

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

45th STAFF COUNCIL/45ème CONSEIL DU PERSONNEL

Minutes/Actes

Meeting No: 45/13
Date: 6/7/2017
Time: 1 :15 – 2 :30 pm
Venue: Room D
Quorum: 12/16 Units

45th Staff Council Meeting Minutes

The meeting was quorate at 1:15 pm with V. Stancu in the Chair and M. Pickles taking notes. The meeting was recorded and a copy deposited with the UNSU Administrator.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Unit 6 Alt. tabled a motion to insert “Unit Issues” as a standing item 5 on the Agenda. The motion was seconded and adopted with nine votes in favor and one against.

Unit 6 Alt. requested that future agendas should include timing for each item, and generally be shorter.

Unit 25 Rep. requested that the Audit report be considered under item 4 “UNSU Finances”.

The agenda thus amended was adopted.

2. Adoption of Minutes of previous Council meeting

Adoption of previous minutes was postponed.

3. Executive Board report and President’s report and summary of communications

Since the EB had not met and the President was absent, there were no reports under this item.

4. UNSU finances

Unit 25 Rep. recalled the decision to meet with the former Council’s Audit Committee. After a debate, the Council decided to invite the Audit Committee to its next meeting. Council members called for annual audits and for

quarterly financial statements. Some members raised for consideration the possibility of hiring an external accountant.

5. Unit Issues

Unit 25 Rep. described the work done in his unit, including a survey on staff engagement and satisfaction, as well as individual cases regarding Home Leave entitlements and discrimination cases.

Unit 13 Alt. praised the First Vice President and President for an intervention that was instrumental in resolving an issue they were facing.

Unit 27 Rep. reported on progress made in his department.

The Assistant Rapporteur reported on the issue of Flexible Workspace and pledged to do everything in his power to fight the scheme, which he considered a symbol of the Administration's dishonesty in dealing with Staff. The

Unit 6 Alt. reported on the Pension Fund. In December the Management requested a Staff-Management Consultation. She submitted an agenda, but no reply had yet been received.

First Vice-President called on Council Members to share their experiences with the Council. Unit 34 Alt. called for Units to report quarterly on their achievements, in order to share best practices.

6. Security

In the absence of Unit 39 Rep. there was no report under this item.

7. Liaison officers to AFT

Unit 6 Alt. (M. Rockcliffe) and Unit 28 Rep. (K. Kuchenbrod) volunteered as liaison officers. Unit 13 Rep. (C. McKenzie) was nominated and Unit 26 Alt. (C. Beydon) volunteered as alternates. All four were elected unanimously.

8. Update on GSDM

The First Vice President reported that the President has participated via VTC in the SMC Working Group meeting on GSDM of 6 July and would report at the next meeting.

9. Update on the Staff Pension Committee

Unit 6 Alt shared that in response to latest communication from CEO of the Pension Fund, there was a wealth of case law to support the legitimacy of M. Rockcliffe and Ibrahima Faye's positions on the Board. Both had launched legal cases. She had asked CCISUA to help her with her suit and would also apply to UNISERV. The key issue was the emerging push by the Fund to switch from defined benefits to defined contributions. Any final decision would be taken by the General Assembly. A similar attempt was made prior to 2008.

10. Decision on Summer recess

It was decided that the Council would take recess in August.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.