



**Minutes/Actes:**

Meeting No: 46/EM2  
Date: 2 December 2019  
Time: 13:15 - 14:30  
Venue: Room L-0302  
Quorum: 9/17 Units

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

The meeting was quorate with 9 Units present at 2 pm. The Deputy Chair Ramona Kohrs chaired the meeting and the Assistant Secretary Sarah M'Bodji took notes. Units present were: 6, 17, 18, 21, 22, 27, 29, 30 and 31. The First and Second Vice-Presidents were in attendance.

### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with a single item: 2019 Holiday party.

### 2. 2019 Holiday Party

There was a discussion at length about the Resolution for which the meeting was called. Council members raised concerns about various details of the event such as serving, preparations, food, drink, prices, time, date, austerity, why not an evening party?, number of RSVP or attendees, among others. Council members discussed the proposed logistics and budget, in depth.

Michelle Rockcliffe (Unit 6) said that while she did not disagree with the idea of a Holidays party, she objected to the amount being requested, no budget had been provided.

She also expressed concern about the lack of planning and suggested that the Union could have a giant international "pot luck" party. It was highly unusual that an unbudgeted party would be held without any contribution at all from the staff. Additionally instead of taking more funds from the reserves, the Union should if need be find the funds from within the Budget.

In the context of a discussion about additional expenses, it was reported that 89 new members had signed up and 29 had increased their dues since Staff Day and thanks to the expanded benefits programme.

After a discussion regarding the budget, the Second Vice-President adjusted the budget and reduced it to USD 7,502.47. Then it was suggested to make the resolution read “up to USD 10,000”.

Michelle Rockcliffe also stated that approving \$2,500 above the budget now being presented was unnecessary and that the Council should always have the status of the budget at hand to enable approval of extraordinary expenditures such as this.

Coralie Tripier (Unit 30) suggested adding a paragraph regarding "unused foods will be donated to an appropriate organization".

The Chairperson moved to make the two proposed amendments to the Resolution. Both were agreed. The resolution as amended was adopted as RES/STC/46/16 with 7 votes in favour and one against.

### **3. AOB**

At the end of the meeting, Sarah M'Bodji (Unit 31) reminded the Council that the UNSU would have a table at the exhibition for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The exhibition was scheduled from 12 to 5:30 pm the following day (December 3) in the Secretariat Lobby. In conjunction, the Staff Union and OHR were hosting an event from 3 to 6 pm in the ECOSOC chamber. She asked Council members to volunteer to attend the table during the exhibition.

*The meeting adjourned at 14:40.*

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