



33nd UNOG Staff Coordinating Council 33^e Conseil de coordination du personnel de l'ONUG

Minutes of the 2nd meeting

held on 13 March 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in Room VIII

Council members present: APOSTOLOV Mario, BALY Mohamed Chiraz, CHANTREL Dominique, CHAOUI Prisca, DOUMBOUYA-FODE Mohamed, GAZIYEV Jamshid, JAMES Elizabeth, KELLY Paul, NWABUOGU Gloria, PECK ARIF Catherine, POPA Gabriela, RICHARDS Ian, STANOVIC Marko, VILCHES Sandrine.

Council members absent: ALMARIO Francis, ASFAW Tensai, ATIKI Mounia, EL GARAH Samira, FUNCK-THOMAZ Samuel, KALOTAY Kalman, KONE David, NOBLAT-PIANTA Virginie, ROUAI Slim, SHAMSIE Syed, TOUIHRI Mohssen.

The meeting opened at 1:10 p.m.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes as reflected below.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the 1st meeting

The minutes were adopted without changes as reflected in the Council's records.

3. Nomination of Finance Commission members

The Council was informed that the Executive Bureau had nominated **Ms. Catherine Peck Arif** as member of the Finance Commission, the Council then having to decide on the remaining three nominations. MCB nominated **Ms. Sandrine Vilches**, who accepted her nomination, and **Mr. Samuel Funck-Thomaz**, who although absent was said he had previously confirmed. MA nominated **Mr. Marko Stanovic**, who accepted his nomination.

4. Council work plan

The 2015-2016 work plan was presented to the Council with recommendation for approval from the Executive Bureau. A brief discussion was held on the substantive issues of the work plan. Certain proposals were raised to add items into the work plan inter alia on the application of competency tests and the treatment of temporary staff. However, after discussion, these were not added to the work plan given that as it stands it reflects the general objectives and work of the Council, which covers the mentioned items. It was clarified that any staff is welcome to attend Council meetings and actively liaise with the Executive Bureau in order to achieve the common goals of the work plan. Following the discussion, the Council adopted its 2015-2016 work plan as presented.

5. Council budget

CPA briefed the Council on the misalignment between the statutory financial year – which runs from 1 December to 30 November – and the budget year currently matching the yearly period of each Council. She explained the complications this entails regarding the keeping of accounts, and how past audits have noticed this misalignment and have suggested to align both periods.

In that sense, the Council was presented with a plan recommended by the Executive Bureau to align the financial year and the budget year, which consists of approving at that time a provisional budget that will run until 30 November 2015. By such time, the Council shall meet again to approve a regular starting 1 December 2015 until 30 November 2016, thus having aligned the budget with the financial year, without detriment to the powers of the following Council to amend the budget. Said plan was approved by the Council, along with the provisional budget 1 March-30 November 2015 as presented.

6. Bicycle rental

The Council was briefed on a bicycle rental to be installed on the Place des Nations for the summer period, whose costs need to be covered by various UN entities, one of which being UNOG Administration. The latter has asked the Council to contribute with a third of their share of said costs amounting to CHF 2'000, where the MEC has already accepted to finance one third. This proposal is being recommended to the Council by the EB. The Council approved said expense, as it goes in benefit of staff.

At this point IR came into the meeting.

7. Report of the Executive Bureau

IR briefed the Council on the recent activities of the EB, including: ICSC compensation review, GS Geneva salary survey, upcoming JNC, and WIPO issues.

8. Upcoming meetings

As per recommendation of the EB, the Council approved the following nominations for upcoming meetings:

(1) SMC. Bonn, Germany. 15-20 April 2015. The Administration will cover the travel and DSA costs of two participants from the Council. EB nominated **Mr. Jamshid Gaziye**v due to his experience in legal issues, and **Mr. Ian Richards** in his position as Vice-President of SMC, plus **Ms. Gloria Nwabuogu** given her legal experience, should the Council approve her travel expenses. Taking into account the highly legal nature of the upcoming SMC discussions, the Council approved the above nominations and to cover the travel, DSA and terminal expenses of GN.

(2) CCISUA General Assembly. Bangkok, Thailand. 29 June to 1 July 2015. The EB submits to the Council a recommendation to send a 3-member delegation based on the incumbents' experience on the issues to be discussed at the assembly, plus **Mr. Ian Richards** in his current position of President of CCISUA. In that sense, the EB proposes to nominate **Mr. Mohamed Chiraz Baly** given his experience as former General Secretary of CCISUA, **Ms. Elizabeth James** given her experience and relations with other unions, and **Mr. Jamshid Gaziye**v given his legal experience in the issues to be discussed at the assembly. The Council agreed to the above recommendation and nominations of the EB for a 3-member delegation plus IR.

9. Any other business

- IR commented the situation at OHCHR where a restructuring had been announced two weeks before - the second within a year - without any consultation with staff. He assured that the situation is being closely followed. In that line of thought, EJ recalled to importance of coordinating closely with Sectoral Assemblies of other departments in their functioning and role as staff representatives in order to stand together vis-à-vis the Administration. JG suggested a substantive meeting be scheduled between Council leadership and heads of UN departments in Geneva.

The meeting closed at 2:00 p.m.