

Invitation to join the Association of Retired Commissioned Officers

When you receive this, you will have already retired from the Defence Forces, or are about to, so welcome to the ranks of the retired.

Whether you will be fully retired or just changing career, we would like to invite you to joined the Association of Retired Commissioned Officers(ARCO).The Association was founded in 1993 by a group of retired officers as a natural follow on to the establishment of RACO for serving officers.

RACO and other public service unions/staff associations have their own priorities for their members. Retired Commissioned Officers have no access to the Minister under the Defence Forces' Pensions Act or other mechanism. It is therefore vital that we have our own Representative Association (ARCO)

The objectives of ARCO are:-

- a. To promote, safeguard and protect the interests of the members and the spouses of deceased members, and to continue the fellowship established during service in The Permanent Defence Force.
- b. To advise and help the members and spouses of deceased members in regard to matters arising in areas of pensions and related issues.
- c. To do all things as shall be conducive to attainment of the above objectives.

A core principle of ARCO is that of parity of pensions

ARCO is managed, on a voluntary basis, by an Executive Committee, elected at an Annual General Meeting. It issues two newsletters per year to keep its members informed on a wide variety of matters of interest or of concern to retired officers.

ARCO is affiliated to the National Federation of Pensioner's Associations and is represented on its Executive Committee.

Your membership would be invaluable in helping to keep the Association strong, representative, and viable into the future.The annual subscription is **€15.00**

If you decide to join, please complete and return, in the enclosed prepaid envelope:-

1. The Application Form, and
2. Cheque for **Euro 15.00** in payment of Annual Subscription for 2007. We expect that payment of subscription, will by deduction from pension in 2008 and future years. An authorisation form for this is also attached.

In the meantime, please accept my kindest regards and best wishes for the future.

Brian Mc Donnell

Hon Membership Secretary.