



# **ILO Pre-retirement Seminar**

**Former Officials' Section  
ILO, Geneva  
October 2016**



# **ILO Pre-retirement Seminar**

**François Kientzler  
Executive Secretary  
Former Officials' Section**

## Presenting the Section

**Who are we?**

**How is the Section organized?**

**Why become a member of the Section,  
and how?**

**Our newsletter *Message***

**How do we work? What have we done?**



## Who are we?

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- An autonomous section of the Staff Union
- Around 800 members (400 in the Geneva area)
- A Bureau composed of ten members (based in the Geneva area) headed by an Executive Secretary (François Kientzler)
- Two Assistant Executive Secretaries (Ivan Elsmark and Abdoulaye Diallo), a Treasurer (Venkataraman Narasimhan) and an Assistant Treasurer (Bert Essenberg)
- Three new members: Kitty Hooton, Liz Sommaro and Cherry Thompson-Senior
- The Editor of our newsletter, *Message* (Ivan Elsmark)



## Who are we?

Bureau de la Section des anciens fonctionnaires (Mandat du 1 <sup>er</sup> janvier 2016 au 31 décembre 2017)	
Secrétaire exécutif	François Kientzler
Secrétaires exécutifs adjoints	Ivan M.C.S. Elsmark Abdoulaye Diallo Venkataraman Narasimhan
Trésorier	Narasimhan
Trésorier adjoint	Bert Essenberg



## Who are we?

Comptes-rendus des réunions du Bureau	Bert Essenberg
Relations avec AAFI/AFICS	François Kientzler, Abdoulaye Diallo et Venkataraman Narasimhan
Questions de pension	François Kientzler
Questions CAPS	Elizabeth Sommaro
Questions de santé	Jean-François Santarelli
Rédacteur Message aux anciens fonctionnaires	Ivan M.C.S. Elsmark
Relations avec le Syndicat	François Kientzler, Ivan M.C.S. Elsmark et Abdoulaye Diallo
Relations avec le Conseil d'administration	Abdoulaye Diallo
Vieillessement, GINA	Elizabeth Sommaro
Représentant au magazine UNION	
Question de fiscalité	Clément Roche
Relations avec les membres dans les Bureaux extérieurs, nouveaux adhérents	Abdoulaye Diallo et Venkataraman Narasimhan





## How is the Section organized?

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- Shared responsibilities within the Bureau: retirement, pension, SHIF, taxes, history of the Section, relations with other retiree associations, etc.
- Part-time Administrative Assistants (Marianne Stämpfli and Nicole Vallée) and volunteers (article translators, proofreaders, revisers) helping with a range of tasks
- **An office in the ILO, located close to the Union secretariat (6-77)**
- Two PCs with internet connection
- A new web page: <http://www.anciens-bit-ilo.org>





## How do we work?

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- The Bureau of the Former Officials' Section meets at ILO headquarters (office 6-71, sixth floor) twice a month, on Wednesday afternoons
- Every Tuesday morning we are available in the office (6-77) between 10 am and 12 noon to meet members (by appointment: 0041 22 799 6423; [anciens@ilo.org](mailto:anciens@ilo.org)) and undertake secretariat work
- Replying to individual emails and letters is a priority
- We will be pleased to help with your query (see shared responsibilities above)



## Why become a member of the Former Officials' Section?

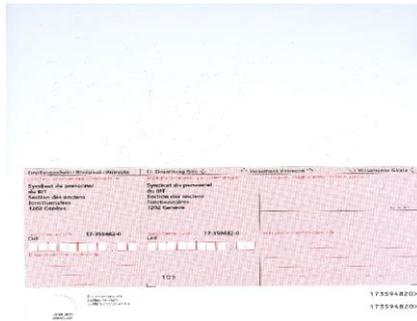
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- Join the defence on topics of common interest: future of the health insurance scheme (SHIF), your pension, etc.
- Have more influence as part of a pressure group on issues of mutual concern
- Keep up to date with questions of direct interest to you, both in general and on a personal level (trends in pension, health insurance, tax, etc.)
- Stay in touch and maintain solidarity with your former colleagues
- Improved communication among the family of former officials (through *Message* newsletter plus internet and other electronic media)



## How do I become a member of the Former Officials' Section?

**Step 1:  
Pay your  
(lifetime) fee  
of CHF 300  
into the bank**



## How do I become a member of the Former Officials' Section?

**Step 2:  
At the same  
time, return the  
application form  
to the Secretariat  
of the Section**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECTION  
OF FORMER OFFICIALS OF THE IAEA**

Please complete all items and return to the following address:

Section of Former Officials  
IAEA, Route 100, CH-3003 Bern, Switzerland  
Telephone: (022) 799 04 23, Fax: (022) 799 82 71; e-mail: section@iaea.org

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Given name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ (for internal use only)  
 ILO official from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (for internal use only)

Telephone:  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax:  \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail:  \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the above boxes if you do not wish to have this information published in the annual List of Members.

I would like to:  
 \* become a life member making a one-time payment of 300 Swiss francs (the local office will be developing countries 50 Swiss francs)  
 \* become a supporting member (active officials) making a one-time payment of 100 Swiss francs (for local office staff in developing countries 20 Swiss francs) (notwithstanding their own contribution as active member)  
 \* Other use which is applicable

In order to debit bank and postal collection charges, PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING  
**WAYS OF PAYMENT:**  
 \* Bank: cantonal, Geneva N° K 365 383 7 ; IBAN CH 04 9078 8000  
 BEGEGROENX  
 \* via Geneva postal account N° 15-359485 8 (using the attached booklet).

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## How do I become a member of the Former Officials' Section?

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### Step 3: Receive your Membership Card



## Our newsletter: *Message* to Former ILO Officials

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- *Message* is published twice a year and distributed to all former officials (and surviving spouses) worldwide
- Editor Ivan Elsmark works with an active network of contributors, translators and proofreaders
- The information in *Message*'s articles reflects the concerns of readers in their daily lives, as well as covering the ILO's current activities, its past and those who made its history
- Articles and translations are produced on a voluntary basis by members of the Section: all contributions are welcome





## What did we do during the past year (2015/16)?

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- The Section continued to work closely both with the SUC and with AAFI-AFICS on topics of mutual interest
- We prepared the Annual Information Meeting of the Section, scheduled on 19 October 2016, and will maintain a close eye on the Pension Fund's new IT and communication system (with the participation of Alan Blythe, Chief of the Geneva Office of the UNJSPF)
- The 2015 Annual Information Meeting discussed health issues
- We attended the two annual receptions for retirees (at the invitation of HRD), in May and December, with the participation of the Director General







## What did we do during the past year (2015/16)?

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- *Annual Information Meeting: 17 June 2015*
- 1. Keeping active and healthy: Presentation by Stéphane Birchmeier, Activities Director of **Cité Seniors de Genève**: conferences, workshops, visits and outings, exhibitions, etc. (40 minutes)
- Raynald Dubuis, President of the **Sports and Leisure Association of the ILO** (20 minutes): activities open to retirees



## What did we do during the past year (2015/16)?

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- *Annual information meeting: 17 June 2015*
- **2. Staff Health Insurance Fund** (60 minutes): SHIF status report. With Jean-François Santarelli, Chairperson, Management Committee; Mireille Ecuillon and Pierre Sayour, elected representatives; and Florian Léger, SHIF Executive Secretary
- **3. Information on the Pension Fund.** With Pierre Sayour, Joint Staff Pension Board, plus other questions (30 minutes)
- **4. Informal discussion, 4:30-5:30:** coffee, tea and pastries provided





## The ILO art club: Cercle Arts et décoration

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- Revived in 2014 following the death of its founding Chairperson
- Comes under the aegis of the Former Officials' Section
- Thirty members: open to both active and retired staff and their families
- Held an exhibition in the Hall of Colonnades in October 2015
- Another exhibition scheduled for the second half of October 2016







## What do we need to improve?

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- Work to enlist the majority of ILO retirees as members of the Section in order to strengthen our representation
- Improve communication between members, using internet and email
- Boost members' involvement in the activities of the Section
- Enhance the performance of the Bureau, and get more retired staff involved



## Current challenges?

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- The various issues surrounding the SHIF, in particular the audit ordered by the Director General in the spring of 2016
- The Section wrote to the DG in May to raise specific questions about the SHIF and call for all parties concerned to participate in the audit (including the SHIF Management Committee, the Staff Union Committee and the Former Officials' Section) Staff Union Committee
- After the referendum, we wrote to the SHIF Executive Secretary to request an actuarial study of the Fund



## A website for the Section?

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- We decided in the spring of 2016 to create our own web page to facilitate communication with members ([www.anciens-bit-ilo.org](http://www.anciens-bit-ilo.org))
- A working group was set up to build the web page with active participation by a webmaster (Azéddine Sefrioui, ILO retired staff member). The other members of the working group are Cherry Thompson-Senior, Kitty Hooton (responsible for managing the page) and François Kientzler
- The web page has now been rolled out online



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## ILO Pre-retirement Seminar

***THANK YOU VERY MUCH!***