

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

45th STAFF COUNCIL/45ème CONSEIL DU PERSONNEL

Minutes/Actes

Meeting No: 45/25
Date: 9 November 2017
Time: 1:15 pm
Venue: LB 3
Quorum: 12/16 Units

45th Staff Council Meeting Minutes

The meeting was chaired by Camille McKenzie with Assistant Secretary Daniel Burden taking notes. The meeting was recorded and a copy deposited with the UNSU Administrator.

Chairperson Ms Camille McKenzie introduced herself to invited staff members from the department of O.P.P.B.A. She asked council if there were any objections to the adoption of today's agenda items?

Staff Rep. Ms Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) asked if a time limit of two minutes to speak could be adopted for today's meeting, as it was a full agenda. She also put forward a motion to move item # 9 related to suspension of 2014 continuous appointment exercise to the front of the agenda items. Chairperson Ms McKenzie told the Council that there was no need to move agenda item 9, as Deputy Chair Mr Andraz Melansek, was absent from today's meeting, and that it was his presentation to give to the Council.

It was also agreed that the two-minute limit proposal be adopted for today's meeting.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted with no change.

2. Adoption of Minutes of previous Council meeting

Minutes for meeting 24 were adopted unanimously.

3. Executive Board report, President's report, and summary of communications

2nd Vice President Mrs Cristina Silva gave a brief report to the Council, the summary of executive board's communications, informed the Council that she was meeting with the Director and ASG of O.P.P.B.A. on Friday the

10th of November 2017 in attendance with Union Secretary Mr Aitor Arauz and Union Treasurer Mr Ibrahima Faye. VP2 Mrs Silva also informed the Council that a JNC was scheduled for the end of November and asked the Council members if anyone had any items to include for that JNC's agenda. She also mentioned that the UNSU President, Mrs Bibi Sherifa Khan was presently in Minurso and was expected back next week. UNSU leadership had received a call from ex CMS from MINUSTAH that there will be a new CMS in MINURSO and would like to have a meeting with UNSU leadership, to meet next Thursday in New York.

VP2 Mrs Silva also mentioned that the UNSU President requested for staff rep Mr Kenneth Rosario working together with our legal adviser Ms. Artigas, both members of that working group, to send comments to SMC working group related to the ST/AI/2017/1 on Unsatisfactory Conduct, Investigations and the Disciplinary process. Also informed the council that a full report of meetings with CCISUA and SMC would be forthcoming, and circulated to the Council.

4. UNSU finances

No update was provided.

5. Security

Staff rep Mr Kenneth Rosario (Unit 39) informed the Council of a serious incident of a staff member whom had assaulted a UN security Officer on the previous Friday, that serious concerns that NYPD had not been called, and that management had not taken the incident with the seriousness that was required, that management was running the delegates lounge like a nightclub and exposing UN Security Officers to drunk and often unescorted guests. Staff rep Mr Kenneth Rosario will circulate a report to the Council.

6. FICSA Workshop

After some back and forth discussions on the pros and cons of whom to send to Vienna for the two day training workshop. Staff rep for Unit 25 made objections to the Council about the appropriateness and qualifications of the two members in the resolution to attend, argued that this should be open to any staff member who wished to receive this training and the merits of sending now or in the future non-elected Council staff members for such training. Assistant Treasurer, Ms Rosemary Lane made the point that the UNSU training budget was for members of the 45th staff union, for representatives only.

Resolution 45/21 on FICSA training workshop on the law and procedure governing internal and ILO administrative tribunal appeals of adverse administrative decisions was put to a vote. The vote was 11 for, and one against, with no abstentions. The resolution passed.

7. Update on AFT

Staff rep Ms Camille Beydon motioned to invite and include Ms Marian Fadel and Mr Raoul Altidor, AFT partners to attend and introduce themselves to the council.

8. OPPBA Staff Concerns

The Council voted unanimously to open the floor for O.P.P.B.A staff to voice their frustrations and concerns over their uncertainty in regards to their jobs, what the UNSU was doing about that and did leadership of the 45th UNSU have backup plans? Also discussed was the situation in terms of the urgency that Polling Officers and elections be expedited.

Chairperson Ms Mckenzie updated O.P.P.B.A staff that the official Chair for the Polling Officers had been elected, Mrs Karen Duncan, however she was absent on sick leave. It was down to the Polling Officers on how fast they moved on the election process. Staff rep Mr Kenneth Rosario made a motion to invite the elected Polling Chair Mrs Karen Duncan and the Polling Officers to attend the next Council meeting, was put to the vote, and passed with no opposition. Staff rep Mr Kenneth Rosario also offered his services to act as an interim to O.P.P.B.A. until the election process had been completed.

Staff Rep Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe suggested that now that the Polling Officers had a chairperson, OPPBA could request a by-election due to the uncontested nature of their election, and have the matter expedited and have their preferred staff-representatives lawfully installed. This had been done in the previous council for UNJSPF and it took no more than 3 weeks.

9. Suspension of the 2014 Continuous Appointment exercise

No presentation given.

Staff Rep Ms Meriem Harbi asked that her comments be placed on the official record that staff had asked the Union for help, and that none came.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm