

Statement of Interpretation on Article 6§4

The examination of the third report of the Federal Republic of Germany gave the Committee the opportunity of re-examining and confirming its previous position on the coverage of the term "worker", which in the sense of the Charter embraces public officials. Although the provisions of Article 31 of the Charter and of its Appendix make it possible, in the case of public officials:

- a. to restrict the right to strike or, in some instances, exclude it altogether for certain officials who, if they were to use it, would endanger public order, national security, public health or morality;
- b. to lay down legislative rules for the exercise of this right which may differ according to whether public officials or employees in the private sector are concerned,

the Committee reaffirmed that a global prohibition of the right to strike directed at public officials or at any other category of worker is incompatible with the prescriptions of Article 6, paragraph 4 of the Charter.