Resolution on Legal Assistance to Staff Translators

The 46th Staff Council,

Recalling its resolution 46/29 on working conditions for staff translators, revisers and editors, adopted on 27 August 2020,

Recalling also the terms of resolution RES/45/50, adopted on 29 November 2018, on the establishment of a Staff Legal Assistance Committee, and the Terms of Reference of the Staff Legal Assistance Committee, appended to the abovementioned resolution,

Having examined the recommendation of the Staff Legal Assistance Committee in respect of a request for legal assistance, contained in SLAC/MIN/46/4,

The Staff Council hereby,

Decides to support cases brought by dues-paying members before management evaluation and, as applicable, the UNDT against the increase of the workload standard for self-revision,

Approves the recommendations of the Staff Legal Assistance Committee contained in SLAC/MIN/46/4,

Decides to allocate up to $20,000 for the respective cases before the Management Evaluation Unit and Dispute Tribunal,

Authorizes the Treasurer to disburse the amounts requested by the Litigator, within the limit of $20,000, upon presentation of the respective invoices,

Requests the Staff Legal Assistance Committee to keep the Staff Council appraised of the progress of the respective cases.

Adopted YES
For 13
Against 0
Abstention 1
Summary of the meeting of the
UNSU’s Staff Legal Assistance Committee

20 April 2021 – 10-11 a.m.

Attendees:

Members: Jaime Garreta, Jesús Parado, Michelle Rockcliffe, Shirley Abraham, Simona Chindea.
Secretary: Sherif Mohamed

The members of the Committee deliberated the document submitted by the concerned translators and the facts enshrined in it.

The Committee members decided to send the case to the Union’s legal counselor to assess its merit and get back to the members of the Committee – at the earliest - with a decision whether or not the case had merit. If the case was found to have enough merit, a resolution would be prepared by the Committee for the Council’s consideration on Thursday.

Shirley Abraham reminded the attendees that prior approval of the expenses was needed for requests for legal consultations. The Secretary confirmed this requirement.

Given the urgency of the matter, it was finally agreed that members of the EB be copied in the written request for legal advice, so they act immediately on any financial decisions needed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.