



Resolution

Resolution No.: 48/16

Meeting No.: 48/22

Date: 17 October 2024

Amended resolution on the acquisition of legal services for conducting research on the applicable law to visa-related issues

The 48th Staff Council,

Recalling that staff members have a right to advice, assistance and protection regarding all matters within the Union's mandate¹,

Recalling also that the Union traditionally supports the litigation of individual cases deemed to be of relevance to staff as a whole, or likely to establish jurisprudence relevant to staff,

Noting with alarm the fact that United Nations staff are still subject to discrimination based on nationality by the host country government that includes travel restrictions, extensive delays in the issuance or renewal of G-4 visas, and short visa duration,

Noting with concern the situation with the conversion of status from G-4 visas to green cards for United Nations staff and their dependents,

Noting with concern the situation of issuance, renewal, and restrictions of visas to United Nations staff outside the United States,

The Staff Council hereby,

1. *Requests* the Executive Board to commission a detailed legal brief by a reputable immigration law firm from the host country, after a competitive process, to: a) identify national and international policy and legal norms and standards that apply to the issuance, renewal and restrictions of G-4 visas; b) identify national and international policy and legal norms and standards that apply to the conversion of status from G-4 visas to green card for United Nations staff and their dependents; c) identify international and national policy and legal norms and standards that apply to the issuance, renewal and restrictions of visas to United Nations staff outside the United States; d) assess the applicability of such norms and standards with a sample of staff cases, if and as appropriate; and e) identify any legal recourse (s) as they may exist under national and international law. The brief should also include specific and detailed short, medium and long-term recommendations on the way forward on this matter.

2. *Decides* to appropriate up \$ 30,000 for the preparation of the above-mentioned brief.

3. *Requests* the Executive Board and the Leadership to complete an acquisition of the legal service provider and sign the contract with the provider by 30 November 2024.

¹ UNSU Regulation 1.1 a).

4. *Requests* the Executive Board and the Leadership to present the legal brief to the Council by 31 March 2025.

5. *Decides* that this amended resolution supersedes Resolution No.: 48/11 adopted on 12 September 2024².

Adopted	Yes
For	8
Against	7
Abstention	2

² *Resolution on an acquisition of the legal service for conducting legal research of the applicable law to visa-related issues.*