



**Minutes/Actes:**

Meeting No: 46/22  
Date: 14 November 2019  
Time: 13:15 - 14:30  
Venue: UNSU Conf Room  
Quorum: 09/17 Units

## 46<sup>th</sup> Staff Council Meeting Minutes

The meeting was quorate at 13:30 with 09 Units present. Staff Council Chair Camille McKenzie chaired the meeting and Secretary Sherif Mohamed took notes. Units present were: 13, 14, 17, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33. Three members of the leadership team were in attendance.

### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The 1<sup>st</sup> VP Aitor Arauz Chapman suggested adding a briefing on the most recent JNC to the agenda. It was decided to add the item as item no. (6). The agenda was therefore adopted as amended.

### 2. Adoption of previous minutes

The most updated versions of the following minutes, which were shared earlier with the Council, were adopted: 10<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> meetings in addition to the minutes for the 1<sup>st</sup> Council Emergency Meeting were adopted.

### 3. President's Report and Summary of Communications

The President briefed the Council on the different activities contained in the President's Report and highlighted the following areas:

- Meeting with DMSPC on Disability Inclusion.
- A meeting with the Chair of the 5<sup>th</sup> Committee, at which the Leadership enquired about the timing for consideration of various items, including GSDM; they also insisted on the importance of addressing the HR Strategy as a matter of urgency, including, but not limited to, the G to P.
- Long Service Awards: It was successful as reported by management and staff, with some comments here and there especially among security staff. It was agreed that the awards could be better planned. It was also noted that the certificates were not dated, a detail that was included in the lessons learned.

- Transportation Unit regarding electric vehicle chargers: Discussed the ambitious idea of installing chargers in the UN garage, as well as the possible transformation from the waiting lists system to a lottery system for staff to secure access to the parking garage.

The President also briefed the Council on the following matters:

- UNSU initiative to provide one-on-one coaching programs (writing PHPs, interviews, etc...) to staff which will be supported by DMSPC. The opportunity would be available only to dues paying members.
- Negotiations with DOS regarding the installation of water stations, as requested in a former staff survey.
- The UN Staff Engagement Survey and the willingness of the Union to encourage members to participate in it. In exchange the Union requested to receive the raw data for NY for any potential specific data analysis.

#### **4. Executive Board report**

The 1<sup>st</sup> VP updated the Council on the status of the recruitment of the Union's Staff Assistant. He informed the Council that only 3 applications were received. He called for a volunteer from the Council to set on the interview panel. Secretary Sherif Mohamed volunteered to be a member of the interviewing panel and the Council approved his request.

#### **5. UNSU finances**

The Treasurer updated the Council on progress towards finalizing the Union's financial reports for the period May to October 2019. The treasurer called for volunteers to help count the t-shirts left from the Staff Day. He also updated the Council on the proposal received from the auditing company for a total of approximately 25,000 USD to complete the auditing of the Union's accounts for the duration of the mandate of the 45<sup>th</sup> Staff Council (Please see EB report no. REP-EB-46-21 for more details). A resolution will be prepared to be considered by the Council in the next meeting.

*[The Chair left at 2:15 pm. The Deputy Chair Ramona Kohrs took over chairing the meeting.]*

#### **6. JNC Briefing:**

The 1<sup>st</sup> VP briefed the Council on the meeting that took place on Monday 11 Nov. 2019. The notes from that meeting were shared as an attachment to the EB report no. REP-EB-46-21. He highlighted the following areas: (1) the possibility of having a day care facility at the DC-1 for staff. The Assistant Rapporteur Shirley Abraham suggested daily rates for

staff members who wish to bring their kids on ad-hoc basis. (2) The access points and movement rerouting in the Campus and its effects on staff member along with the cancellation of all parties and activities in the UNHQ in the context of the newly imposed austerity measures. The Deputy Chair and Patel Noble (Unit 14) mentioned the different effects of the measures on staff, especially in terms of hiring freeze, and the seriously matter of the presence of less security officers on campus and annex buildings as well as the disruption in other services. The possibility that these measures become the norm is alarming (3) The subsidy intended for Culinart and the response of management. (4) The application of ST/SGB/274 (5) the application of the ST/SGB on flexible working arrangements and the need to collect complaints about any unfair treatment in the application of the policy across teams. After having heard the different complaints by the staff representatives regarding the application of the mentioned policy, the 1<sup>st</sup> VP suggested establishing a working group to go over the policy and prepare recommendations that the Union can bring to the SMC discussions. The Council agreed unanimously to establish the Working Group and asked the Secretary to circulate a call for volunteers.

## **7. Unit Chairs/Polling Officers/By-Elections**

The 1<sup>st</sup> VP briefed the Council that a meeting with the Unit Chairs will be held next week to prepare for the selection of the Polling Officers.

## **8. Reports by Units**

The Assistant Treasurer Yogesh Sakhardande inquired about what a staff rep can share with the members of their Units when they were asked about the mission of the Council. Many ideas were given by the other staff representatives. It was made clear that all the Council's work is public unless otherwise specified. The Deputy Chair updated the Council on the selection of the DGC Rebuttal Panel and informed the Council about a meeting intended on 26 November 2019 between DGC/USG and the DGC staff representatives. Ashley Rode (Unit 21) raised concerns regarding HVAC issues and cold temperatures at their offices in the Library building.

## **9. AOB**

Nothing was raised.

*The meeting adjourned at 14:45.*

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