

**From:** UNOG FAFICS <[gvafafics@gmail.com](mailto:gvafafics@gmail.com)>

**Date:** March 21, 2022 at 4:46:55 AM EDT

**To:** Jay Sundaresan <[jaysundaresan10@gmail.com](mailto:jaysundaresan10@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** marco breschi <[marcobreschi2012@gmail.com](mailto:marcobreschi2012@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** FAFICS - Note from the President of FAFICS and the Report of the 70th session of the Pension Board

**To all FAFICS Member Associations**

Dear Colleagues,

Some of you have seen a recent petition soliciting signatures against “outsourcing” by the Pension Fund of a particular part of its investments.

Let me stress that FAFICS is committed to protecting the valid interests of retirees and, in doing so, is also committed to observing and following all appropriate channels established through the Pension Board for effective and informed communication. For Board members and for FAFICS, the recognized interlocutors are the duly elected UNSPC Participants’ Representatives from the UN, Funds and Programmes to participate in the Pension Board.

Most relevant to the matter at hand is our common understanding that “outsourcing” is but one element of a much larger, more complex issue, one which includes, but is not limited to the chronic under performance in certain areas of the investment portfolio. By definition, outsourcing cannot be a value judgment because in itself it is not necessarily good or bad. FAFICS recognizes the very difficult investment climate in which we are currently operating which is why it remains vigilant, supporting all legitimately-founded efforts to improve conditions for retirees across the board.

I would like to assure you that at the present juncture FAFICS has been paying particularly close attention to analysis of the investments, aided by its highly qualified specialists on the FAFICS delegation to the Pension Board, as well as to the questions posed and the answers provided by the Fund. This is to underscore that protecting retiree interests is not achieved via petitions which may engage in fear-mongering and scare tactics to attract attention, but through positive and substantive work by the entire Pension Board, including the Participants’ Representatives and FAFICS representatives who play a critical role. I refer you to the attached note prepared by a member of the FAFICS delegation to the Board and Chair of the FAFICS Standing Committee on Pension Matters, Gerhard Schramek. His report summarizes the proceedings of the February session of the Pension Board, including the views of FAFICS on the various agenda items.

Despite the current global challenges, FAFICS will continue to work towards supporting constructive working arrangements through its legitimate interlocutors on the Pension Board and qualified FAFICS members of the Board’s various committees. FAFICS takes pride in, and has been recognized for contributing to solutions and playing an active role in consensus building. It will continue to do so actively at the upcoming Pension Board meeting in April when further details may become available on the subject of “outsourcing” and the matter can be properly addressed by the entire Board, and at which time FAFICS will contribute its informed views.

With best regards,

Marco Breschi  
President