



40th Staff Union Council 2022-2023

Ref. SU-40-EB-15

Executive Bureau Minutes of the 15th meeting

held on 9 August 2022 at 9 a.m.
via MS Teams.

Adopted on 16 August 2022.

Members of the Executive Bureau:

ABDELLAOUI Naima	<i>Absent</i>	JOHNSON Laura	<i>Present</i>
BALI Mohamed	<i>Absent</i>	MEYER Olivier	<i>Present</i>
CHAOUI Prisca	<i>Present</i>	SMITH Bradford	<i>Present</i>
DUPARC Philippe	<i>Present</i>		

President of the UNOG SU:

RICHARDS Ian

Present

Vice-President of the UNOG SU:

HERMELINK Ursula

Absent

The meeting began at 9 a.m.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with changes as reflected below.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the 14th meeting

The minutes of the 14th meeting were adopted without changes as recorded in the staff union's secretariat.

3. Follow-up to meeting with OCHA USG

The President, Executive Secretary and the OCHA sectoral assembly president met with the USG of OCHA to discuss a number of staff issues, namely mobility, contractual status, staff engagement survey, among other matters. OCHA was waiting for the policy on mobility to be issued by the SG to align with it. OCHA management indicated that their restructuring process was concluded, and that they planned to put a budget aside to ensure coverage of maternity leave temporary replacements.

4. UN Today

The EB was informed that UN Today had worked well so far with an advertising & publishing agency for the sale of advertising, and the next step was to conclude a formal written contract with the agency. The contract was a standard one for the industry where the agency obtained 35 percent commission for the sale of advertisement. This percentage was the same that other agencies charged UN Today in the past. No expense whatsoever was to be incurred by the union under the contractual relation. The EB agreed on formalizing the contract and to submit the matter to the Council for agreement.

5. Medical Service

EB members were informed of various complaints by staff on the personal treatment of one of the doctors in the Medical Service. The doctor had been approached by staff representation informally but denied any mistreatment. The EB agreed to raise the matter with the Chief of HR.

6. Administrative hassle study

The EB was informed of a study being prepared by renowned universities with the UN on its administrative processes that can often prove to be cumbersome for staff and managers. The study would look into unnecessary or complicated procedures and administrative steps and simplify overall administration.

A proposal was raised to do a joint survey with management to help identify areas of hassle and how they could be improved. The question was made whether it should be a joint effort between staff representation and management. The joint effort was deemed appropriate as the participation of the union could ensure the survey was focused on staff interests with the view to reducing unnecessary workload on administrative processes, and it was positive to have management on board.

7. Next Council meeting

The EB agreed to call for a Council meeting on Thursday 1st September at 1.30 p.m. Agenda items would include: UN Today matters, eVoting expenditure, Protection from retaliation, exercise and accountability in Delegation of Authority.

8. Any other business

On the issue of translators' workload, the unions would be organizing a global townhall for September to discuss with staff on further actions, including a possible vote of no confidence on senior management, in preparation to management's decision on the *reprise* later that month. The EB agreed to look into organizing a campaign with the assistance of an external advisor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.