Compte-rendu de la Réunion avec les membres de la Section 21 octobre 2026

It had been two years since the Section's Executive Bureau had interacted in person with its members, and many events had taken place during that time, notably affecting the ILO financially. These events inevitably and indirectly impacted the Section of Former ILO Officials, which had to innovate and reinvent itself to continue its activities.

The Bureau therefore decided it was time to update and engage with its members through a new hybrid format: a two-hour in-person meeting in an ILO conference room for members wishing to attend in person, as well as a virtual meeting for all members residing in other countries.

This first attempt was a success, as approximately 50 members attended in person and about 30 others joined online.

By way of introduction, Séverine Deboos, President of the ILO Staff Union (of which the Section is a part), spoke with deep emotion about the hardships currently being endured by the Organization's active staff.

The meeting was then scheduled to cover three main topics:

- **A presentation of the Section's activities,** during which several members of the Executive Board responsible for the relevant issues explained
    - o the impact of the organization's financial situation on the Section;
    - o the implications of the Section's revised bylaws;
    - o improvements and changes in communication;
    - o the Section's financial situation and membership numbers;
    - o the status of the pension issue;
    - changes to access to Headquarters following the establishment of a security perimeter around the ILO.

- **Information on the new amendments proposed by SHIF**

SHIF Secretary, Florian Léger, was invited to explain the main proposed changes and answered questions from members. The Bureau then informed the members of its support for these amendments.

As elections for insured persons' representatives on the Management Committee are currently underway, the Bureau introduced the three candidates running for these positions and strongly encouraged all insured persons to vote. It also thanked Mireille Ecuvillon, who served for more than 30 years as a representative of the insured—first as an active member and later as a retiree—on the SHIF Management Committee.

- **Information on interactions with the various federations and associations to which the Section belongs.**

To be effective and have a voice in the various forums addressing issues important to retirees, the Section must be active and present in the various umbrella organizations or federations of international civil servants.

Several members of the Executive Board thus outlined the organizational structure of these various federations and explained why it is important—both collectively and individually—to participate in them.

Information was therefore provided on AFICS and FAFICS (the only retirees' federation represented in New York at the Joint Pension Committee).

NGOs are also doing significant work within the International Committee on Human Rights to bring about an international convention on the rights of older persons.

The Section will also participate for the first time in late October in the Conference of Retirees of International Civil Servants' Associations (CRAIO), which brings together not only associations from the United Nations system but also all international organizations (NATO, EPO, EC, OECD, etc.). A report will be available soon.

The meeting concluded with a question-and-answer session and was followed by a friendly reception, which was greatly appreciated by the members, since the reception for retirees, organized by the Director General, will not take place this year..