



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

Le Bureau exécutif | The Executive Bureau

Minutes of the 9th meeting

held on 27 May 2021 at 9 a.m.

Members of the Executive Bureau	BALI Mohamed	Present
	DUPARC Philippe	Absent
	JOHNSON Laura	Present
	KALOTAY Kalman	Present
	MEYER Olivier	Absent
	RICHARDS Ian	Present
	SMITH Bradford	Present
President of the Council	CHAOUI Prisca	Present
Vice-president of the Council	PECK ARIF Catherine	Present

The meeting began at 9.05 a.m.

Point 1 Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted with changes as reflected below.

Point 2 Adoption of minutes of the 7th and 8th meetings

The minutes of the 7th and 8th meetings were adopted without changes as recorded in the Council Secretariat.

Point 3 Pension Fund elections

The EB recalled that a letter was sent to the Chair of the Staff Pension Committee Polling Officers concerning the issue of voter suppression against a part of our constituency, which was deemed illegal. The letter was circulated to all the Council members for their information. The EB will continue to follow-up and look into further possible actions to preserve staff rights.

Point 4 Update on Pay Cut Campaign

EB members noted that only by chance was it found on the UNDT website that the judge had issued an order on case management on the Geneva pay cut case where applicants are represented by an external lawyer engaged by the Council. The EB expressed its deep regret that applicants were not notified of this order. Furthermore, the order imposed on the applicants the burden of comparing their case to the case already adjudicated by the UNAT on the same matter but where OSLA represented the applicants. This was deemed by the lawyer to be a mockery.

The EB was alarmed by the seriousness of the issue, noting it was unacceptable and evidence of politization of the Tribunal. It was agreed to bring this to the attention of the President of the UNDT and the Executive Director of the Office of Administration of Justice.

Point 5 Update on Security and Safety Service (SSS)

The issue of rotation remained as a pending item for discussion concerning SSS following the enactment of the rotation exercise by management despite the request by a majority of staff to postpone it due to the Covid situation. Other staffing issues included issues related to overtime, work shifts, and reclassification of posts. They would be addressed in the context of the JNC, working groups, or directly with SSS/Administration officials. Other issues brought forth via feedback from colleagues needed further exploring to determine whether they were worth pursuing vis-à-vis management.

Point 6 Joint Harassment Board

The EB took note of the position of the Administration whereby SGB/2019/8 effectively rendered moot the previously established Joint Harassment Boards in all duty stations, as the new policy covered in a different format the discussions that used to fall under the purview of said Boards, mainly through the role of the Conduct and discipline focal points. So far, the Administration had not informed who will be appointed as such for UNOG.

Point 7 H building

Negative feedback had been received concerning the move to the H building. Some staff were being obliged to carry their own things between buildings, the smell seemed to be a problem in the new open office space. The EB would continue monitoring the situation. An online form would be created to collect complaints and suggestions from staff.

Point 8 Languages Service

Concerning the Languages Service (LS) the EB noted there seemed to be a risk that Geneva would start applying “when actually employed” contracts. The EB reiterated that the leadership of the Council should be copied in all communications between the LS Sectoral Assembly and management. A discussion followed on the application of temporary contracts in LS.

Point 9 Any other business

- EB members recalled that the Joint Negotiating Committee would be taking place the following week, where the following issues would be raised: racism, staff rights in the context of Legitimation Cards, distribution of the staff magazine, SSS, staff on UNOPS contracts, long service awards. A discussion followed on how to approach the issues.
- EB members took note that the CCISUA General Assembly was expected to take place throughout the course of the following week.
- The EB agreed to call for the next Council meeting on 8 June at 1 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 a.m.