Resolution on Amendment to UNSU Statute Art. 3.1

The 46th Staff Council,

Recalling Section 30 of the ICSC Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service, which states that “freedom of association is a fundamental human right and international civil servants have the right to form and join associations, unions or other groupings to promote and defend their interests”;

Recalling also Staff Regulation 8.1 (b), which states that “Staff representative bodies […] shall be organized in such a way as to afford equitable representation to all staff members”;

Recalling further Staff Rule 8.1 (b), which stipulates that “Staff members serving in duty stations where no staff representative body exists may seek representation through a staff representative body at another duty station”;

Concerned that many colleagues serving under UN Secretariat contracts at offices away from Headquarters with direct reporting lines to New York are currently denied their right to staff representation;

Aware that the interests of these colleagues with regards to, inter alia, working methods and conditions, salaries and entitlements, performance evaluation and disciplinary matters can best be defended by the United Nations Staff Union – New York through direct engagement with their parent departments at Headquarters;

Wishing to conform the wording of Section 3 of the UNSU Statute to address these concerns;

The Staff Council hereby,

Endorses the extension of representation to global staff stationed at offices away from Headquarters and not otherwise represented by existing staff unions or associations at their Duty Station, for example: Department of Global Communication staff stationed at United Nations Information Centers; Department of Safety and Security staff stationed at offices away from Headquarters; staff of the Development Coordination Office embedded with Resident Coordinator Offices;
Acknowledges the preparatory work carried out by the respective Departmental Staff Representatives, Staff Union Leadership and Polling Officers in coordination with the unrepresented colleagues, as well as their senior management and Executive Offices;

Requests the Polling Officers to hold a referendum, as soon as possible, with the following single question:

*Do you support amending Section 3.1 of the Statute of the United Nations Staff Union – New York as follows:*

**existing text:**

3.1 All staff members assigned to United Nations Secretariat in New York are members of the Union.

**amended text:**

3.1 All staff members assigned to the United Nations Secretariat in New York are members of the Union, including those assigned to offices away from Headquarters who report to Secretariat entities in New York and are not otherwise represented by a staff union or association at their duty station.

Authorizes the Treasurer, at the request of the Polling Officers, to process payment to the voting company for services related to conducting the referendum, up to an amount of USD 2,000.

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