



UNITED NATIONS STAFF UNION
SYNDICAT DU PERSONNEL DE L'ORGANISATION DES NATIONS
UNIES

45th STAFF COUNCIL/45ème CONSEIL DU PERSONNEL

Agenda/Ordre du jour

Meeting No: 45/06

Date: 11 May 2017

Time: 11:30 – 1:40 pm

Venue: CR B

45th Staff Council Meeting Minutes

Item 1 - Adoption of the agenda

Agenda was amended and adopted as it appears in A STC 45-06.

Unit 25 Representative noted that a method for additions and comments to the provisional agenda is needed, together with a timeframe when Council members are allowed to provide their comments. The Chair (Mr. Doulton) suggested that additional concerns for future agenda items are sent to the EB for inclusion on their agenda. The Secretary volunteered that agenda items for inclusion on the EB agenda are sent to him latest 24h before the EB meeting to be communicated to other EB members.

Item 2 - Adoption of minutes of previous Council meeting(s)

Motion suggested by the Chair (Mr. Doulton): *Adoption of minutes of previous meetings should be a standing agenda item. Adoption of minutes of meetings 3, 4, 5 should be put on the agenda of the next Council meeting as a matter of priority.* – Motion passed unanimously

Motion suggested by the Chair (Mr. Doulton): *The list of signatures for every Council meeting shall be scanned and put on Unite Connections and deposited at the UNSU Office.* – Motion passed unanimously

Item 3 - Summary record of communications and the report to the Council by the President

The Summary record of communications and the report to the Council was presented by the UNSU President. The Treasurer (Mr. Faye) took over chairing of the meeting as the vice-Chair had to leave. *Nota bene:* all further references to the Chair shall refer in this document to Mr. Faye.

The President explained that flexible work space and arrangements are not one size fits all and will be further discussed with management. Unit 39 had Representative prepared a paper on flexible working space and asked the President to take it into consideration. Unit 23 Representative noted that she heard that 8 million USD were approved by the GA for transformation of 8 more floors into flexible space and wanted to inquire about this information, although it did not seem to appear in a resolution. It was confirmed by Unit 06 Representative that this amount of money was mentioned at the SMC.

The President noted that she is scheduled to meet Mr. Cutts separately in the future and also discuss the flexible working space with him.

Additions mandated by the Council to be added to the document on the Summary record of communications and the report to the Council.

- Unit 06 addition: *Newly elected representatives of the staff to UNJSFP haven't yet received their credentials although they were promised them.*
- Unit 39 addition: *It was decided at the SMC VI that revision of 371 policy revision needs to precede any changes to whistleblower policy.*

Item 4 - UNSU Finances

The Treasurer noted that the audit of accounts is nearly finished. He suggested waiting whether to accept the audit outcome or involve OIOS and request a new one. He informed the Council that the Hyatt plan cannot accept UNSU request to incorporate legal representation in the internal justice system matters in their coverage. However, they are open to include divorce matters in their coverage. Annual costs of their plan have been raised to 252 USD/year.

Unit 39 Representative raised the point that future AFT affiliation should be discussed with Council. The representative noted that OIOS has previously refused to get involved in issues related to UNSU finances which have previously been raised when funds were diverted to another bank several years ago.

Item 5 - SMC VI Briefing

The President orally informed the Council of the SMC.

Unit 29 Representative noted that it should be the Council to nominate members to external bodies and the President agreed.

Unit 39 Representative noted that GS prospects are a contentious issue for the security services since they have very specific job conditions. The President responded that ICSC will begin review of categories next week in Guatemala. She had an informal discussion with a member of ICSC regarding the S category. Her position is that unions should use this opportunity to look at this issue in broader terms.

The Secretary wanted to know more about the Gender Parity Strategy prepared by the Gender Parity Task Force of the SG. The first Vice-President will provide more information on the gender agenda of the new SG.

Item 6 - Budget and Work Plan

The President has provided a Work Plan. It was agreed that this is going to be the work plan of the Presidency and the title of the document should be amended and the document recirculated.

Motion suggested by the Unit 39 Representative: *Electoral units should elect their Chairpersons within 3 weeks.* – Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of the budget and its provisions has been moved to the next Council meeting.

Item 7 - General meeting preparations

Council members presented different opinions on the format and the execution of the General meeting and the need to follow provisions mandated by UNSU Statute and Regulations.

Motion suggested by the Chair: *The meeting called for 17 May by the Presidency will be in a town hall format. General meeting will be planned according to the relevant provisions of the Statute and Regulation within 90 days of 1 April 2017.* – Motion passed with 9 affirmative and 2 negative votes

The President has asked the Council to prepare the agenda and discussion format. The Secretary has volunteered to prepare that.

Item 8 - Working Group Concerning Statutes and Regulations

The President informed the Council who she recommends as a member of the abovementioned Working Group. Unit 06 Representative noted that it was always the Leadership who recommended members to the Council Working Groups.

It was agreed that the suggested names of the Working Group members will be circulated to the Council members in writing and discussed at a next meeting.

No further agenda items were discussed and the meeting closed at 1:40pm.