



Resolution on Workplace Accommodation

The 46th Staff Council,

Alarmed by recent reports about consultations being held by the Administration with external parties interested in vacating some of the annex buildings and spaces hosting United Nations entities outside the main United Nations Headquarters complex;

Aware that workplace accommodation on return to premises is likely to require a fundamental rethinking of flexible workplace designs (hotdesking) and that the availability of personal space will be of increased importance in the “new normal”,

Aware also that many staff members, including those at the lower end of the income brackets and parents with young children, do not avail of appropriate health and safety conditions to work from home indefinitely,

Noting with concern that the Administration has not expressed the intention, to date, of providing additional funding, support or guidance for staff members to adapt their homes into safe and healthy working environments, either during the months of pandemic lockdown or given the prospect of reduced workspace available on premises,

Reaffirming that conditions of workplace accommodation are one of the most important conditions of work affecting staff health and welfare,

The Staff Council hereby,

Expresses its deep concern about the current and future conditions of workplace accommodation both during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as about its potential deterioration in the event the United Nations relinquishes the use of any of the annex buildings,

Warns against any rash action on the part of the Administration that could lead to their further deterioration;

Calls upon the Administration to immediately engage in consultations with the staff representatives and the United Nations Staff Union - New York as required by staff regulation 8.1 before any changes are made to workplace accommodation, both during and after the COVID-19 pandemic;

Requests the Staff Union Leadership to bring this resolution to the attention of the Joint Negotiation Committee at Headquarters and to report back to the Council on the progress achieved.

Adopted	YES
For	9
Against	1
Abstention	0