

## **Languages Service Sectoral Assembly (LSSA)**

### **Minutes of the sixth meeting of the Bureau<sup>1</sup>**

Held via videoconference on Tuesday, 20 December 2022, from 2.30 p.m. to 3.40 p.m.

**Attendees:** Esma Belfalah (ATS), Hassan Harrafa (ATS), Jianjun Chen (CTS), Romina Merino (SDPU), Marine Acker (FTS), Lyndsay Nash (ES), Kristina Redesha (RTS), Antia Collazo Ageitos (STS), Laura Johnson (President)

1. **The President** briefed the Bureau on the latest developments regarding the implementation of the translators' workload standard, including the disagreement at the Staff-Management Committee and the vote of no confidence. **The Bureau** discussed possible next steps following the vote.
2. **The President** informed the Bureau that the collaborative revision project was on hold owing to a lack of volunteers. **The Bureau** considered that the project should be reconsidered at a later date and that the lack of volunteers was probably related to current productivity pressures.
3. **The Bureau members** discussed the future introduction of a Geneva-wide translation quality evaluation system, as discussed in the recent town hall and email exchange with the Chief of LS (see annex). They agreed to monitor the situation, hoping that the impact on relations among staff would be taken into account in the decision-making process.
4. **A Bureau member** raised the issue of the translation backlog and the lack of capacity to process it, which was leading to staff in some sections being asked to work at weekends. It was suggested that a possible solution might be to remove some of the restrictions on who could be placed on the roster of temporary staff. It was agreed to put the subject on the agenda of the next DCM-level Staff-Management Relations Group.

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stated, the opinions reflected herein represent staff suggestions and views collected by their representatives and are aimed at promoting communication between management and staff. In order to avoid misunderstandings, any comments or requests for corrections to the minutes should be submitted to the President of the LSSA only, for inclusion in the minutes of the following meeting.

Question from President to LS Chief:

Staff in some of the translation sections informed me that their chiefs are discussing the introduction of a new Geneva-wide quality evaluation system.

My understanding is that this would be introduced in all translation sections so that we would not have to adopt the TQE used in New York and that among the options being considered are to use the forms already used in the French Translation Section and to create a new form.

Could you let me know if my understanding is correct and, if so, whether there are plans to have staff consultations before making a final decision on the system to be used?

Response from LS Chief:

We have indeed started to discuss the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force on Quality. Chiefs are currently sharing the practices that are already in place in each section and identifying gaps. We will be reviewing the practices together and harmonizing in the months to come. We will consider the form used in FTS as well as the TQE as not everyone is familiar with this and some staff have asked to learn more about it. It is only then that we would decide what do. The recommendation goes well beyond a form and there other actions that we will need to implement as well.

Kira has informed the ASG that she will be organizing a Townhall for all LS to supplement the DCM townhall so that we can answer all the questions that staff may have about the implementation of the recommendations of the task forces.