

**ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS - Geneva** 

# AAFI-AFICS General Assembly 21 June 2022

The meeting was held at the CICG to allow all members access without any problem of restricted access due to the security rules in force at the Palais des Nations.

The documents were sent out in advance in order to comply with the statutes, i.e. 3 weeks before the meeting for the invitation and the agenda.

The other documents were sent as follows

- 1. Report Activity Report 2021 with reference à sending of the activity reports 2019 and 2020), see Annex 1
- 2. Financial reports
- 3. Auditors' reports

It was decided to hold a hybrid meeting to allow access to the debates for those who could not physically participate.

The meeting was opened at 9.45 by the President of AAFI-AFICS, Odette Foudral. The statutes do not require a quorum to validate the meeting.

In her welcoming speech, the President recalled:

- 1. The importance of this face-to-face meeting after 3 years, emphasising the social side of this assembly.
- 2. She then thanked those present, the many members who had shown interest in the meeting, the Committee, and the CICG who were hosting the meeting and showing much appreciated support.
- 3. She then recalled that some people would be following the meeting via ZOOM, but unfortunately the connection could not be established.
- 4. She informed the audience that the meeting will be held in French but that any questions in English will be answered in English.
- 5. She then gave some details about the smooth running of the meeting:
  - a. Switching off mobile phones
  - b. Taking photos of the audience. Please indicate if you do not want to be in the photos.

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- 6. She then welcomed Giovanni Pizzini for UNSMIS and informed the audience that Aliamane Bacar Said and Fatou Loum would be joining the room at around 11.00 a.m. for the Pension Fund.
- 7. She recalled with sadness the deaths of Venkataraman Narasimhan (Nari) and Roger Fontana. She wished to associate in a moment of recollection those who had died during these three years, either as a result of the pandemic or as a result of the troubles that had shaken the world, taking advantage of the fact that the focus was on the problems linked to the pandemic.

She then moved on to item 2 of the agenda: Election of the Chairperson.

Mohammed Sebti proposed Margarete Hahnen, seconded by Anatoli Kondrachov. No other nominations were received from the floor. Margarete Hahnen was elected Chairperson of the meeting.

Odette thanked her for her help and left her in charge of the meeting and for her support throughout the year, if not over the years.

The Chairperson moved to item 3: Adoption of the agenda. The agenda was adopted.

She then moved on to item 4: Presentation of the 2019, 2020, 2021 accounts and handed over to the Treasurer Anatoli Kondrachov.

He recalled the difficulty encountered in taking over the post of treasurer following the death of Nari and thanked the President for her help in this transition. He reminded the meeting that 3 years were to be validated and that he was ready for any questions from the floor. He thanked the auditors for their help and support in making the accounts as accessible as possible to the members.

The Chairperson then moved on to item 5: Auditors' reports and handed over to Mohammed Rharha. Mr. Ventura Garcia Garnateo is travelling.

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He recalled that the accounts were perfectly kept, that 2020 and 2021 had not generated any expenditure as a result of the pandemic, but that 2020 showed a drop in annual subscriptions following the Secretariat's inability to access the Palais des Nations until July 2020.

He thanked the Treasurer for his work and congratulated him on the thoroughness of his bookkeeping and his availability to meet the auditors.

He asked the assembly to validate the accounts for 2019, 2020 and

2021. The accounts were approved without any questions from the

floor:

- 1. For 2019 with expenses of 19'801,73 CHF, income of 43'537,41 CHF for an excess of income over expenses 23'735,68 CHF,
- 2. For 2020 with expenditure of CHF 10,144.15 and income of CHF 33,820.70 for a surplus of income over expenditure of CHF 23,676.55,
- 3. For 2021 with expenditure of CHF 8,571.63 and income of CHF 37,541.71 for an excess of income over expenditure of CHF 28,970.08 and a final balance of the Association amounting to CHF 815,669.07 (See Annex 2).

# The President moved on to the next item: Appointment of two auditors for 2022

She handed over to the President of AAFI-AFICS. She announced that Mohammed Rharha and Ventura Garcia Garnateo had accepted to continue their mandate. The meeting approved their nomination by acclamation.

The President also warmly thanked the work of the treasurer, who made it possible to hold the meeting in complete serenity.

The President moved on to item 10 Activity Reports 2019, 2020 and 2021 and related questions.

She gave the floor to Odette Foudral who asked that the item concerning the UNSMIS health insurance be dealt with first so that Giovanni Pizzini could then be released.

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Mohammed Sebti's report is included in Annex 3.

Giovanni Pizzini emphasised the difficulty of obtaining agreements from Geneva clinics to limit costs. He reminded the meeting that the UNSMIS is concerned above all not to penalise the insured and will carry out information campaigns before declaring that a clinic should be avoided because it does not agree to sign an agreement.

He recalled the co-option of a retiree and an alternate to serve as a full member of the Executive Committee consisting of 3 members elected by the staff, 3 members appointed by the UN Director General and one co-opted member. A decision of the Committee was taken to ensure that this position will always be held by a representative appointed by AAFI-AFICS.

He also recalled that meetings were being held with AAFI-AFICS to look specifically at the problems of pensioners.

He also recalled that the staff is back in place and appointments can be made to review difficult cases.

He informed the meeting that 90% of the applications are made electronically but that the 10% made by paper are for large refund cases.

He recalled that for the time being it is not possible to have access to third-party payment for hospitalisations in France.

He also recalled the figures for insurance:

- 1. Total number of members: 33,805
- 2. Active: 10,470 paying members plus 15,070 dependents
- 3. Pensioners: 5,470 paying members plus 2,795 dependants
- 4. 4000 claims received per week

Concerning a question about the refusal to grant a subsidy to a UNSMIS insured, the President of AAFI recalled that the subsidy system is linked to the possession of a Lamal insurance and to an unfavourable social situation. She reminded the meeting that UNSMIS members receive a subsidy of 2/3 of their premium from their organisation. She also emphasised that there is a significant difference between the premiums paid under the Lamal and those paid by UNSMIS. This is due to the fact that UNSMIS is a mutual system that does not pay dividends.

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In response to the question concerning the fact that UNSMIS is not a Lamal insurance, it is recalled that UNSMIS is considered as an equivalent insurance to the Lamal but is not a Swiss insurance, which complicates the negotiations concerning the pricing of care.

The meeting then turned to the information on the Pension Fund. Mohammed Sebti's report is attached as Annex 4.

As the time was running out, the Chairperson moved on to item 10: Elections to the Committee for 2021-2025.

She handed over to Odette Foudral who reminded the meeting that she had made a call for applications in autumn 2020 by e-mail. See paragraph of the 2021 activity report (paragraph 3). Only 4 applications were received, so no vote was taken, as has unfortunately been the case for several years now:

Normally a vote is held when there are more candidates than posts to be filled, i.e. 9 every 2 years to ensure continuity. So we did not have to hold elections.

The Chair read out the list of Committee members who were confirmed by the meeting.

AAFI Committee	to 21 June 2022
President	Odette FOUDRAL
Vice-Presidents	Katia CHESTOPALOV
	Samuel MBELE-MBONG
	Pierre VANGELEYN
Secretary	Olgatte ABDOU (co-opted member)
Treasurer	Anatoli KONDRACHOV
Members	Ravindra CHOPRA
	Jocelyne DERUAZ (co-opted member)
	Juan MATEU
	Wolfgang MILZOW
	Dev RAY
	Mohamed SEBTI
	Monika SPYCZAK-VON-BRZEZINSKA
	Jay SUNDARESAN

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The Chairperson closed the session at 11.30 a.m. to allow time for the representatives of the Pension Fund (Aliamane Bacar-Said and Fatou Loum) to make their presentation.

Geneva, 4 August 2022

Chair Margarete Hahnen The President of AAFI-AFICS Odette Foudral

#### Annexes

Annex 1 - Activity Report 2021 Annex 2 - Financial report 2021 with auditors' report Annex 3 - Report by Mohammed Sebti on UNSMIS Annex 4 - Report by Mohammed Sebti on the Pension Fund