



Association of Former International Civil Servants for Development

RECORD

199th Meeting of the Executive Committee
Friday, 6 September 2024
2:00 pm – 2:45 pm
Via Zoom

Alejandro Bonilla Garcia
Jean Erhardt
Carlotta Graffigna
Cécile Molinier
René Kirszbaum
Esther Guluma
Gesche Karrenbrock
Mohan Panicker
Francesca Toso

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. UBS

In light of Manuela's resignation, a new signature needs to be added to the list of authorized signatories for the Greycells account.

The Executive Committee decided to add the name of Cécile Molinier, Secretary of the Executive Committee, to the list of authorized signatories.

Furthermore, the name of Manuela Tortora and of all previous Treasurers of Greycells should be deleted from the list.

The list of authorized signatories for the Greycells account should only include four names:

Alejandro Bonilla Garcia, President of Greycells;

Jean Erhardt, Vice-President of Greycells;

Carlotta Graffigna, Treasurer of Greycells;

Cécile Molinier, Secretary of Greycells.

A double signature is required for all transactions and all four signatories should have access to e-banking.

UBS needs a signed record of the Executive Committee's decision in order to implement changes in the list of signatories. Therefore, this record of the 199th Meeting of the Executive Committee is signed by Alejandro Bonilla Garcia, President, and Jean Erhardt, Vice-President.

3. Administrative matters

Carlotta explained that Jean, herself and Cécile had asked for this meeting so that the Executive Committee could be made aware of the fact that since the GA of June 28th, which had endorsed Alejandro's decision to differ the date of his resignation until the next GA in 2025, Alejandro had passed on a number of administrative tasks to Cécile and Jean, who had initially taken it upon themselves to do the work. However, they could not continue to act in a legislative vacuum, without having received any mandate nor guidance from the Executive Committee.

Alejandro confirmed that he agreed to continue to act as President of Greycells but stated that he could not continue to do it on his own. He said he needed the agreement of the Executive Committee to share tasks.

In this regard, and in order to facilitate the handover and make it more efficient, Cécile asked Alejandro to prepare a written list of all pending administrative matters, with an indication of the date of renewal of all contracts and commitments. In addition, Alejandro should prepare a detailed inventory of the equipment belonging to Greycells which he had left in the Office when he handed his keys over to Cécile in early August. The second set of keys, which used to belong to Manuela, had been handed over to Jean. Alejandro agreed to prepare that list before his departure to New York on 16 September.

On the specific issue of the use of Alejandro's personal credit card to defray Greycells' expenses, the Executive Committee agreed that this practice should be discontinued and that Greycells should have its own credit card.

Gesche raised the issue of the website. She and Esther had been trained in the maintenance of the website and she was willing to take it over. Regarding the design and the content of the website, Francesca and René considered that they should not be changed until the Reflection Group had concluded its work on the vision, mandate and priorities of Greycells and submitted its report to the extraordinary General Assembly in December 2024, and the Executive Committee concurred. The decision on whether to get a professional for the redesign of the website should be taken later. In that regard, the expression of interest from David Myers, a recently retired CERN staff member with extensive experience in computer programming, should be welcomed and he may be called upon to contribute to the design of the website at a later stage. Jean had been in touch with him and welcomed other members to join him when they would meet for coffee.

4. Requests for collaboration and partnership

The first request was from CSI (Cité de la solidarité internationale) in Annemasse regarding a group of PhD students who were interested in visiting international Geneva on November 8th ; they would present the results of their research on November 7th at the CSI.

René said that the Executive Committee should agree in principle to organize the visit, but that it was necessary to first get a clear indication of the students' areas of interest. Cécile said that she was available to help organize the visit, and Jean said that he was also available.

The second request was introduced by Jean, who had met with the administrator of the GSI (Global Studies Institute) at the University of Geneva regarding a possible collaboration on mentoring and exchanges with students. She will consult with the management of the GSI and revert.

On partnerships, Gesche informed the Executive Committee that she had responded positively to requests from Eduki for presentations to students. She considered that ongoing partnerships should be maintained pending the conclusions of the Reflection Group and their approval by the Extraordinary GA in December.

5. Date of the next meeting

Prior to his departure for New York, Alejandro will circulate a Doodle to find a suitable date for the next meeting in October.

Signed:



Alejandro Bonilla Garcia, President of Greycells:

Jean Erhardt, Vice-President of Greycells: