

**THE CHARITIES FOUNDATION  
OF THE  
ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS IN NEW YORK  
(AFICS/NY)**

**Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors – Summary  
Wednesday, 5 December, 2018**

**Election of Board Members.** After adoption of the Agenda for the meeting and approval of the minutes of the last meeting, 7 December 2017, the Board elected by acclamation, Directors of the Foundation for 2019 – 2020, all of whom agreed to serve. They are: Demetrios Argyriades; Mary Ann (MAC) Chiuli; John Dietz, President of AFICS/NY (ex officio); Suzan Habachy; Mary Lynn Hanley; Louise Lahuerte; Angel Silva; Christine Smith-Lemarchand.

**Report of the President.** President Anthony Fouracre expressed thanks for his service to Andres Castellanos, a long-term Director of the Charities Foundation, who has now stepped down for domestic reasons. Also, with Louise Laheurte, President Fouracre had prepared a letter to endeavour to create greater awareness of the Foundation and the fact that few appeals had been received by it in recent years. The content is also being made available on the AFICS/NY website. In addition, and following a discussion in the AFICS/NY meeting of that morning, the letter was being posted on the Facebook site — Former and Current UN Staff. Depending on the response to this, wider dissemination would be considered within a four-month period.

**Report of the Assistance Review Committee for 2018.** Suzan Habachy reported that **The Charities Foundation had made two grants during the year, totaling \$5000: \$3,000 was granted for costly needed medication and \$2,000 to help in rental and moving operations.** These two grants met the mandatory 5% of the Foundation's resources that had to be disbursed during the year in order for it to retain its tax exempt status.

It was mentioned that a number of people with low pensions have financial problems due to the high cost of rent. However, the Foundation cannot help with recurring expenses; its purpose is to help the recipient meet a financial emergency on a one-time basis. To be eligible, a person has to have worked for a UN organization for a minimum of five years and did not have to be a member of AFICS/NY. The Foundation assists UN retirees in general.

The Charities Foundation is also authorized to make grants to humanitarian causes and has a history of doing so. **For 2018 it was unanimously decided to make a grant of \$1,500 to UNHCR (through the funding mechanism USA for UNHCR) earmarking it for Yemen.**

**Report of the Treasurer.** Angel Silva, the Treasurer, reported that resources currently totaled around \$63,000 and remained stable.

**Other Business.** The By-Laws say that the Directors of the Charities Foundation should meet semiannually. In practice this has been followed, with one formal annual meeting and intra-year informal consultations. It was unanimously agreed that we should meet twice a year – at least in consultations by electronic means, once in December and once mid-year in May or June.