

Former FAO and Other UN Staff Association

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



Newsbrief 115
December 2021

A Word from the President on Behalf of Your Executive Committee

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We are coming to the end of another year with the COVID-19 pandemic still prevalent in many countries and restrictions on gatherings and movements in place in many. The past year has been worrying and frustrating for many of us and our hope is that 2022 will see a speedy return to some new normalcy.

On 27 October FFOA was again compelled to hold its Annual General Assembly virtually; some 100 members were in attendance to listen to various reports and to be briefed on medical insurance issues by Cigna and the Rome-based Agencies' social security units. The CEO of the UN Joint Pension Fund also made a presentation and the RBAs Staff Associations delivered a statement. Hopefully, next year we will be able to hold the GA with members attending physically.

Your Executive Committee has been working strenuously to support our global membership and notably our members in Italy. The Association remains a key interlocutor with the Rome-based Agencies in all matters of concern to members such as medical insurance, pension issues, various matters related to COVID-19 and access to headquarters buildings and services. News Flashes and Information Notes are circulated to members to keep them updated on various developments and our website is continuously updated with the latest information. Membership remains fairly stable but the recruitment of new members is still required to further strengthen our position. Despite restrictions on physical meetings and the closure of the office, FFOA has still continued to provide individual support to our members through maintaining a phone contact line and through emails in order to respond to individual enquiries. Because of limitations imposed by the pandemic, elections to the Executive Committee have had to be rescheduled to 2022 and your present committee will continue in place until after the elections have been concluded.

I and the Executive Committee wish you and your families a Happy and healthy festive season and a healthy New Year with the hope that we can all meet up in person next year.

Edward Seidler
President

51st FFOA General Assembly, 27 October 2021

Angelika Wolf

Although we had hoped to be able to convene our General Assembly meeting in presence at FAO Headquarters, for the second time we were obliged to hold the 2021 session virtually on Wednesday 27 October. Ms Fernanda Guerrieri, who retired in 2018 from FAO where she had held several senior positions, such as Head of Cabinet of the FAO Director-General and ADG for Corporate Services, to name only a few, was the Presiding Officer of the Assembly. Ms Guerrieri very ably guided the proceedings through the extensive agenda which included the review and approval of the report of the Executive Committee, as well as the financial reports.

For the second consecutive year the Director-General of FAO, Dr Qu Dongyu honoured the Assembly with his presence. He renewed his commitment to engage with FFOA and underlined the valuable contribution of retired staff to the work of FAO, the RBAs



Dr Qu Dongyu, Director-General, FAO



Ms Fernanda Guerrieri, Presiding Officer



Mr Pierre Moreau-Peron, Director HR, IFAD
contact: a.bartolucci@ifad.org (medical insurance)
pension@ifad.org (pension matters)



Mr David Fontana, Chief Health Insurance, WFP
contact: global.insurance@wfp.org (medical insurance)
global.social.security@wfp.org (pension matters)



Ms Shasha You, Social Security Services, FAO
contact: medical-insurance@fao.org (medical insurance)
asmc@fao.org (pension matters)

and the UN system. He stated that retirees were the assets and historical founders of the Organization. He noted that all of FAO's staff, past and current, were part of the FAO family and his country, China, was deeply rooted in family culture. In this regard he referred to a "Mentorship Programme". He wished everyone well and reaffirmed FAO's support to FFOA, which he viewed as an important part of FAO.

With regard to social security matters, the Assembly welcomed Mr Pierre Moreau-Peron, Director of Human Resources of IFAD, Mr

David Fontana, Chief Health Insurance, WFP and Ms Shasha You of FAO Social Security Services. The Social Security representatives of the RBAs reported on their respective efforts to support the retiree community during the COVID pandemic and provided feed-back on Cigna's performance during their second year as health insurance provider. Mr Moreau-Peron expressed the hope that the RBAs would in future return to a common approach regarding the health insurance contract.

Ms Katja Habets, Principal Client Manager of Cigna and her team shared a screen presentation on Cigna, including major areas identified for improvement, followed by a question-and-answer session.

The Assembly was briefed by Angelika Wolf, General Secretary FFOA, on the Association's activities during 2020/2021, in particular the adjustments made in its work programme and working methods in the light of the severe restrictions imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She recalled that although the FFOA office had been closed since March 2020, FFOA managed to continue its work and provide services to its members.



Mr Pino Pace, ExCom member, FFOA



Ms Angelika Wolf, General Secretary, FFOA



Mr Gianni Monciotti, Treasurer, FFOA



Mr Alan Prien, ExCom Member, FFOA



Mr Ed Seidler, President, FFOA

During the entire period members were able to contact FFOA for advice by calling the front office, or via email. Mention was also made of the information on booking vaccination appointments and accessing green passes provided by the Executive Committee since the start of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign in 2021. She reported that FFOA had made enquiries with the RBAs on the reopening of headquarter premises for retirees, hopefully agencies would soon provide a positive response.

Rosemarie McClean, CEO of the UNJSPF, made a presentation on pension matters. She outlined that the Fund's priority was to modernise operations and create a service-oriented Pension Fund. Despite the impact of

COVID-19 on staff and operations, a number of accomplishments were achieved, in particular all services to clients were maintained, the monthly pension payroll was paid on time, 90% of initial pensions were processed within 15 days, and the Member Self-Service Portal and the Digital Certificate of Entitlement (CE) were launched. Ms McClean also indicated that the digital CE system would be simplified and the Fund's website would be revised to make navigation simpler. Mention was also made of the client services functions in the Geneva office teams that would be strengthened. Ms McClean closed her presentation by stating that the Fund was in excellent actuarial health.

Mr Skoet, President of AP in FAO, addressed the Assembly on behalf of the three RBAs' Staff Associations and Unions, reporting on the work and achievements made by the staff representatives in FAO, IFAD and WFP. Mr Skoet reaffirmed the desire of staff representatives for a continued and strengthened cooperation with FFOA. He underlined that it was important to be able to draw on the experience of the members of FFOA and that by working together all of the associations would be strengthened and more effective. Towards the end of the session the



Mr Jakob Skoet, Ap in FAO, President



participating FFOA members

Presiding Officer, Ms Guerrieri informed the Assembly that due to the closure of the FFOA office since March 2020 it had not been possible to access the membership data base and as a consequence it would not be possible to organise the elections for the Executive Committee. The Committee had therefore taken the decision to defer elections until next year when hopefully it would be possible to ensure that all members would be able to vote. The Assembly endorsed the postponement of the election.

Before closing, Assembly observed a moment of silence for the members who had passed away during the course of the year and in particular those who had passed away due to COVID-19.

News from FFOA Advisory Committees

Medical Insurance

Edward Seidler

FFOA has continued to monitor the performance of the medical insurer and claims processor (Cigna) and has taken up issues with the social security/medical units in the three Agencies, as well as directly with Cigna. Cigna held a well-attended briefing webinar, organised by FAO Social Security for staff and retirees in early October. Cigna also made a presentation to the FFOA General Assembly on 27 October; FFOA will organise a further information and briefing webinar for retirees with Cigna early in the new year. Cigna also sent out a client satisfaction survey to be completed by members and we hope that members did complete and returned the questionnaire.

Members are advised to access the Cigna presentations on the FFOA website to gain more information regarding the need for pre-authorisations for individual claims over 400 Euros/Dollars (in-network facilities) and 1000 Euros/Dollars (in out of network facilities) and procedures to obtain Guarantees of Payment (GoP) to clinics/hospitals; pre-authorisations will reduce surprises of limited reimbursements

following the application of Reasonable and Customary (R&C) and the application of 80th or 90th percentiles by Cigna. Premiums in 2021 are the same as last year, but we will be informed in December re premiums for 2022 and will inform members accordingly. Premium increases are capped in each of the RBAs contracts with Cigna.

Pension Matters

Alan Prien

As at 29 October the value of investments in our Pension Fund had climbed to over 89 billion US\$.

The rate of investment returns this year so far has been 9.44%, which is astounding.

The report of the pension board is now before the General Assembly for review.

Some administrative measures are being recommended to reduce the size of the Board, when it meets again with physical attendance, while maintaining the main balances of representation between all parties involved, including representatives of beneficiaries through FAFICS.

Social Support and Recreational Activities

Joan Smidt, Marius de Gaay Fortman, Bruno Pisani, Mohamed Saleheen, Sabatino Salvi, Alex Van Arkadie

Recreational Activities

We are pleased to announce that some of our members have adhered to the following activities proposed for the period July through October 2021.

July to September

Islands of Ponza,
Palmarola and Zannone

July Monte Argentario

Islands of Giglio and Giannutri
Castelluccio di Norcia and Vallo del Nera
Trabucchi and Islands of Tremiti

August

Islands of Giglio and Giannutri
Narni, Sacro Speco di San Francesco and
Borgo di Calvi
Giannutri, hidden treasures
Grotte di Stiffi and Santo Stefano di
Sessanio
Between Lake Garda and the enchanted
valleys of Valsugana
Islands of Giglio and Giannutri
Island of Ponza
Islands of Procida and Pozzuoli

September

Aeolian Islands

October

Rome by Night, Forum of Augustus and
Colosseum
Aqueducts and Waters of Rome
Abbey of Sant'Antimo and Montalcino
Ostia Antica with boat on the Tiber
Casentino, Poppi, Camaldoli and chestnuts
Walking in the Castelli Romani
Torino and the Langhe
Siena
Sicily

Theater in English

25th Sept to 3rd October, 2021

Curtain Up (Comedy)

1st to 3rd October

Calendar Ladies (Comedy)

13th to 21st November

The Oldest Profession

Exhibition

29-30 October

Luce. Vita. Natura

Social Support

As usual we have continued to assist some of our members needing help with various medical and domestic problems.

Membership Advisory Committee (MAC)

Marius de Gaay Fortman (convenor), Alessandro Bertini, Roberta Fenix, Gianni Monciotti, Pino Pace, Georgia Shaver, Angelika Wolf

As there have been changes in our policy on life membership over the last few years, the Executive Committee invited the Membership Committee to clarify the rules related to life membership in this issue of the Newsbrief.

The statutes of our Association refer to life membership in articles 4d) and 5 b), which state that life membership entitles the member to all services normally available to members and entails the payment of a certain amount of fees, as determined and adjusted from time to time by the Executive Committee.

Upon joining the Association, the member who applies for life membership has to pay 15 times the annual fee, which amounts to €375 plus a registration fee of €10. A couple of years ago the Executive Committee decided that members should have the opportunity to take out life membership not only upon joining, but also at a later stage. This decision was based upon the fact that a number of members who had been suspended, as they had been in arrears for more than two years, wanted to rejoin or lift their suspension by paying for the years that they had been in arrears and take out life membership in order to avoid being suspended again should they would forget to pay their annual fees. In order to accommodate these members the Executive Committee decided that members could take out life membership during the first ten years of membership by paying the difference between the years they had already paid for and the 15 years that were payable for life membership. As an example, if eight years' annual fee (€25) had already been paid, the member would have to pay seven times the annual fee, amounting to €175 in order to qualify for life membership. As of the eleventh year of membership, the fee for life membership was fixed at €125.

The opportunity to take out life membership was met with a favourable response

by having more members taking out life membership. As a larger number of life members implies additional savings for our Association, the Executive Committee felt that we should make life membership more attractive by offering the surviving spouse of a life member free membership upon the demise of the partner. The surviving spouse, provided she/he receives a pension from the Pension Fund, should merely fill out an application form and forward a picture to the FFOA secretariat in order to be registered and have access to all the services normally available to members. It is envisaged that this additional advantage will encourage more members to take out life membership.

We would like to urge our annual members to seriously consider taking out life membership in order to give our Association a more solid base.

Renew Your Annual Membership

Renew your Annual Membership by paying €25 in the following ways:

- By bank transfer to the account of FFOA with Banca Intesa San Paolo at the FAO headquarters, IBAN: IT50 T030 6903 3560 0732 637 0137 (BIC: BCITITMM700)
- By bank transfer from your UNFCU account to the UNFCU account of FFOA NO. 10-17710700001
Routing Number 226078609

New Members

The Secretariat

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

Mr Alemayehu Legesse ABEGAZ, WFP
Mr Harold Bernard ANGEL, FAO
Mr Harry Vernon ARCHIBALD, WFP
Ms Josselyne ARELLANO CARDINALI, WFP
Ms Concepcion AYATS CARRERA, FAO
Ms Katalin BALOGH DE GRAAF, FAO

Mr Uwe BARG, FAO
 Ms Claudia CALVINO, FAO
 Mr Vito CISTULLI, FAO
 Ms Susan Catherine CROSS, IFAD
 Ms Marina DE COMELLI, UNESCO/ICTP
 Ms Isabelle DENIS, FAO
 Ms Gloria Katherine DENTON, WFP
 Ms Elaine May DOUGALL, FAO
 Mr Nicolai FREIHERR von STACKELBERG, WFP
 Mr Dario GILMOZZI, FAO
 Mr Christian HAMMER, WFP
 Ms Emilia IACOBUCCI, FAO
 Mr Lennart LJUNGMAN, FAO
 Mr Fabio MOZZILLO, FAO
 Ms Beverley NEW, FAO
 Ms Pilar PAZOS, FAO
 Ms Maria Elisa RECH, FAO
 Ms Eliana RIGGIO, UNICEF
 Mr John Charlton ROWELL, FAO
 Ms Anna STEWART, ICCROM
 Mr Marco SULPRIZIO, FAO
 Mr Anith SUVARNA, WFP
 Ms Patricia Josephine TENDI, FAO
 Mr Anuraag VAID, FAO
 Mr Riccardo VALENTINO, IFAD
 Mr Bart VAN OMMEN, FAO
 Ms Ursula WIELAND CONROY, IFAD
 Ms Nicoletta ZAR, UNESCO/ICTP

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

The Secretariat

On behalf of all the members of the FFOA, we express heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of all those members who have left us.

Ms Barbara M. BANKS, FAO
 27/05/2021
 Mr Everest Santiago FUNES, FAO
 14/09/2021
 Ms Franca MARTELLO, FAO
 31/08/2021

Mr Nicolino MONACI, FAO
 15/08/2021
 Ms Isabella MORETTI, FAO
 21/10/2021
 Mr Aldo SERAFINI, FAO
 28/03/2101 (100 years old) *
 Ms Jeanne-Marie SEVIGNY, FAO
 04/07/2021
 Ms Angela SLINSGSBY BEGNOTTI, FAO
 29/08/2021
 Ms Beatrice SOURY LAVERGNE, FAO
 17/10/2020

*On 15 May 2021 he would have been 101 years old

News from UN Organizations

FAO

Edward Seidler

FAO has had a busy few months organising and holding the UN Food Systems pre-summit from 19 to 21 July in conjunction with the Government of Italy. The event was a hybrid one with physical presence and zoom presence of participants. The actual Summit was held at UN Headquarters in New York on 23 September and focused on setting the stage for global food systems transformation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. World Food Day was held at FAO Headquarters on 16 October and also focused on food systems challenges and transformation.

FAO has finally agreed to restricted access by UN retirees to FAO Headquarters as of 1st November 2021. Retirees will have to apply to FAO Security Services (csis-security-registration@fao.org); once cleared/authorised, retirees will be able to enter from 8am to 11am and will be restricted to the ground floor areas only, where most of the services and bars are located. FAO has decided that it will increase Headquarters occupancy from the present 30 per cent to a maximum 50 per cent for the time being. Building passes will not be reactivated yet and all retirees are required to enter through the entrance pavilion in front of Building A.

WFP

Jamie Wickens

As access to WFP HQs premises continues to be restricted, it is difficult to report on recent developments within the organization; there are, however, a few key issues worth noting:

- The WFP Executive Board met in Rome from 15 to 18 November to consider and approve the next Strategic Plan. The Executive Director's five-year term will come up for renewal in April 2022 and a Global Meeting of all WFP Country Directors will be held in Munich in January 2022.
- The WFP Alumni Network (AN) recently announced the results of its 2021 election to determine the new AN coordinating committee. Mohamed Saleheen and Georgia Shaver received the highest number of votes among the 8-member coordination committee. The AN General Meeting will be held in December 2021.
- FFOA continues to attend the periodic COVID management meetings, chaired by the WFP Deputy Executive Director. Approximately sixty percent of WFP HQ staff (2,400) have been fully vaccinated. Although WFP has established a ceiling of 750 staff presence at HQ, only 350 staff are actually in the office on a regular basis. This situation contrasts starkly with the Field, where staff are for the most part carrying out their jobs back in their country offices.

FAFICS

Marco Breschi

Major developments are taking place in the FAFICS scene. During the last Council session in July this year, the Federation made a clear commitment to bring about long-awaited changes in its Rules of Procedures in very important areas such as the appointment of the Delegation to the Pension Board and the election of officers including the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary and the

Treasurer. The commitment also included the expansion of the ad-hoc Working Group of the Council to include new members representing all regions of FAFICS.

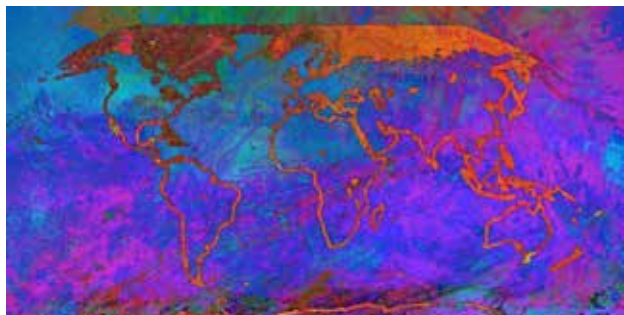
The debate on this subject during Council was intense and productive. The final agreement called for completion of work by the end of this year in time for a special session of the Council early in 2022 to enable the Council to review and debate on the conclusions reached by the Working Group. The aim of the special session is to reach consensus on the new Rules of Procedures and to approve them for immediate implementation.

The Working Group has worked very hard in recent months, while the FAFICS Bureau was monitoring progress on an ongoing basis. It is now expected that the Working Group will report to Council before the end of the year so that the plan of work agreed upon last July could be implemented in the first quarter of 2022. FFOA will be kept informed of progress in the coming months.

The FAFICS Specials session (to be held possibly at the end of February/early March) will review the conclusions of the Governance Working Group of the Pension Board and the resolution of the UN General Assembly regarding the size and composition of the Pension Board. Of particular interest to FAFICS is the size and composition of the FAFICS delegation (the expected outcome is four members and two alternates, the latter with the right to participate only when replacing one of the members). FAFICS expects to continue to participate without voting rights.

Your Good Health

Sabatino Salvi



© Alisa Singer, Changing

For those who could not have a chance to read it herewith the statement of the Secretary-General of UN on Climate Change 2021.

Secretary-General's Statement on the IPCC Working Group 1 Report on the Physical Science Basis of the Sixth Assessment

Today's IPCC Working Group 1 Report is a code red for humanity. The alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable: greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk. Global heating is affecting every region on Earth, with many of the changes becoming irreversible.

The internationally agreed threshold of 1.5 degrees Celsius is perilously close.

We are at imminent risk of hitting 1.5 degrees in the near term. The only way to prevent exceeding this threshold is by urgently stepping up our efforts, and pursuing the most ambitious path.

We must act decisively now to keep 1.5 alive.

We are already at 1.2 degrees and rising. Warming has accelerated in recent decades. Every fraction of a degree counts. Greenhouse gas concentrations are at record levels. Extreme weather and climate disasters are increasing in frequency and intensity. That is why this year's United Nations climate conference in Glasgow is so important.

The viability of our societies depends on leaders from government, business and civil

society uniting behind policies, actions and investments that will limit temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius. We owe this to the entire human family, especially the poorest and most vulnerable communities and nations that are the hardest hit despite being least responsible for today's climate emergency.

The solutions are clear. Inclusive and green economies, prosperity, cleaner air and better health are possible for all if we respond to this crisis with solidarity and courage. All nations, especially the G20 and other major emitters, need to join the net zero emissions coalition and reinforce their commitments with credible, concrete and enhanced Nationally Determined Contributions and policies before COP26 in Glasgow.

We need immediate action on energy. Without deep carbon pollution cuts now, the 1.5-degree goal will fall quickly out of reach. This report must sound a death knell for coal and fossil fuels, before they destroy our planet. There must be no new coal plants built after 2021. OECD countries must phase out existing coal by 2030, with all others following suit by 2040. Countries should also end all new fossil fuel exploration and production, and shift fossil fuel subsidies into renewable energy. By 2030, solar and wind capacity should quadruple and renewable energy investments should triple to maintain a net zero trajectory by mid-century.

Climate impacts will undoubtedly worsen. There is a clear moral and economic imperative to protect the lives and livelihoods of those on the front lines of the climate crisis. Adaptation and resilience finance must cease being the neglected half of the climate equation. Only 21 per cent of climate support is directed towards adaptation. I again call on donors and the multilateral development banks to allocate at least 50 per cent of all public climate finance to protecting people, especially women and vulnerable groups. COVID-19 recovery spending must be aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement. And the decade-old promise to mobilize \$100 billion annually to support mitigation and adaptation in developing countries must be met.

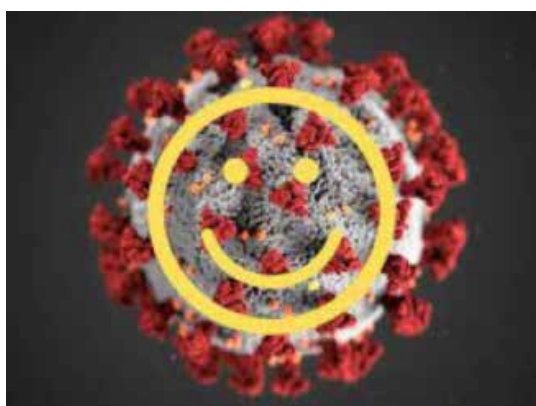
The climate crisis poses enormous financial risk to investment managers, asset

owners, and businesses. These risks should be measured, disclosed and mitigated. I am asking corporate leaders to support a minimum international carbon price and align their portfolios with the Paris Agreement. The public and private sector must work together to ensure a just and rapid transformation to a net zero global economy.

If we combine forces now, we can avert climate catastrophe. But, as today's report makes clear, there is no time for delay and no room for excuses. I count on government leaders and all stakeholders to ensure COP26 is a success.

Font: <https://unfccc.int/news/secretary-general-s-statement-on-the-ipcc-working-group-1-report-on-the-physical-science-basis-of-intergovernmental-panel-on-climate-change-ipcc>
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

News from the Membership



Pandemic Laughter...

(Collected pieces for you)

Mohamed Saleheen

- Never in my wildest dreams have I imagined myself entering a bank, wearing a mask, and asking for money. 😊
- Never thought my hands would one day consume more alcohol than my liver...ever! 😞
- Lock down seems like a Netflix series: just when you think it's over, they release the next season. 😊



- I'm starting to like this mask thing. I went to the supermarket yesterday and two people that I owe money to didn't recognize me. 😊
- Those complaining 2020 didn't have enough holidays, what now?! 😊
- I need to social distance myself from my fridge; I tested positive for excess weight! 😊
- I'm not planning on adding 2020 to my age. I didn't even use it! I don't know about 2021. Does it exist? 😊
- We want to publicly apologize to the year 2019 for all the bad things we said about it. 😊
- To all the ladies who were praying for their husbands to spend more time with them, how are you doing? 🙌
- My washing machine only accepts pyjamas these days. I put in a pair of jeans and a message popped up: " *Stay Home* " 😊

- 👉 2019: Avoid negative people
- 👉 2020: Avoid positive people
- 👉👉 2021 Avoid people because you don't know if they are positive or negative

- 👤 Can't wait for 2022 to end! 😊



Please share your personal experience or advice on retirement. Everyone would love it. You may write in English or Italian, addressed to FFOA, attention: Newsbrief Coordinator, Mrs Gianna Paganelli Putt.

Holidays Closure of the FFOA Office

The FFOA Office will be closed from 23 December through 7 January 2022 for the festive season. Please note that messages will not be read on a regular basis during this time and responses will be delayed.



Newsbrief 115

December 2021

Newsbrief, the FFOA official edition, is produced in English and Italian three times a year and is distributed 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. Suggestions or contributions from members are welcome. The cost of printing Newsbrief, as well as other FFOA documents is borne by the WFP. Costs associated with documentation for the General Assembly are borne by IFAD. FFOA is grateful for these contributions.

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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. 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, write to ffoa@fao.org, or phone the FFOA desk at (+39) 06-5705 5623 / 5705 6016.