Minutes/Acts:
Meeting No: 46/69  
Date: 17 December 2020  
Time: 13:15 - 14:57 PM EST  
Venue: Virtual (MS Teams)  
Quorum: 14/17 Units

46th Staff Council Meeting Minutes

The meeting was quorate at 13:30 PM EST with 12 Units present, and one unit joined late with 12 units present.

The meeting was recorded.

Staff Council Deputy Chairperson Ms. Ramona Kohrs chaired the meeting and Assistant Secretary Ms. Sarah M’Bodji took notes.

Units present were: 6, 14, 17, 20, 21, 22, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33.

All members of the Union leadership team were present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Deputy Chairperson Ms. Ramona Kohrs adopted the draft agenda, with no changes.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The adoption of minutes was tabled for the next meeting, and the Deputy Chairperson noted that Minutes for 67, 68, and today’s 69 meeting will be considered after the recess in 2021.

3. Reports by Units

Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) addressed a shared document sent by email, the statement by Marta Helena Lopez, in the setting of the Pension Board. Ms. Rockcliffe
addressed the regulations of common system for funds such as the Pension.
A volunteer was requested to support drafting a resolution on changes pension fund.

Ms. Sindhoora Leburi reported a concern about the SG email to staff members and liquidity crisis, and concerns from staff, requesting a townhall for relieving staff anxiety and concerns.

The First Vice President Mr. Aitor Arauz Chapman responded agreement in the untimeliness of the email and also concern over the savings and information. Mr. Chapman confirmed there would be a meeting with the controller.

Deputy Chairperson Ms. Ramona Kohrs reported from Department of Global Communications (DGC) and the yearbook unit whom have been notified about dissolution of the unit, and meeting with the Director involved. Ms. Ramona Kohrs reported on recent townhall with USG and the misaligned presentation on vaccines and explaining that the USG was unprepared to answer staff questions.

A discussion around the Yearbook Unit and their work, hiring freezes and financial crisis. The book existed since the League of Nations.

Mr. Arauz Chapman elaborated that he had been supporting this from the staff and worried about the climate this action has created.

4. President’s Report

The Second Vice President Mr. Francisco Brito briefed that staff on Staff Management Committee Performance Management Working Group. Mr Brito explain the WG discussion on contract issues, and his concerns with the idea of redefining the field with a common approach.

Mr. Francisco Brito answers the Deputy Chairperson’s question on mobility explaining this WG will meet in 2021 in January.

Mr. Arauz Chapman reiterated that a new exercise for competency and shared a proposal slide on screen. He further explained the WG is going through a shift and
addressed perceived OHR disorganization and he explained the historical lack of trust within this SMC group. Mr. Arauz Chapman highlighted soon to be reviewed STIAs. 360 evaluations were discussed along with behaviors, UN core values and Senior management proposed changes. Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) asked about the Athletic club note in the current weekly report. The First Vice President Mr. Aitor Arauz Chapman addressed the concern from the report posed by council member.

4. UNSU Finances

In absence of the Treasurers, this item was tabled.

5. AOB

Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) further requested an email from leadership to support the Pension Fund.

The Rapporteur Ms. Coralie Maeva Tripier asked questions about the rules in relationship to a snow day shut down, requirements for work, and the effect of the changing FWA working landscape with telecommuting issue.

The Assistant Rapporteur Ms. Shirley Abraham expressed the concern of families and inconsistencies for the application and family situations. Emergency preparation and the unequal application of HQ and a mission in this instance seems to be problem. Furthermore, it was discussed about the regard for families, emergency preparedness and issue existing with FWA pre-COVID for a snow day and shut down.

The First Vice President Mr. Aitor Arauz Chapman explained there needed to be a framework that was fair and equitable, and the leadership was going to be working on this.

Ms. Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) suggested this be noted and discussed at the SMC.

The Deputy Chairperson announced that council would recess for 2 weeks and wished the council members a great recess.

The virtual meeting adjourned at 14:59 PM EST.