

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE STAFF COUNCIL HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 1998

During their monthly meeting on 12 November, Staff Council delegates heard a report on the activities of the Executive Committee since their last meeting.

Firms

The draft Convention (Règles applicables sur le domaine du CERN par les entreprises appelées à soumissionner pour des contrats d'appui industriel) already accepted by l'Union des Associations patronales genevoises, is now under discussion with social partners in France. Once signed by these, the draft Convention will need to be approved by the competent French and Swiss authorities. Thereafter the Convention will be annexed to future calls for tender.

The RSL and Progressive Retirement Programmes

A status report on these programmes is scheduled for the CCP meeting to take place on 18 November. The possibility to increase the maximum number of "slices" from 4 to 6, a wish expressed during the recent meetings in the Divisions, will be discussed. Staff Association Delegates agree on the necessity of convincing colleagues who have not adhered to the RSL programme to do so. An article on this subject has already appeared in the Weekly Bulletin.

Health Insurance and Long-term Care

Health Insurance: Since the contract between the Organization and Austria will expire end-1999, the

call for tender for the renegotiation of our system of health care management, currently being finalized, will be mailed early in December. The Staff Council congratulated all those who took part in this important task.

Long-term Care: An independent actuary, chosen in agreement between the Staff Association and the Administration, has the task of evaluating the probable risks and the cost of such a scheme. He will also make a proposal for financing. His report should be available in January 1999 in time for discussion at TREF in March.

Pensions

The Governing Body has postponed to its next meeting the discussion on the proposal for indexing pensions in 1999.

New Presentation for the Weekly Bulletin

Staff Association Delegates have been able to take stock of the efforts of the Association's Secretariat to improve the appearance of its pages. The presentation will be modified gradually, and more effort will be invested in the preparation of editorials, as well as the presentation of the life of the clubs and their activities, exhibitions, shows and cultural events.

Cyclone Mitch

An emergency account is now open at the UBS for a collection to help the victims. Staff Delegates will encourage colleagues to donate.

The "Gatti" Show

The Staff Association has been contacted by l'Association pour la Venue d'Armand Gatti, L'AVAG. Armand Gatti, a man of letters, and playwright, wants to produce a show in collaboration with CERN researchers. Fascinated by scientific jargon, he wishes to elaborate texts on the basis of a close collaboration with CERN physicists and, in his usual manner, he will then direct "trainees", often outcasts he calls "loulous" (this word, which may be translated as "lout" or "hoodlum" is however used affectionately!) with whom he will develop the show.

The CERN Management supports the Staff Association's collaboration in this project. Work will start in December, a show is foreseen at CERN at the beginning of next summer. A more detailed article will soon be published in these pages.

Euroscience

The Staff Association, a founding member of Euroscience, was represented at the General

Assembly in Strasbourg a few weeks ago. Euroscience is a European association which has the vocation to unite both scientists and non-scientists interested in the development and the promotion of science. Those interested may obtain documentation at the Association's Secretariat.

The Salary Index

Staff Delegates heard reports on discussions concerning the salary index during the recent meetings of the Finance Committee and TREF. An article recently published in the Bulletin explained the circumstances which led the Management to propose to Finance Committee a salary increase of 0.9% for 1999, subject to confirmation of a real net

increase in salaries in the six reference Member States, similar to the 1997 value, and that the staff budget for 1999 be increased by 2.5 MCHF, to be financed by a special contribution from Member States.

During the Finance Committee on 10 November, certain Delegations simply rejected the proposal. Others followed the Management's reasoning, underlining the efforts of the staff (increase in productivity, excellent performance of the accelerators, absence of any increase in salaries in '97 and '98) and admitted that a positive gesture should be made. All, however, refused any increase in Member State contributions for 1999. The Management's proposal was deferred to TREF during the afternoon of 10 November.

At TREF the discussion on the salary index followed along the same lines as the morning's discussion at the Finance Committee. In spite of the willingness of several Delegates to give an index higher than the calculated one (0.3%) but lower than 0.9%, it was not possible to reach a precise proposal. Thus the Management was invited to formulate a new proposal to the December meeting of the Finance Committee.

The Staff Council unanimously expressed the wish that purchasing power be preserved, particularly in the long term. It stated that the staff must be treated fairly taking into consideration the situation observed both in Switzerland and in the reference Member States.

CYCLONE MITCH

Merci à tous nos donateurs, dont certains très généreux, en faveur des sinistrés du cyclone.

Le montant récolté au 20 novembre 1998 est de:

11 103,10 CHF.-

2 251,80 FFR.-

74,000 LIT.-

Il n'est pas trop tard pour ceux qui voudraient exprimer leur solidarité. Vos généreux versements sont attendus jusqu'au mardi 15 décembre avec impatience aux numéros UBS.

Compte en francs suisses

C7-758.114.0

Compte en francs français

C7-758.114.1

CONSEIL DU PERSONNEL

La 411^e réunion du Conseil du personnel aura lieu le:

Mardi 1 décembre à 14h00

Amphithéâtre LHC

Bâtiment 30, 7^e étage

Activités du Comité exécutif:

- Programme du Comité exécutif: *Entreprises, Création d'emplois/ Temps choisi/Retraite progressive, Assurance maladie, Pensions*
- Réunions: CCP du 18 et 26 novembre
- Préparation des réunions du Comité des finances et du Conseil de décembre

Les réunions sont publiques et vous pouvez y assister