United Nations Office at Geneva STAFF UNION



Office des Nations Unies à Genève SYNDICAT

40th Staff Union Council

Executive Bureau Minutes of the 2nd meeting

Held on 29 March 2022 at 9 a.m. via MS Teams.

Adopted on 5 April 2022.

Members of the Executive Bureau:

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

President of the UNOG SU: Vice-President of the UNOG SU:

RICHARDS Ian Absent HERMELINK Ursula Present

The meeting began at 9:05 a.m.

Ref. SU-40-EB-2

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with changes as shown below.

2. Adoption of minutes of the 1st meeting

The minutes of the 1st meeting were adopted without changes as recorded in the Staff Union secretariat.

3. Programme of Work

Brad Smith noted the statutory timeline of four weeks to adopt the 40th Council's programme of work by its second meeting and invited EB members to make comments on the previous year's programme by the end of the week, to discuss and ready a draft by the following EB meeting.

4. Staff-Management Committee

The suggestion was for the officeholders Brad Smith and Ian Richards to attend SMC X in Valencia, Spain, to represent the UNOG Staff Union, to which there were no objections. Brad Smith noted that SMC agenda and papers had already been sent to the Council members for feedback, and that any additional proposal of items for discussion could be raised at the following SMC ad hoc meeting.

5. Next Staff Union Council meeting

EB members noted that the next Council meeting was to take place (statutorily) within 4 weeks of 1st meeting. A date and time would be set at a future meeting of the EB.

6. Follow-up on Languages Service

Laura Johnson recalled that a letter had been sent to the USG with a request to keep the status on the calculation of reprise. With the next cycle beginning in a few days (1st of April) and still no answer from management on said request, a reminder should be sent asking for a final position before the start of the new cycle.

Laura Johnson recalled that a decision on the reprise should have been taken by the taskforce on translators' workload, but it had not had the chance to do so as it was only created very recently. All EB members agreed that such discussions should be subject to consultation as agreed with management, who should be reminded of this.

Naima Abdellaoui regretted the manner in which the GA mandated the workload increase which did not follow the same (and more transparent) practice of similar past workload increases, as well as the way staff unions reacted. Brad Smith mentioned that the staff unions worked together to address the issue making all possible efforts to counter the increase, including exhausting legal avenues.

Laura Johnson recalled that the SRMG meeting would be taking place soon and issues for discussion would include the calculation of reprise and the new interface for individual productivity reports.

7. Any other business

Naima Abdellaoui raised the case of a staff member who had worked for about 20 years on fixed-term contracts, who was informed that their latest contract would not be renewed. Brad Smith agreed to study the case, for which the staff member would have to be asked to send all relevant information, and would revert to the Bureau at its next meeting. Prisca Chaoui reminded that OSLA should also be in a position to assess the legal merits of the fixed-term contract's non-renewal.

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