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Circular 9/1983:- Opportunities for training at the French Ecole Nationale d'Administration

A Dhuine Uasail

In connection with the present programme of public service reform and looking towards the longer term the Minister for the Public Service considers it important that opportunities should be provided for young civil servants to receive training and experience in other countries with highly developed systems of public administration. The Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) in France has acquired an outstanding reputation as a training institution for future top civil servants and the Minister has decided that opportunities should be made available to Irish civil servants to participate in the special course for foreign participants which is organised by the ENA.

2. The ENA have laid down that candidates seeking admission to the special course for foreign students must have an excellent knowledge of French, be aged from 25 to 35 years, have worked for a minimum of two years in the public service of their country and be in view for the discharge of important responsibilities.

3. The course of training for foreign students commences on 1st October and terminates at the end of November of the following year. Applications have to be submitted to the French authorities in the late Spring of the same year and accordingly the earliest date on which an Irish candidate could commence the course in the ENA would be 1 October 1984. This circular is being issued at the present time, however, in order that adequate advance notice may be given of the opportunity and that the intending candidates will have sufficient time to improve their French.

4. A further circular will be issued in the early Spring of next year inviting applications. The selection of the candidates to be proposed to the French authorities for training in the ENA will be made by means of an interdepartmental competition conducted by this Department.

5. I shall be glad if you will make the contents of this circular known to the staff of your Department whom you regard as likely to fulfil the conditions of admission indicated by the ENA.

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