

2. A decision of a Community institution, communicated to all members of its staff, concerning classification in grade and step on recruitment constitutes an internal directive which must as such be regarded as a rule of conduct indicating the practice to be followed which the administration imposes on itself and from which it may not depart without specifying the reasons which have led it to do so, since otherwise the principle of equality of treatment would be infringed (see judgment in Case 190/82 *Blomefield v Commission* [1983] ECR 3981).

THE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE (Fifth Chamber)
20 March 1991 *

In Case T-109/89,

Georges-Marc André, an official of the Commission of the European Communities, residing in Jambes (Belgium), represented by Manuel Campolini, of the Brussels Bar, with an address for service in Luxembourg at the Chambers of Victor Gillen, 13 rue Aldringen,

applicant,

v

Commission of the European Communities, represented by Joseph Griesmar, Legal Adviser, acting as Agent, with an address for service in Luxembourg at the office of Guido Berardis, a member of the Commission's Legal Department, Albert Wagner Centre, Kirchberg,

defendant,

* Language of the case: French.

APPLICATION for a declaration that the applicant is entitled to be classified, as from his employment with the Commission, in Grade B 4, step 3,

THE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE (Fifth Chamber),

composed of: C. P. Briët, President, D. Barrington and J. Biancarelli, Judges,

(The grounds of the judgment are not reproduced.)

hereby:

- (1) Dismisses the application;**
- (2) Orders the parties to bear their own costs.**