

# Former FAO and Other UN Staff Association

Associazione dei Pensionati della FAO e di altre Organizzazioni delle Nazioni Unite



## Newsbrief 108 July 2019

### 49th FFOA General Assembly 29 May 2019

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The 49th Session of the FFOA General Assembly was held on Wednesday, 29 May 2019, at the headquarters of the World Food Programme. Mr Edward Seidler, FFOA President, welcomed participants. The meeting was webcast and was well attended in Rome by 158 members and a number of special guests. Mr Bronek Szynalski, a former WFP Senior Officer, was elected as the Presiding Officer of the meeting.

Statements on behalf of their respective Executive Heads to express appreciation for the excellent collaboration with FFOA were delivered by Mr Manoj Juneja, WFP Assistant Executive Director and CFO, Mr Laurent Thomas, FAO Deputy Director General, Operations, and Mr Pierre Moreau-Peron, IFAD Director of Human Resources.

Mr Sudhir Rajkumar, Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Investments, and Mr Alan Blythe, Director of the Geneva Office of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) provided brief overviews of the Fund's performance and measures to improve efficiency for beneficiaries, including reducing the time for paying survivor benefits, simplification of required documentation (self-certification) and easier navigation of the website.



Photo credits:  
FFOA Executive Committee Member  
A. Van Arkadie

Giuliano Pucci, Vice President FFOA; Edward Seidler, President FFOA; Bronek Szynalski, FFOA GA Presiding Officer; Georgia Shaver, Vice President FFOA

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## A Word from the President on Behalf of Your Executive Committee

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On 29 May, FFOA held its Annual General Meeting at WFP headquarters. It was very well attended; more on the Assembly can be found in this Newsbrief.

Your Executive Committee has been fully engaged in monitoring and commenting on the tender preparation for the Medical Insurance Plans which, this time around, will see WFP tendering on its own and FAO, IFAD and ICCROM tendering together. The split of WFP from the joint tendering of the Rome-based agencies' medical plans was deeply regretted by FAO, IFAD and FFOA. The staff bodies strongly objected to this move, and the subject was also raised at the FFOA annual Assembly.

I am sorry to have to report that communication between FFOA and FAO on a number of issues is far from perfect, with either delayed or no responses to FFOA queries; this is most frustrating and we hope for improvement after August. Collaboration with WFP, while better than with FAO, could also be improved. FFOA will continue to seek clarifications from FAO, IFAD and WFP on issues of concern to its membership.

FFOA was represented at the annual FAFICS Council Meeting in Vienna in July by me along with Alan Prien. We proposed Marco Breschi for a second term as President of FAFICS.

Finally, I would like to wish all FFOA members and their families, on behalf of myself and all of the Executive Committee, a healthy, safe and enjoyable summer period.

**Edward Seidler**  
President

### Newsbrief 108

July 2019

Newsbrief, the FFOA official quarterly edition, is produced in English and Italian and is distributed free to all members, electronically to those who have internet access, and in print to those who do not. Newsbrief (current and back issues) is also available on the FFOA website: [www.ffoa-web.org](http://www.ffoa-web.org). Suggestions or contributions from members are welcome.

Editor: **P. Nelson**  
Newsbrief coordinator: **G. Paganelli**  
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Manoj Juneja, Assistant Executive Director WFP; Pierre Moreau-Peron, HR Director IFAD; Susan Murray, General Secretary UGSS; Gianni Monciotti, Treasurer FFOA; Webber Ndoro, Director General ICCROM

Mr Marco Breschi, President of the Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants (FAFICS), informed the Assembly of the FAFICS priorities in relation to the Pension Fund.

Ms Susan Murray, General Secretary of the Union of General Service Staff (UGSS) FAO/WFP addressed the meeting on behalf of AP-in-FAO, WFP-PSA, the IFAD Staff Association and UGSS.

A resolution proposed by Mr Mauro Pace regretting the premium setting by FAO without any prior consultations with staff and retirees was tabled and approved by acclamation.

The Assembly also expressed concern over the decision by WFP to tender separately from the other Rome-based agencies - FAO, IFAD and ICCROM - for medical insurance services. FFOA's President reaffirmed the Executive Committee's pledge to work for the interests of all members, and reminded everyone to contribute to the collection for the old folk's home.

Attendees observed a moment of silence to honour all serving and retired United Nations staff who passed away during the year, and recalled the Ethiopian Airlines crash that took the lives of 19 staff members.

The Assembly was followed by a lunch jointly offered by FFOA and Allianz Worldwide Care.

After lunch, Ms Anissa Maaref-Wilson made a presentation on Allianz Worldwide Care, and Professor Francesco Falez from the Centro Diagnostico Ostiense spoke about maintaining healthy bones. Mr John Levins, Chair of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund Board gave an overview of the Fund and future trends. The FAFICS President, Mr Marco Breschi, spoke briefly on the work and conclusions of the United Nations working group on After Service Health Insurance (ASHI), followed by Mr Sabatino Salvi, FFOA, who spoke briefly on internal matters.

The Provisional report of the General Assembly will be sent to all members, together with Newsbrief 109, in November 2019.

## PENSION MATTERS

(Responsible: A. Prien, A. Fusco Femiano)

At FFOA's General Assembly at WFP in May, we had the pleasure of hosting the Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for Investments, Mr Sudhir Rajkumar, and Mr Alan Blythe, the Director of the Geneva Pension Fund office.

Mr Rajkumar told us that the investments of our funds were stable, saying that: "2018 turned out to be a challenging year in global financial markets. Investment

returns for global equities were around *minus* 8.7 percent, the worst performance in any year since the Global Financial Crisis of 2008. Investment returns during December 2018 were the worst for that month in any year since 1931. Despite those challenges, coupled with increasing market volatility, the market value of the assets of the Fund remained above the ‘Actuarial Assets Value’ of USD 60.4 billion, at USD 60.8 billion. This ‘Actuarial Assets Value’ was used by our Consulting Actuary in their most recent report to determine that the Fund’s financial condition is sound. It is important for the Fund’s stakeholders, including our 207,000 current and future beneficiaries, to note that estimations of the Fund’s financial well-being are made by external experts using very conservative assumptions, including smoothing the market value of the Fund’s assets over five years, which adjusts for the expected volatility of global financial markets. Underlining the fact that volatility is an enduring feature of global financial markets, the market value of the Fund’s assets has already bounced back to USD 65.9 billion as of a couple of weeks ago.” His full statement is on the FFOA website if you wish to read more.

Mr Blythe brought us up to date on administrative matters, including the appointment of an Acting CEO, Ms Dunn Lee, to replace Mr Sergio Arvizú, who has left the Pension Fund. Recruitment is underway for a new permanent head of our Pension Fund. More details can be found on the FFOA website.

The next meeting of the Pension Board will be held in Nairobi in July where our six pensioners’ representatives will be led by Mr Marco Breschi, FAFICS President and former FFOA General Secretary.

### **Certificates of Entitlement (CEs)**

Retirees should have received their Certificates of Entitlement (CEs) to complete and return to the Pension Fund.

All retirees and beneficiaries, whose benefit is NOT paid on the two-track, have the option to access their annual CE form online in their UNJSPF Member Self-Service (MSS) section under “documents”, where they can view and print their barcoded 2019 CE form.

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## **Medical Insurance**

(Responsible: E. Seidler )

NewsFlash 26 on ASMC Premiums was sent to members on 4 April, detailing the conclusions of our Coffee Morning meeting with the FAO HR Director on 3 April and attended by some 100 FFOA members, and by some non-members. Responding to FFOA’s continued actions challenging the legitimacy of increased ASMC premiums targeting only FAO retirees, FAO announced an error in premium calculations and informed that premiums would be recalculated to conform to the premium formula announced in Administrative Circular 2018/1. Furthermore, FAO decided to cancel any retroactive premium amounts for the period January 2018 to February 2019.

FFOA continues to follow up with FAO to resolve premium inquiries from some members and to obtain confirmation that premiums being levied are in strict conformity with those announced in AC 2018/1. We also continue to seek clarification as to whether WFP and IFAD retirees are to be exempted from retroactive premium payments, as is the case for FAO.

FFOA has been involved in the preparation of the two medical insurance tenders - one for FAO/IFAD/ICCROM, and a separate tender for WFP staff and retirees. FFOA's objective, together with the staff bodies, has been to ensure that existing coverage and benefits are bettered or at least maintained. Transparency and consultation have been good with respect to the FAO/IFAD tender, but less so with WFP. The



invitations to tender went out in June, with offers evaluated in July-August, and with announcement of the successful bidder expected in early September.

Members should be aware that while Allianz is obligated to settle medical claims for two years after December 2019 for claims from January 2018 to December 2019, if they are not retained as insurance provider, settlements will likely be slower than at present. Members should endeavour to submit their claims promptly during 2019.

- Maria Pilar Buzzetti (30 years of age) from Italy, duty station Rome
- Virginia Chimenti (26 years of age) from Italy, duty station Rome
- Harina Hafitz (59 years of age) from Indonesia, duty station Rome
- Zhen-Zhen Huang (46 years of age) from China, duty station Rome
- Michael Ryan (39 years of age) from Ireland, duty station Rome
- Djordje Vdovic (53 years of age) from Serbia, duty station Bangkok, on assignment to Rome

## News from the UN Organizations

### FAO

The 41st Session of the FAO Conference was held at FAO headquarters from Saturday, 22 June, to Saturday, 29 June. The Election of the new Director-General was held on Sunday, 23 June; Mr Qu Donyu of China has been elected as the new Director General.

### IFAD

At FFOA's General Assembly, IFAD's Director of Human Resources, Mr Pierre Moreau-Peron, made a strong statement, *inter alia* lamenting WFP's decision to go on their own for the next health insurance tender. FFOA's former President, Mr Alan Prien, joined him in condemning and questioning that decision (as we had done when we first heard of WFP's intentions). However, WFP would not budge, so IFAD is now leading the tendering process for FAO and IFAD, in the able hands of Mr Sandro Luzzietti. FFOA is heavily involved in both processes.

### WFP

We mourn the seven WFP staff members who lost their lives in the Ethiopian Airlines tragedy on 10 March 2019.

- Ekta Adhikari (28 years of age) from Nepal, whose duty station was Addis Ababa

We also mourn the loss of our colleagues from other United Nations agencies, and all of those who died in the crash. Among them was Victor Tsang, a former WFP employee who moved to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The recently issued Global Report on Food Crises states that in 2018, 113 million people in 53 countries experienced acute hunger requiring urgent food, nutrition and livelihood assistance. That represents a slight improvement over 2017 hunger figures, due to changes in climate shocks. The worst food crises in 2018, in order of severity were: Yemen, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, South Sudan and northern Nigeria – these eight countries accounted for two thirds of the total number of people facing acute food insecurity – amounting to nearly 72 million people. The drivers of these food crises are conflict and insecurity, climate shocks and economic turbulence.

Finally, as a result of workforce planning exercises, WFP has recognized the need to address the way short-term contracts, especially Service Contracts, are being used for longer periods than are envisaged in the guidance. Management is committed to ensuring that national employees who perform functions that will be needed in the long term, and for which there is a firm prospect of funding, should work under

long-term contracts with appropriate benefits. For international staff, it has not yet been concluded whether adjustments on the use of short-term contracts are needed, but it is important to find the right balance between core (long-term contracts) and non-core functions (short-term contracts).

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## **News from the Staff Associations**

(Responsible: A. Van Arkadie)

Ms Susan Murray, General Secretary of UGSS-FAO/WFP, in accord with the WFP Professional Staff Association (WFP-PSA), addressed FFOA's General Assembly on behalf of the host Organization Staff Associations, WFP-PSA and UGSS. The customary annual statement is made on behalf of the Rome-based agencies' staff associations of FAO, WFP and IFAD.

"Although we come from different organizations, we all share the same vision of united associations that fully represent staff views and safeguard their rights, interests and wellbeing, while we all also work towards building constructive dialogues and respectful partnerships with the administrations in our organizations," Ms Murray said.

She expressed particular concern from FAO and IFAD staff representatives on WFP's decision to tender independently their new medical schemes, thus breaking away from the traditional joint tender. "This process, which is ongoing, is not without struggle amongst all the stakeholders, as inevitably the result will be higher premiums for staff and retirees in those agencies," she underlined. She expressed hope and trust in FFOA's support to help advocate fairer, more transparent policies and processes, not only relating to staff benefits, but also concerning business models, to help ensure a more motivated and dedicated work force. "Our strength does not just multiply when we work together and support each other on

matters that affect us; we become impossible to ignore" she concluded.

It was indeed heartening to note the presence of representatives from all of the Rome-based agencies' Staff Associations at FFOA's assembly.

AP-in-FAO transmitted results from by-elections held on 30 May for a two-year term. Its Executive Secretariat now includes Mr Jakob Skoet (President), Mr Michael Riggs (Vice President) and Ms Roswitha Baumung (Treasurer). The post of General Secretary, held until the end of May by Mr Juan Coy, is currently vacant.

The newly-elected Committee of the IFAD Staff Association led by IFAD-ISA Chair, Ms Lenyara Fundukova, invited FFOA and representatives of the RBA Staff Associations to a luncheon get-together in April with the objective of exchanging views for further and closer collaboration and to share ISA's Vision and Priorities for 2019-2020.

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## **News from the Executive Committee**

### **49th FFOA General Assembly**

Organising the annual FFOA General Assembly is always a long process lasting at least five months. Checklists are updated in January and the President, Vice President and Treasurer, along with FFOA office staff, begin the process to prepare and translate the documentation, updating guest lists and ensuring that members from the host organisation identify a Presiding Officer.

Although the agenda has been more or less the same each year, we like to get confirmation as early as possible from those representing the Pension Fund and Social Security, including the medical health insurer, and those representing the heads of the Rome-based agencies and the staff representatives. This year we introduced a proposal to amend the Articles of the Association and we were also requested to

introduce from the floor a resolution for approval requiring us to adjust the schedule accordingly.

The afternoon session is normally determined closer to the meeting date. This year we were fortunate to have as guests the President of FAFICS and the Chair of the Pension Committee, and Allianz again brought a medical doctor to make a presentation on health issues of interest to our membership. Our presenters addressed many topics of interest resulting in a lively conversation among the membership and the Executive Committee.

FFOA was also able to host a free lunch thanks to a contribution from Allianz. Now that the Assembly is over, the checklist may have been temporarily filed, but starting in January the process will begin all over again. We thank colleagues from WFP for their superb organisation of the event and lunch. **We look forward to meeting in 2020 at IFAD.**

### **Summer Closure of the FFOA Office**

The FFOA office will be closed from Thursday, 1 August through Saturday, 31 August for the usual summer holiday. It will reopen on Monday, 2 September. Please note that messages will not be read on a regular basis during this time and responses may be delayed. Have a nice summer!

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## **News from the FFOA Advisory Committees**

### **Membership**

(Responsible: M. de Gaay Fortman, A. Bertini, R. Fenix, G. Monciotti, P. Pace, G. Shaver, A. Wolf)

One of the major objectives of the Membership Advisory Committee is to get a more equitable distribution of members from the three Rome-based agencies in the Association. It is felt that this would also result in a more equal representation

from the three Agencies in the Executive Committee.

Today there are 100+ members from IFAD, almost 200 from WFP, almost 300 from other UN agencies, and about 1600 members from FAO in our Association. In the last elections, 10 members were elected from FAO, one from WFP and none from IFAD, although there were other candidates from WFP and IFAD among the 17 nominations for the EC. Upon recommendation by the Executive Committee (EC), a proposal to amend the statutes to the effect that at least one member from each of the three agencies should be automatically on the EC was unanimously adopted at the General Assembly on 29 May 2019. It was also proposed that the EC should review the entire election process and come with detailed proposals for the election procedure.

The Membership Committee met recently in a new composition and felt that increased visibility of FFOA at WFP and IFAD could contribute to an increase of members coming from those agencies. Currently, discussions are ongoing with WFP management as to the possibilities to have occasional Coffee Mornings at WFP, while the intention is also to have a Duty Officer residing at WFP in order to advise WFP future pensioners on issues related to their retirement.

We have decided that we will continue with the Pre-Retirement Service Programme (PRSP), which gives future retirees the opportunity to make use of the services being provided by FFOA 18 months prior to their retirement. A simple email addressed to FFOAPRSP@gmail.com with the request to join the PRSP will do. Participants will receive the FFOA Newsbrief and all services free of charge. FFOA members may wish to advise their colleagues at the three Rome-based agencies of this opportunity.

## Social Support and Recreational Activities

(Responsible: J. Smidt, B. Pisani, A. Van Arkadie, M. De Gaay Fortman, M. Saleheen, S. Salvi)

### Previous activities

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| March | Orvieto Sotterranea Festa di San Patrizio<br>Villa Poppea<br>Percorso di Caravaggio a Roma<br>I Castelli della Teverina e il Paese delle Fiabe<br>Parco Nazionale del Circeo – Visita in un vivaio mozzafiato<br>Reggia di Caserta e dei suoi giardini<br>Art Exhibition – omaggio alla Grecia         |
| April | Pompei, Scavi, Nuove Scoperte: Leda e il Cigno, Narciso<br>San Galgano e Spada nella Roccia<br>Iran<br>Castelli a guardia della via Francigena e le terre di confine<br>Ninfa e Sermoneta<br>Pasquetta tra i boschi e le praterie della montagna<br>Molisana<br>Theatre in English “Maggie ‘n’ Brigid” |
| May   | Bulgaria, in occasione della fioritura delle rose<br>Transiberiana d’Abruzzo   |
| June  | Ventotene e Isola di S. Stefano<br>Ponza, Palmarola e Zannone<br>Albania<br>Pozzuoli e Procida   |

### Upcoming Activities

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| July, August, September | Ponza  |
| July                    | Giglio e Giannutri                             |
| August/September        | New York, Philadelphia, Lancaster e Washington |
| September               | Georgia  |

|               |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| September/Oct | Madagascar, Parchi del Sud e Mare |
| October       | Morocco                           |
| November      | Israel                            |

Should you be interested in these upcoming trips please contact the FFOA Office for further information.

### Monthly Coffee Mornings

(Responsible: A. Van Arkadie, J. Smidt)

Organized and held first Wednesday of each month at FAO headquarters, the event continues to grow in popularity. One or more Guest Speakers give an introductory talk followed by a friendly, lively and informative question and answer session. FFOA’s April Coffee Morning was addressed by Mr Fernando Servan, Director of Human Resources (FAO) and his Social Security team, attracting well over 100 members and prospective retirees. Much of the discussion centred on “FAO’s deductions for medical insurance”.

For FFOA’s Coffee Morning in May, we had representatives from the FAO CASA Coop who spoke of possible added benefits and welfare services for RBA retirees with emphasis on the aged, infirm and single. The Guest Speaker for our June coffee morning is former FFOA Executive Committee member, Mr Bronek Szynalski, currently Honorary Chairman of the WFP Alumni Network, and who was also Presiding Officer at the FFOA General Assembly in May of this year.

### Before & After

An updated version of the publication entitled “Before & After” can be obtained from the FFOA Office. You can also request the Office to forward the publication to you by e-mail.

### Documents

FFOA wishes to advise our members to always have available, with your personal



Papers, copies of your birth certificate and, if married, your marriage certificate. These are important papers for a range of administrative actions. Additionally, not having these certificates could slow down the payment of a survivor's benefit because those documents would need to be provided along with a death certificate and revised payment instructions (form Pens.E/2). A booklet on Survivor's Benefits is available from FAO Social Security Unit, Room D 341.

### **FFOA Emergency Fund**

Should you need temporary urgent support in view of a difficult situation, please contact the Chairperson of the FFOA Emergency Fund, Ms Joan Smidt ([joan\\_smidt@libero.it](mailto:joan_smidt@libero.it)).

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## **Your Good Health**

### **Third and Fourth Age, a theory**

Peter Laslett (1915-2001), a British historian, established his rather positive aging theory of the Third Age in the 1980s. According to Laslett's theory (1987, 1991), one's life consists of four ages. The respective ages have the following characteristics:

*First Age:* an era for dependence, socialization, immaturity and learning

*Second Age:* an era for independence, maturity, responsibility and working

*Third Age:* an era for personal achievement and fulfilment after retirement

*Fourth Age:* an era for the final dependence, decrepitude and death

### **What is the Third Age?**

In Laslett's theory, one's life comprises four ages, culminating in the Third Age. The phrase Third Age came from French universities, les Universités du Troisième Age (the Universities of the Third Age), which since the 1970s have offered study opportunities to relatively healthy and active seniors.

Laslett (1987) mentioned that the Third Age was generally an era after retirement *with health, vigour and, positive attitude to have the Third Age*, except for particular cases. He also described that the Third Age emerged in only developed countries with both population aging and excellent economic conditions.

Previously, most researchers tended to conduct their aging studies focused on negative viewpoints, such as decline in mental and physical function. Laslett's positive theory of the Third Age, however, prevailed rapidly among developed countries, and other researchers conducted positive aging studies (e.g. effects of social activities, including learning, in the Third Age – Saddler – 2006).

(Extracted from "Third Age Community" arranged by Sabatino Salvi, FFOA)

The Fourth Age theory will be published in the next Newsbrief.

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## **News from the Membership**

### **Feedback from an FFOA member regarding her trip to Iran**

FFOA organized a trip to Iran (8-18 April 2019) in which Ms Joke Sipkes, FAO retiree, participated. You will find below her positive feedback.

We travelled to Iran from 8 to 18 April, on a tour accompanied by Laura Maioli (Curiosando). Ancient Persia has some 5,000 years of culture within its borders. Herewith are a few highlights of our journey, apart from Teheran: Isfahan, with its unique Sheikh Lotfollah Mosque, has stunning palaces, gardens, bazaars and gorgeous bridges. Yazd, nicknamed the "City of Wind catchers", founded by Zarathustra, is home to Iran's oldest religious community and their Zoroastrian fire temples. Shiraz, ancient capital famous for its poets, flower gardens and elegant bazaars, is one of the most



beautiful cities in Southern Iran. Its young students showed a vivid interest in talking to people from different countries. Persepolis, founded in 515 BC to host important celebrations and foreign delegations, is one of the world's most amazing archaeological sites with its imposing palaces, entrances, columns and friezes. Persepolis alone was worth the trip in my view. The excursion to the desert came as a welcome surprise.

Our group consisted of some 20 persons from almost 10 different countries, which made travelling together very stimulating. No doubt all of us greatly enjoyed the trip, also thanks to our tour leader's watchful eye.

## **Share Your Ideas on Happy Retirement!**

### **The Life of a Happy Retiree**

(by Guy Nantel, FAO retiree, ESN/Nutrition Division)

I retired on 1 February 2007. Ten days of skiing in Switzerland to celebrate retirement followed, and then packing and organizing for the return home to Quebec, Canada, to my hobby farm (65 acres and a renovated 100 year old farmhouse), which had been rented out for my nearly 11 years at FAO. I became occupied with maintenance of

the property with its 5 km of hiking trails and 25 acres of arable land (with a 1962 Massey Ferguson TO35 and a bush hog, for the aficionados), and with the spring and fall routines after and before winters. The paths became snowshoe trails in winter (guaranteed cardiovascular exercise)! I found a friend with an interest in fishing, and we became fishing partners for numerous expeditions. I have also held downhill ski passes every year since retirement and I continue to ski, usually with my fishing partner.

I became a founding member of a hiking group in 2007 (minimum of one hour of hiking each week, followed by coffee and a chat). On a number of occasions, the group made use of my hiking trails. This social group led to interest in local politics and volunteer work, all of which has been most enjoyable (and time consuming). I eventually bought a small camping trailer and travelled across the country over two summer seasons, once towards the west (Vancouver) and then towards the east (Newfoundland).

With time and advancing age (I am now 74), the maintenance and seasonal chores became too laborious; therefore we sold the farm and moved to the center of Montreal to be close to museums, concerts, theatre and other attractions. So here I am, moving around by walking and cycling, and when that is not possible, there is the bus and the metro. The car is used almost exclusively to go outside of town. Montreal is a modern city with numerous cultural activities and life is most enjoyable. And so continues my retirement...

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## **New Members**

A hearty welcome to our Members who have recently joined the FFOA:

Alonzi, Ms Anna  
Anibaldi, Mr Stefano  
Arcieri, Ms Vanda  
Benassi, Ms Anna Rosa  
Berivi, Ms Barbara

Bhattacharjee, Ms Lalita  
 Carugno, Ms Manuela  
 Cavalieri, Mr José  
 Cimino, Ms Giulia  
 Cinellu-Lay, Ms Maria Gabriella  
 Corona, Mr Raffaele  
 De Clementi, Ms Laura  
 De Fabio-Stasio, Ms Bruna  
 De Meo-Corona, Ms Gabriella  
 Di Rienzo, Ms Sandra  
 El Chafai, Ms Mervat  
 Fanlo Martin, Mr Jorge  
 Freiha, Mr Jean  
 Gallanan, Ms Anne  
 Galvan, Ms Ana Maria  
 Glendenning, Ms Carina Victoria  
 Kambirigi, Ms Liliane  
 Kamdong-Landi, Ms Marie Louise  
 Kulkarni, Ms Savita  
 Latini, Ms Emanuela

Mori, Ms Donatella  
 Mortera, Ms Dominique  
 Pavoni, Ms Rossana  
 Pintore, Ms Mariella  
 Pistella, Ms Germana  
 Raney, Ms Terri Lynn  
 Ricciardi, Ms Carla G.  
 Srivastava, Mr Muresh Kumar  
 Tanieri-Abur, Ms Aysen  
 Thalassinou, Ms Maria  
 Toczek, Mr Jozef  
 Valentino Torquati, Ms Cristina  
 Van Orden, Mr Peter  
 Zein, Mr Selim

All retirees ought to join the Association to  
 support its work representing the pensioners,  
 and for their own interest, and should encourage  
 their ex-colleagues to join!

## IN MEMORIAM

Dantone-Baccaro, Ms Maria Settima  
 1 January 2017  
 Hamblin, Mr Foster B.  
 1 March 2017  
 Letourneau, Mr Leo  
 1 June 2018  
 Muratori, Mr Aldo  
 1 October 2018  
 Monrufet, Ms Claudia  
 1 January 2019  
 Campanella, Ms Francesca  
 22 January 2019  
 Santocori, Ms Nello  
 28 January 2019

Dall, Mr Hans  
 2 February 2019  
 Fortuna, Mr Riziero  
 21 February 2019  
 Capitani Tafuri, Ms Vera  
 18 April 2019  
 Manfredi Frattarelli, Ms Paola  
 15 May 2019  
 Barner, Ms Françoise  
 22 May 2019  
 Binet, Mr François  
 2 June 2019  
 Meynardi, Ms Angela  
 19 June 2019

On behalf of all the members of the FFOA, we express heartfelt sympathy to their families  
 and friends.

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## About FFOA

Since 1971, FFOA has worked to advance the interests of pensioners from United Nations Agencies based in Italy, regardless of where they spend their retirement. FFOA is based at FAO Headquarters in Rome and has a growing global membership numbering more than 2,300 pensioners from FAO, IFAD, WFP, ICCROM, etc. from all staff categories.

### Representation

FFOA officially represents retiree interests in formal relations with management of FAO, IFAD and WFP. We have a place at the table in all retiree-relevant discussions. FFOA is also active in the Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants (FAFICS), which joins 63 associations like ours to represent pensioners at the UN System level.

### Support

FFOA works to improve retirement benefits – particularly pensions and medical insurance – and to protect the interests of the membership as a whole. We also respond to individual requests from members for assistance, guidance or referral on issues associated with retirement and ageing in general (all services are provided by members on a voluntary basis). Members are informed of developments in areas of concern by our Newsbrief, by our website and direct contact by post (including e-mail).

### Camaraderie

FFOA promotes contact and social and intellectual exchange among its members, through a web-based discussion forum, and a wide range of cultural and social activities. Colleagues and friends in the Rome area gather at FAO on the first Wednesday of

each month for “Coffee Morning” – drop in if you’re in the neighbourhood!

### Helping those in need

Being a pensioner can be difficult and lonely. Volunteers from FFOA are available to support members in distress over the phone, or to organize home visits. FFOA also offers small no-interest loans (maximum 1,500 Euro) to meet short-term emergency requirements.

### Service

Even after a career of service, UN pensioners remain interested in and committed to development issues, and continue to support the objectives of their former employer. FFOA attends key meetings and events at Rome headquarters, shares updates with members on key activities and achievements in the UN System, and provides direct support as well.

### Keep up with FFOA and retiree colleagues

Stay informed on the latest developments on important issues for retirees via the FFOA website: [www.ffoa-web.org](http://www.ffoa-web.org). Register on the website to ensure you always receive the latest information, and stay in touch with distant friends and former colleagues.

### Join FFOA!

Adding your voice helps make the Association stronger and more impactful. Annual FFOA membership is 25 Euro; a life membership is 375 Euro. There is one-time registration fee of 10 Euro. Follow the link to download a membership application: [www.ffoa-web.org/eligibility-for-membership](http://www.ffoa-web.org/eligibility-for-membership), write to [ffoa@fao.org](mailto:ffoa@fao.org), or phone the FFOA desk at (+39) 06-5705 5623 / 5705 6016.