([5]) respectively. Although the adopted measures resulted in the reduction of the actuarial deficit of the Fund and a reduced liability of the Scheme, they could not restore the Fund's long-term solvency.

([1]) Decision 2005/684/EC, Euratom of the European Parliament of 28 September 2005 adopting the Statute for Members of the European Parliament (OJ L 262, 7.10.2005, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2005/684/oj).

([2]) The Rules governing the Additional (Voluntary) Pension Scheme took effect retroactively as from 1 August 1989 and were further amended by the Bureau on 8 July 1993, 12 December 1994, 13 September 1995, 13 November 1995, 17 September 1996, 17 November 1997, 10 March 1999, 20 September 2000 and 2 July 2001, 13 May 2002, 5 September 2005, 30 November 2005, 20 November 2008 and 1 April 2009.

([3]) Decision of the Bureau of 11 September 2023 concerning the Implementing Measures for the Statute for Members of the European Parliament and repealing the Decision of the Bureau of 19 May and 9 July 2008 (OJ C, C/2024/2814, 26.4.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2024/2814/oj).

([4]) Decision of the Bureau of the European Parliament of 10 December 2018 amending the Implementing Measures for the Statute for Members of the European Parliament (OJ C 466, 28.12.2018, p. 8).

([5]) Decision of the Bureau of the European Parliament of 12 June 2023 amending the Implementing Measures for the Statute for Members of the European Parliament (OJ C 227, 29.6.2023, p. 5).

(7) The expected exhaustion of the assets of the Fund at the end of 2026 will affect the Fund's capacity to continue executing monthly pension payments. Such exhaustion would not, however, extinguish the acquired pension rights of beneficiaries nor future entitlements under the Scheme, which derive from the Statute and the rules governing the Scheme as adopted and subsequently amended by the Bureau.

(8) Article 27 of the Statute provides that the Fund set up by Parliament is to be maintained after the entry into force of the Statute for Members or former Members who have already acquired rights or future entitlements in the Fund, that any acquired rights and future entitlements are to be maintained in full, and that Parliament has the right to lay down criteria and conditions governing the acquisition of new rights or entitlements.

(9) At its meeting of 1 April 2009, the Bureau decided that Parliament would assume legal responsibility for guaranteeing the pension rights of members of the Scheme in the event of exhaustion of the Fund, and that any capital remaining in the Fund after the pension entitlements had been honoured would be transferred to Parliament, requiring the Statutes of the Fund to be amended accordingly.

(10) In its judgments of 17 December 2025 ([6]), the General Court of the European Union noted Parliament's commitment to cover the payment of pensions from its own budget and the communication of that commitment to the members of the Fund on 3 April 2009, thereby indicating that this would be capable of giving rise to legitimate expectations.

(11) Given the Parliament's legal responsibility as to the upholding of the Scheme, Parliament must take the necessary measures to ensure continuity of pension payments under a viable legal and administrative framework after the Fund's assets are exhausted.

(12) In light of these circumstances, at its meeting of 15 June 2026, the Bureau acknowledged that, due to the exhaustion of the Fund's assets, pension payments under the Scheme are to be executed directly from the European Parliament budget as from 1 January 2027. Consequently, in line with the Bureau Decision of 1 April 2009, any capital remaining in the Fund after the pension entitlements for December 2026 had been honoured would be transferred to Parliament. The Implementing Measures should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Article 83 of the Implementing Measures is amended as follows:

(1) paragraph 4 is replaced by the following:

'4. Any additional pension pursuant to Articles 1 and 2 of Annex VII to the PEAM Rules, which has not yet become payable on 1 January 2019, shall be subject to a special levy amounting to 5 % of the nominal amount of the pension.';

(2) paragraph 5 is replaced by the following:

'5. The additional (voluntary) pension for other beneficiaries pursuant to Articles 3 and 4 of Annex VII to the PEAM Rules which on 1 January 2019 has not yet become payable shall be subject to a special levy amounting to 5 % of the nominal amount of the pension.';

(3) paragraph 7 is deleted;

(4) the following paragraph is added:

'9. As from 1 January 2027, any additional pension and any pension for beneficiaries, pursuant to Articles 1 to 4 of Annex VII to the PEAM Rules, shall be paid directly by Parliament to former Members and other beneficiaries.'.

([6]) Judgment of the General Court of 17 December 2025, *Enrique Barón Crespo and others* v *European Parliament*, Joined Cases T-620/23 to T-1023/23, ECLI:EU:T:2025:1109.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Decision shall apply from 1 January 2027.