



**Minutes/Actes:**

Meeting No: 46/58  
Date: 24 September 2020  
Time: 13:15 - 14:50 PM EST  
Venue: Virtual (MS Teams)  
Quorum: 11/17 Units

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

The meeting was quorate at 13:29 PM EST with 11 Units present.

Staff Council Chair Ms. Camille McKenzie chaired the meeting and Assistant Secretary Ms. Sarah M'Bodji took notes.

Units present were: 06, 13, 14, 17, 18, 24, 27, 26, 29, 31, 33.

All members of the Union leadership team were present.

### 1. Adoption of the agenda

Agenda was adopted with no additional items.

### 2. Adoption of previous minutes

Minutes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Emergency Meeting (EM) and for the 52<sup>nd</sup> through the 58<sup>th</sup> meetings of the 46<sup>th</sup> Staff Council remained pending, since they were edited with council members comments and all recirculated.

It was again agreed the back EM,52-58 Meeting notes would be re-circulated and finally adopted next meeting.

### 3. Reports by Units

The Assistant Rapporteur Ms. Shirley Abraham (Unit 17) reported on recent meeting in her unit and Department.

Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) gave a report on a recent unit meeting attended by 159 staff where concerns were raised on conflict of interest raised in a recent OIOS report as well as concerns about the lack of progress in reconstituting the Pension Fund's Executive Office as the lack of expertise was resulting in poor service, abuse and misuse of authority

and duplication of posts in the Administration and OIM offices She reminded the Council that it was staff/participants of the Fund who foot the bill for these inefficiencies.

The Assistant Secretary Ms. M'Bodji (Unit 31) briefed the Council on staff concern on health and safety and behaviour recently witness in the conference rooms, as reported to leadership and the EB.

Mr. Sergio Pires Vieira (Unit 24) asked for clarifications on OIOS process and on the duration of investigation times. There was a pending case in his unit that was delayed by months. The First Vice-President pointed out that long delays were not unusual with OIOS investigations but offered his assistance whilst respecting the confidentiality of the matter.

#### **4. President's Report and Summary of Communications**

First Vice President Mr. Aitor Arauz Chapman explained the report briefly and thanked the Union Staff Assistant for her support.

Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) asked for clarification on the Racial Justice group.

The First Vice President Mr. Aitor Arauz Chapman explained the recent discussion and actions of the Racial Justice Core group and the streams of ongoing work. He welcomed adding this item on a future Council meeting agenda for a full briefing the Council, suggesting that it would be fruitful to invite the Group's members to a future meeting for a discussion and briefing.

#### **5. Executive Board Report**

There was no EB report produced due to the high-level week.

Council members discussed the possibility of suspending the following week's 60th meeting of the Council scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2020, due to the 75<sup>th</sup> UN GA General Debate High-Level week. Members agreed, based on precedent.

#### **6. UNSU Finances**

The Treasurer stated there was nothing to report.

Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) asked for the latest report with statements from January to August 2020. She further asked for the GoFundMe Beirut fiscal clarifications. The Treasurer replied that he had previously reported this information.

The Treasurer added that the Assistant Treasurer would be able to report on the Beirut fundraiser effort using Gofundme.com. He was absent due to the High-Level week

Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) asked for clarification on the statements in perspective to the budget. She stated for the record that she believed the format was not acceptable.

The Treasurer expressed his disagreement with her statement.

The Chairperson asked the Second Vice President for support and mediation, and the Assistant Rapporteur suggested Mr. Brito, the Treasurers and Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) have a bilateral mediation sessions and work out challenges that repeatedly are expressed in the Council meeting to work out the differences.

## **7. AOB**

Mr. Sergio Pires Vieira (Unit 24) began a discussion on the timing for the upcoming council trainings. The 1st VP confirmed that the Union's lawyer had agreed to provide the Council a session on the internal justice system, and even suggested an additional presentation Mr. Vieira would coordinate dates and times.

Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) would lead a session on the UNJSPF, including governance issues affecting the Board. Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe encouraged all Council members to read the recent OIOS report on the matter.

Assistant Rapporteur Ms. Shirley Abraham (Unit 17) posed a motion to postpone the following week's meeting and resume on 8th of October 2020. Ms. Simona Chindea (Unit 24) seconded this motion. The Assistant Secretary took the vote virtually by chat and the Chairperson announced that the motion was adopted with 9 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions.

The Chairperson announced the Council 60th meeting would be on 8th October 2020.

*The meeting adjourned at 14:22 PM EST.*

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