## Nederlandse Taalunie

## ons kenmerk: IDS(10)/JVH/st

## Algemeen Secretariaat

Mr. prof.dr. G. Stickel Institut für deutsche Sprache Postfach 10 16 21 D-68016 MANNHEIM Duitsland

Den Haag, 24 June 2008 Betreft: Evaluation

Dear Mr. Stickel and members of the Executive Committee of EFNIL,

I thank you for your letter of 15 May 2008, in which you answer our letter of 17 April. I fully agree that an evaluation of an international structure such as EFNIL cannot be done by just one member institution, without any collaboration or input from other members. Ours should be considered as an evaluation of EFNIL from the perspective of our institution, i.e. taking into account our *national interests* and the specific position and needs of Dutch within the European Union. You will agree with me that this is a legitimate goal. If the heading in our letter caused some confusion regarding the scope of the evaluation process and perspective, I apologise for that.

I understand that the recommendations formulated by our evaluation commission will be further discussed within the Executive Committee and will also be submitted to the General Assembly. I hope that these suggestions will give the Federation the opportunity of further exploring its mission and defining its priorities for the immediate future.

Concerning your reaction to our financial proposal, I fully agree with all your considerations. Being the Taalunie itself a member of the Federation that knows and respects its Constitution, I accept that this matter be dealt with and decided by the General Assembly at its annual meeting in November. I understand that the members of the Executive Committee consider our proposal, i.e. a financial compensation for the offered secretarial support of  $\in$  10.000, to be reasonable. This strengthens me in my conviction that this matter will easily be settled immediately after the meeting of the General Assembly, thus creating a transparent regulation for the immediate future. This could be of particular importance if the secretariat is to be transferred from one member institution to another.

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Given the fact that the General Assembly of November also has to approve the financial budget of the year in course, i.e. for the financial year 2008-2009, it is important that the budget proposal would already take this compensation into account. I trust you will agree with me that the implementation of a positive decision by the General Assembly can hardly be delayed with an entire financial year.

Let me reaffirm my strong commitment to continue our collaboration with EFNIL and with its member organisations. We are particularly looking forward to the results of the project groups that have been set up this year.

Yours respectfully,

Linde van den Bosch Secretary-General