

UNITED NATIONS STAFF UNION
SYNDICAT DU PERSONNEL DE L'ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES**45th STAFF COUNCIL/45ème CONSEIL DU PERSONNEL****Minutes/Actes**

Meeting No: 45/60
Date: 6 September 2018
Time: 1:30 pm
Venue: Room F
Quorum: 15/27 Units

45th Staff Council Meeting Minutes

The meeting was quorate with 10 units present at 1:31 pm. Deputy Staff Council Chair Andraž Melanšek chaired and UNSU Secretary Aitor Arauz Chapman took notes. The meeting was recorded and a copy deposited with the UNSU Administrator. Units present were: 3, 6, 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 38.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with the addition of an item 2 "Update on preparations for Staff Day".

2. Update on preparations from Staff Day

Karen Duncan, Chair of the Staff Day Committee, reported that the schedule of events was finalised, with moving parts adjusted in order to accommodate for last-minute changes. She shared copies of the schedule and informed that information desks had been added at the request of different branches of the organisation, including FAFICS, the Staff Union, Ombudsman's Office, UNFCU, OLSA and OHRM. The day was to begin with a wreath-laying ceremony with participation of the Secretary General. Tickets had been printed for the ball: staff, affiliates, interns and retirees were free; tickets for other guests would be sold at \$ 20. Ms. Duncan ran through the programme at each venue. The Parade of Nations would be webcast. 60 initial volunteers were down to 15, so any more volunteers were welcome.

William Bly (Unit 23) inquired about reports that AFT would set up a desk with their banner. Marian Fadel was contacted and clarified that the desk would have a UNSU banner and AFT goodies. Eugenia Beldo (Unit 38) asked that Leadership ensure the messages were aligned. Richard O'Brien, new AFT delegate, was later introduced to the meeting. Sarah M'Bodji (Unit 31) had volunteered to staff the Union table and suggested exhibiting a link to the fundraiser for Janice Manmohan or keeping a donations box at the table.

Sherif Mohamed (Unit 27) inquired about the attendance of staff members' families. Ms Duncan replied that staff members would be able to sign in the usual 5 guests, who would have to be accompanied by the staff member at all times as usual. Children were welcome subject to the same condition.

In reply to a question from Unit 25 Rep. regarding signage announcing the prize car, Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) called for designating a Communications Officer for next year's Staff Day in order to make sure events were advertised more effectively and in advance. She also welcomed additional help organising the Raffle.

The Staff Council thanked Karen Duncan for her hard work and wished her the best success on Staff Day.

3. Adoption of minutes

Minutes of meeting 59 were adopted with no changes.

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

No report was received from the President. There had been no Executive Board meeting.

5. UNSU Finances

The Treasurer had circulated the financial reports for 1 April 2018 to 31 August 2018 via email. The Chair suggested that Council members review the information and pose their questions at the following meeting.

6. Update on amendments to the Statute and Regulations

Unit 25 Rep. reported on the work done by an unfortunately small group of Staff Council members with the support of a Eugene George, former Staff Council member. The group had been meeting regularly until July and would soon resume its work. Work had progressed and he hoped that with one or two more meetings the draft would be ready for adoption. He recalled that all members of the Council were de-facto members of the Working Group, so debates on the group would not be repeated at the Council. Once Eugene George returned from leave, all new Council members would be added to the Unite Connect group.

7. List of issues, Work Programme and Work Plan 2018/19

The Secretary reported that the sheet he had distributed had not received much traction, so he suggested an alternative approach, whereby working groups or committees could be established as issues were raised before the Council. The Chair recalled that there were a number of SMC working groups that were already in place and it would be useful to obtain an updated list of those. The Chair recorded a ***motion for Leadership to provide a list of members of SMC working groups for the following week.***

At the Chair's suggestion, the Staff Council review the Programme of Work. After reviewing the items that had been covered and those that remained pending, Unit 25 Rep. pointed out that the delays in fulfilling some of

objectives, including the establishment of institutional structures, were often due to a lack of cooperation on behalf of Leadership. Eugenia Beldo suggested that the Council identify the most crucial items to work on in the months remaining. Communications, branding and media relations were issues that could be taken up with the skillsets of new Council members on board.

The meeting adjourned at 14:30.