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Genève, Suisse

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**Procès-verbal de
l'Assemblée générale ordinaire annuelle pour l'exercice 2018–2019
tenue au Salle C-529, Palais des Nations, 5^{ème} étage, Bâtiment C
le mercredi 11 avril 2018 à 12h00
adopté le mercredi 3 avril 2019**

Ordre du jour statutaire

1. ADOPTION DU PROCÈS-VERBAL DE L'ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ORDINAIRE ANNUELLE DU 29 MARS 2017 /

Adoption of the minutes of the Ordinary Annual General Assembly of 29 March 2017

2. EXAMEN DU RAPPORT DE GESTION DU COMITÉ SORTANT /

Consideration of the report of the outgoing Committee

3. EXAMEN DU RAPPORT DU PRÉSIDENT SORTANT /

Consideration of the report of the outgoing President

4. EXAMEN DU RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION DE VÉRIFICATION DES COMPTES /

Consideration of the report of the Accounts Verification Committee

5. ÉLECTION DU PRÉSIDENT(E) ET DES VICE-PRÉSIDENTS(ES) /

Election of the President and Vice-Presidents

6. ÉLECTION DU NOUVEAU COMITÉ / *Election of the new Committee*

7. ÉLECTION DE LA COMMISSION DE VÉRIFICATION DES COMPTES /

Election of the Accounts Verification Committee

8. ADOPTION DES TAUX DE COTISATION POUR L'ANNÉE 2018-2019 /

Adoption of membership fees for 2018–2019

9. AUTRES POINTS / *Other items/miscellaneous*

(Les autres points éventuels mentionnés au point 9 de l'Ordre du jour devront être déterminés en début de séance) (*The status of article 9 of the agenda items should be determined at the start of the meeting*)

Present:

Members: Mario Apostolov (MA), Yuntong Huang (YH), Neytcho Iltchev (NI), Kalman Kalotay (KK), Patrick Magnin (PM), Gabriela Popa (GP), Claire Vesterman (CV), Jacques Vigne (JV), Janet Weiler (JW)

Observer: Jason Munyan (JM)

Excused: Angélique R. Mukamusoni (AM)

At the beginning of the session, KK suggested that JV should preside the meeting, as he has done so many times in the past to the satisfaction of all. The proposal was accepted by unanimity. JV reminded everybody that the agenda of the Ordinary General assembly was following a statutory agenda, and everybody should respect it. Any miscellaneous business should be mentioned under agenda item 9. He also suggested using the time efficiently because at 1 p.m. we had to start the celebration of the 20th anniversary of NW.

1. Adoption of the minutes of the Ordinary Annual General Assembly of 29 March 2017

The draft minutes were shared with members more than a year ago by e-mail, and re-sent as an attachment to the convocation for the Ordinary Annual General Assembly of 11 April 2018. He asked for comments or amendments. As there was none, the minutes of the Ordinary Annual General Assembly of 29 March 2017 were adopted unanimously by the members present.

2. Consideration of the report of the outgoing Committee

In his capacity of Secretary General of NW, KK made an oral presentation of the report of the outgoing Committee, following the customary tradition of previous Ordinary General Assemblies. He thanked all members of the Committee, as well as other NW members coming to the meetings of the Committee regularly for their assiduous work. The Committee met more than 40 times since the last Ordinary General Assembly, guiding NW through a complex year. We continued to work on the main priority of NW, i.e. the lobbying for labour rights and collective bargaining for UN staff. We also followed up other key issues such as SHP and Umoja. We also followed up the question of the change of Swiss citizenship law and the last minute possibilities for applying for it before the end of year 2017. Moreover, we represented UN staff at the level of the Union syndicale Suisse, the Communauté genevoise d'action syndicale (CGAS) and the ILO. He said that we tried to improve our communications, and we have had some success for instance in terms of our web site (thanks to the good work of PM); nevertheless we need to do more in the future. He also talked about the results of NW's electoral campaign for the 36th Coordinating Council. Thanks to the enthusiastic work of many persons, we managed to get the same number of seats as last year (four), and defend our automatic seat in the Council's Bureau. Moreover, the majority of the Council offered him the post of the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Bureau, which he accepted, making it possible for NW to lobby more effectively for human rights and hopefully improve its visibility with staff. At the same time, this alliance with the majority group increases our responsibilities towards the collective actions of the Council. This, however, does not mean that NW would give up its separate identity, and will run with an independent list for the 2019 elections. Moreover, we have to see what kind of actions separate from the Council we can undertake.

In the follow-up discussion, CV enquired about the status of our labour rights and what kind of actions we can undertake in the future. KK responded with a summary of the strike on 16 and 23 March 2018 and the possibilities of success with the legal action. He also put it in the

broader context of the actions and strikes with outer agencies, with whom we have to continue to coordinate.

3. Consideration of the report of the outgoing President

GP presented her report of outgoing President on NW's action in the Coordinating Council. She too thanked everybody for their hard work during the election campaign, and also the work of our four representatives in the Council, who participated more actively than the majority of other Council members. She welcomed KK's accession to the post of the Council's Deputy Executive Secretary as an opportunity for NW to lobby for its priorities contained in our work programme about the protection of staff and its working conditions, and naturally about collective bargaining rights. She personally thanked PM for his work as webmaster of NW. After this summary, KK thanked the outgoing President for her exemplary work, in the name of the whole NW.

4. Consideration of the report of the Accounts Verification Committee

As we have a very small account with a minimal amount on it, we do not have a separate Accounts Verification Committee. KK and JV jointly monitor our account that at the end of March 2018 has a balance of CHF 147.53. The full list of credits and debits over the past year was shared with NW members. KK explained each item of debit, which included the purchase of green paper, the membership fees of CGAS and USS, and the costs of the retreat at the Bois July in January 2018. It was suggested that KK and JV would continue with a joint signature for the account, and act as accounts verification committee in 2018–2019.

5. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents

Before proceeding to the elections, the chair of the meeting thanked all office holders of the exercise 2017–2018 for their good work, including GP (President), YH, CV, JV (Vice Presidents), MA, NI, PM, JW (members of the Committee), and KK (Secretary General). For the post of President, KK proposed JV, a proposal that was accepted by acclaim. It was discussed in this context that NW is free to elect any of its members to the presidency (according to Article 1 of the Statues), whether the person in question has a contract or not with United Nations at the date of elections. For the election of Vice presidents, JV reminded participants that we could elect up to four persons. First, he proposed GP, who accepted the nomination, and voted by acclaim. Also by acclaim were voted for the vice presidency YH and MA. It was decided that the fourth posts should remain vacant. If need arises, the fourth person can be elected during an Extraordinary General Assembly, to be convoked during the exercise 2018–2019. It was recalled equally that the President and the three Vice Presidents are *ex officio* members of the Committee.

The list of President and Vice Presidents is as follows:

- President: Jacques Vigne
- Vice Presidents: Mario Apostolov, Yuntong Huang, Gabriela Popa

6. Election of the new Committee

It was recalled that by the Statues, the Ordinary General Assembly could elect up to 10 members, but could also leave the filling of vacant posts to subsequent Extraordinary General

Assemblies. For the post of Secretary General. JV proposed KK, KK accepted it, and was elected by acclaim. JW, PM and NI were proposed for the membership of the Committee. They accepted and were elected by acclaim.

The composition of the Committee is thus as follows:

- Secretary General: Kalman Kalotay
- Members: Neytcho Iltchev, Patrick Magnin, Janet Weiler

7. Election of the Accounts Verification Committee

As mentioned under point 4, KK and JV were requested to continue to act as Accounts Verification Committee and co-signatories of the account. It was highlighted that it is important to pay the membership fees as the accounts have a very low amount of money.

8. Adoption of membership fees for 2018–2019

It was decided to maintain the same membership fees as the previous year:

- CH 70 for ordinary members
- CH 35 for new members and retirees

To be paid to:

- Syndicat New Wood des Nations Unies, Case postale 27, CH-1211 Genève 19
- UBS, Palais des Nations, compte no. 279-CA-105.363.0, IBAN CH52 0027 9279 CA10 5363 0

9. Other items/miscellaneous

It was recalled that a celebration, open to all UN staff, would follow the Ordinary General Meeting, marking the 20 years of NW. KK read a greeting sent by Roberto Collipal, one of the founders and one of the first presidents of NW. At the celebration, JV would make a speech on the occasion, and we would share cakes, food and wine.

It was also discussed that there was a need to modernize our structure of the Committee. For example, the Statutes do not yet recognize the post of webmaster. This can be remedied by a future Extraordinary Assembly, modifying the Statutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 12h50.

Minutes writer: Kalman Kalotay