



ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS
NEW YORK

2020 marks the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of AFICS/NY

Summary of the 411th Meeting of the Governing Board
Wednesday, 19 May 2020, 11:00 a.m.
2nd meeting held virtually

- The pandemic has upended a number of arrangements previously made by the Board. These must now be reconsidered. However, both the AFICS Bureau and Office have adjusted to the needs of the virtual mode and have pursued their activities remotely. Working closely with the Pension Fund Secretariat, AFICS/NY was successful in stopping the impending suspension of the pensions paid to a number of UNJSPF retirees and beneficiaries, due to the non-return of the annually required completion and submission of the *Certificate of Entitlement*.
- Due to the ongoing *lockdown* the regular Annual Assembly, originally scheduled for Wednesday 3 June, will now be held *virtually* on Tuesday 23 June. The Assembly will be held during the morning hours, using Microsoft. The Agenda and proceedings would need to be adjusted, accordingly, and the number of speakers reduced.
- May 2020 marks the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of AFICS. It was recalled that, in the past half century, AFICS has championed all the rights of retirees – *all UN retirees*, without any distinction. The Board decided to observe this 50th Anniversary at the forthcoming Annual Assembly, on 23rd June.
- As previously agreed by the Governing Board, the Pension Fund Secretariat will soon be sending out an information circular on AFICS/NY, to UN retirees, who live in the USA.
- A new issue of the Bulletin has appeared on the AFICS Website. On this occasion AFICS, through its Governing Board, reiterates its plea to all retirees, who wish to join its ranks or have been members of AFICS in the past, to *renew their subscription*. AFICS urgently needs their support. The Bulletin, moreover, is an important source of information for all the retirees and Pension Fund beneficiaries.
- The Board heard a report from the Insurance Committee. It dwelt on rising costs, due mostly to pharmaceuticals and hospitalization. The Health and Life Insurance Committee based on review of various insurance plans had prepared a set of recommendations for submission to the UN Controller for his approval. The gist of these recommendations was that the level of benefits should be largely maintained except for some necessary changes to reduce costs and that UN participants be shielded from the effects of rising costs to the extent possible as well as increases in new rates for the new plan year starting on 1 July 2020 . Health Insurance will be one of the issues to be discussed at the AFICS Annual Assembly.
- The Ageing Smart Committee will hold a virtual meeting on *yoga* stressing its healing properties. It is also planning a subsequent event on *volunteerism* during the Fall.
- The AFICS Annual Assembly will be held *virtually* on Tuesday 23 June 2020, before the year's meetings of the FAFICS Council and Pension Board. Both take on a special importance in light of the GA Resolution on 27 December 2019 relating to issues of governance of the Pension Board and Fund.