



UNJSPF

United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund July 2016

Message from the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mr. Sergio B. Arvizú

Securing the Fund's Future

It has been my responsibility over the last three years to ensure that the Joint Staff Pension Fund is equipped and prepared to take care of our beneficiaries and participants for decades to come and to ensure a sustainable, modern and efficient entitlements and payment mechanism. Conceiving, designing, building, and finally deploying last August the Integrated Pension Administration System (IPAS) is the most significant contribution to the Fund's future in a generation.

All 72,000 beneficiaries who were in receipt of a pension benefit and who reside in more than 190 countries and some 16 territories continued to receive their benefits. This was the Fund's number one priority, and it was met. At the same time new cases were processed too slowly during the first few months after implementation, and I regret the delays and hardships caused. My staff deserve a huge amount of credit for their commitment and the long hours dedicated to tackling this entire caseload by the end of May. IPAS has achieved processing rates higher than those achieved under the old system. However, in light of the record number of new cases we are receiving today, on average the Fund still needs six to eight weeks to process a new benefit. This is not good enough, and as we continue to ramp up and further ameliorate IPAS, we will continue working extremely hard with the objective of cutting down this waiting period.

Message from the Representative of the Secretary-General (RSG) Ms. Carolyn Boykin

Long-Term Goals Intact

Over the last year we have witnessed global market volatility which is higher than normal. This is expected to continue on a near-term basis. Broad diversification across markets and asset classes has dampened the overall impact of this volatility on the Fund. We are focused on the long-term and we believe that we are well positioned relative to our objectives. Our policies are relatively conservative and this enables us to weather market cycles. As of 6 July 2016, the Fund's nominal return was 2.03% YTD, and the Market Value of Assets was \$ US 52.98 billion.



EPPO FAO IAEA ICGEB ICCROM ICAO ICC IFAD ILO IMO IOM
IPU ISA ITU ITLOS STL UNESCO UNIDO WHO WIPO WMO WTO

NEWS

Clarifying and Streamlining roles and responsibilities: When a UNJSPF participant is planning to retire, the Fund needs, in addition to the signed payment instructions and election of benefit from the separating staff, the "Separation Notice" from the employing organization (and the "Separation Personal Action" form if the participant works for the UN or its Funds and Programmes). Different organizations have different exigencies for supplying these forms, but as they represent the last official administrative leverage that an organization has vis-à-vis a new retiree, often they are issued only after a lot of other administrative procedures are verified and completed. These could include, for example, outstanding equipment issued, accounting matters not yet recorded or reconciled (phone bills, education grants, etc.) attendance sheets verified, and the list goes on. By far, the leading cause for a delay in an individual receiving his or her benefits comes from these exigencies. (Think how long it takes for many of these organizations to hire someone.)

In order to streamline the separation and check-out clearance processes from six months before separation to the day that a person receives the first benefit, the UN Secretariat (OHRM/OPPBA & DFS) and the Fund are jointly undertaking an "end-to-end" review of the entire process. Some specialized agencies have also expressed an interest in joining this review. Immediate actions to streamline will be implemented jointly as soon as agreed, verified and tested. Structural issues and other major conclusions resulting from this study will be made known and acted upon in 2017.

Sharing information with member organizations: The CEO and RSG visited Geneva, Vienna and Rome together in mid-June 2016 in order to meet with member organizations to give a preview of important issues that would be presented at the 63rd Board meeting. In total representatives of some 14 of the Fund's 23 member organizations participated.

Outreach: The Fund participated in two important video conferences in June, one with the representatives of staff unions of member organizations; and a second with the network of human resource officers. Both discussions provided the opportunity for these constituents to ask unlimited questions about developments at the Fund and the roll-out of the new computer system IPAS.

Board Meeting: From 14 – 22 July the 63rd UNJSP Board will meet in Vienna. The Board has an enormous job considering reports from internal and external auditors, administrative, operational, financial and actuarial reports, reports from the Audit Committee, Assets and Liabilities Monitoring Committee and Committee of Actuaries', as well as reports and a host of notes on matters from a whole office review to amending the Regulations and Administrative Rules.

Noteworthy: In February 2016, the Fund received the Elite Quality Recognition Award from J.P. Morgan Chase. The Fund uses J.P. Morgan Chase for distributing payments to its more than 72,000 beneficiaries in 206 countries and territories. J.P. Morgan Chase recognized the Fund for achieving 99.3% "straight-through processing" which is considered the ultimate level of performance in the MT103 category. Less than 1% of institutional clients meet this criterion.

Staff Update: In 2016 the Fund consists of 272 staff members from 54 countries. More than 60% of the staff is female, with parity or better at all levels including at senior positions. Currently slightly more than half the staff is support staff. Thirty-four staff members are based in Geneva and the rest work in New York.

New Senior Staff Appointments: Mr. Herman Bril joined the Fund as the Director of the Investment Management Division; Ms. Maria Clarissa O'Donnell was promoted to Chief of Operations; Mr. Lee Woodyear joined as Senior Communications Officer.