

Bullet Points
Meeting of the Governing Board
Wednesday, 6 February 2019

- The President and Bureau met with the Acting CEO bridging the gap created by the combined departure of CEO and Deputy, at the end of this past year. They voiced serious concern with regard to the available information regarding the current status of the perceived backlog in pension benefits. The Acting CEO expressed her firm intention to take action in this regard.
- The Co-Chair of the Pensions Committee, Mr. F. Riesco reported on its Meeting held on 23 of January. It was noted that the Working Group of the Pension Board will discuss the unresolved governance issues, including the representation of the UNJSPF retirees at Pension Board sessions. The Working Group will include two (2) persons from FAFICS. The AFICS/NY Pensions Committee will continue to meet to consider Pension Fund governance issues of particular interest to retirees and also the development of performance indicators for the Pension Fund Secretariat.
- The Membership Committee (Dr. Narula) reported on its progress in securing the payment of past dues and issuing an updated Directory of Members, in print. It was pleased to report that this would be printed in-house.
- The Insurance Committee (Mr. J. Karia) reported on its latest meeting with *Aetna*. It dwelt on cost controls on pharmaceutical products, as this affected UN retirees and staff.
- On behalf of Social Events, Ms. Linardo and Ms. De Souza reported on a lunch and visit to MOMA projected for Wednesday, 13 February. Upwards from 50 Members expressed interest in participating. The *Mix and Mingle* event, originally planned for 31 January, has been postponed until mid-April, in the hope for clement weather.
- Pursuant to a request made at an earlier date, Mr. Richard Nottidge prepared and presented, for discussion, a draft towards a Code of Conduct for Board

Members. After a long debate, which centred on the concepts of *transparency*, *accountability*, *collective responsibility* and *discretion*, the Board reached the conclusion that, given their activities, shared background and shared culture. Board Members did not risk being exposed to major conflicts of interest. By contrast, *confidentiality* could prove to be a concern. However, it was not considered necessary, by the Governing Board, to have a formal code of conduct or confidentiality agreement, as the Board understood that all its Members fully recognized their responsibilities, which included not divulging the positions taken by individual members during discussions, and not questioning, in any venues or forums, the decisions taken by the Governing Board on substantive issues. As for transparency and accountability, Board Members took the view that wide use of the Website could and should promote these ends.

- The next Board Meeting was set for Wednesday, 6 March 2019.