



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

Le Bureau exécutif | The Executive Bureau

Minutes of the 17th meeting

held on 21 September 2021 at 9 a.m. via MS Teams

Members of the Executive Bureau	BALI Mohamed	Present
	DUPARC Philippe	Absent
	JOHNSON Laura	Present
	MEYER Olivier	Present
	POPA Gabriela	Present
	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 without changes as reflected below.

Point 2 Adoption of minutes of the 16th meeting

The minutes of the 16th meeting were adopted without changes as recorded in the Council secretariat.

Point 3 Languages Service

EB members were informed that the global survey on the impact of the new productivity standards for translators and revisers was ready following coordination with the four duty stations (New York, Nairobi, Vienna, Geneva); it also included text processing staff to monitor any impact on their work as well.

A suggestion was raised to plan for a global departmental townhall immediately after the results of the survey are made public and ask for a meeting with DGACM senior management to discuss them. Said results would be useful to show Member States the impact of their decision on workload increase.

Concerning the harmonization group, the EB regretted that management had seemingly failed to inform/include other duty stations, as other unions were completely unaware of anything. So far, the group had not yet held any meetings.

Point 4 Geneva Covid regulations

The EB recalled new Covid-related regulations in the host country, where Covid certificates were now required to enter many places, however international organizations were exempt. Staff had started to approach the Council over sanitary/health safety concerns in light of this exception. The need for a coordinated approach on this by staff representation was highlighted.

A discussion ensued on the need to gather staff views about Covid certificate use at the workplace and whether to send out a survey. The EB agreed to prepare and circulate such survey in order to coordinate the Council's position vis-à-vis management on the subject, although mindful of the implications on UNOG conference business and participation of foreign delegates.

Point 5 CCISUA mid-term GA

The EB noted that CCISUA would be tentatively holding its mid-term meeting on 16-18 November on site in New York, although possibly in a hybrid format (subject to the evolution of the Covid situation worldwide). As had been the practice until the pandemic, this was the ideal moment for staff representation to lobby Member

States in New York. EB members discussed the composition of the delegation as per the needs of the mission (mid-term meeting and lobbying).

A proposal was made for Prisca to attend as CCISUA President (travel costs of elected federation officials are to be covered by their own unions for the mid-term as per CCISUA statutes), Brad Smith in his capacity as Executive Secretary, and Ian Richards and Mohamed Bali to attend given their long-term experience and knowledge of the issues to be discussed and lobbying. Discussions on the delegation would continue via email and the budget proposed to the EB and Council for approval.

The EB agreed for Council assistant Froylan Silveira to be lent to CCISUA to assist in the organization of the mid-term meeting and serve as rapporteur, where all associated costs would be covered by the federation.

Point 6 Staff townhall

The EB agreed to hold a staff townhall meeting on 30 September 2021 to brief staff on the following issues: future of work, ICSC cost-of-living survey, H building, SMC issues.

Point 7 Any other business

- The EB was informed that arrangements for the commercialization of advertising space in the UN Today magazine were being reviewed and possibly to be adjusted over the coming weeks with the view of maintaining and increasing Council revenue.

The meeting was adjourned at 9.30 a.m.