



39th UNOG Staff Coordinating Council 39^{ème} Conseil de coordination du personnel de l'ONUG

Minutes of the 7th meeting

held on 20 January 2022 at 1.15 p.m. via MS Teams

Council members present: ABDELLAOUI Naima; ALEKSANDROVA Anna; ALMARIO Francis; APOSTOLOV Mario; BALI Mohamed; BATAC Cecilia; CHANTREL Dominique; DAN Lin; GAZIYEV Jamshid; JOHNSON Laura; KHAN Anjum; LEWIS-LETTINGTON Nicole; MEYER Olivier; NGUYEN Ngoc; PECK ARIF Catherine; POPA Gabriela; RICHARDS Ian; SMITH Brad.

Council members absent: ALLEK Meriem; CHAOUI Prisca; COLANGELO Roberto; DUPARC Philippe; HERMELINK Ursula; JACQUIOT Cédric; MONNET Aminata.

The meeting began at 1:15 p.m.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda of the meeting was adopted with changes as reflected below.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the 6th meeting

The minutes of the 6th meeting were adopted without changes as recorded in the Council secretariat.

3. Report of the Finance Commission

The FC reported that the external audit report was issued and already circulated to Council, which showed all accounts were duly kept in order and transactions duly supported.

4. Report of the Executive Bureau

The Executive Secretary briefed the Council members on the report of the EB (as attached to these minutes).

5. Languages Service

Council members were briefed on events following the previous Council meeting on the issue of workload of translators. Staff reps from the DGACM duty stations sent a letter to the USG and ASG in New York with suggestions to mitigate the impact of the newly implemented workload standard, who responded they would be reviewing the suggestions. In Geneva, staff reps attended a meeting with senior management at DC, including the chiefs of sections in the Languages Service (LS), to discuss what could be done locally. More detailed feedback on the matter would be sent shortly to the staff concerned.

As separate but related issue, the Council took note that the English translation service in New York produced a "vision" of their future, although one that only applied to them, but which could have global implications. Many staff are concerned they were not being consulted on such issues. Staff in Geneva were asked for feedback and many comments were received, which were being collated to submit to management for a response.

6. Covid update

Council members were informed that the DG interpreted the SG's guidelines on mandatory Covid-19 vaccination and decided to implement it for a small number of staff put under mandatory vaccination. It was noted security staff were not included among those for whom vaccination would be required. Given that the vast majority of concerned staff (DG's office, interpreters, certain CSS functions) were already vaccinated, no negative feedback or complaints had been received from them so far.

7. Ordinary General Assembly

The Council agreed to hold the statutory staff General Assembly on 31 January at 1.15 p.m.

8. Budget request for eVoting (request attached)

The Council was presented with a request from the Polling Officers for the approval of eVoting charges of up to CHF 4000 for eVoting procedures of Council elections and joint bodies. It was noted that the Council had already approved tentatively in its budget up to CHF 3'000. An additional CHF 1'000 was approved.

9. Any other business

No other business was raised.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.