APPROVED SHIFMC/21/RD.267

STAFF HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

Record of Decisions of the 267th meeting of the Management Committee

Thursday, 25 November 2021

at 9.00 a.m., Virtual meeting

Present:

Representing the insured persons of the ILO:

Mr. Pierre Sayour (Titular member)

Ms. Catherine Comte-Tiberghien (Titular member)

Ms. Elisabeth Fombuena (Substitute member)

Ms. Azza Taalab (Substitute member)

Ms. Lisa Morgan (Substitute member)

Representing the Director-General:

Mr. Luca Bormioli (Titular member)

Mr. Tilmann Geckeler (Titular member)

Mr. Fikri Gurzumar (Titular member)

Mr. Giuseppe Zefola (Substitute member)

Other attendees:

Mr. Florian Léger, SHIF Executive Secretary Ms. Corinne Michoud, SHIF Secretary Ms. Heather Harris, SHIF Claims Supervisor

Apologies for absence were received from:

Representing the insured persons of the ILO:
Ms. Mireille Ecuvillon (Titular member)

Representing the ILO Administration: Mr. Sietse Buijze (Substitute member)

The meeting opens at 09.00 a.m.

Item 1: Approval of meeting agenda SHIF/MC/21/267/AG

MC refers to document ref. SHIF/MC/21/267/AG and approves the agenda.

Item 2: Approval of the Record of Decisions of the 266th and 266th Cont. meetings of the Management Committee

(SHIF/MC/21/RD.266 and SHIF/MC/21/RD.266 Cont.)

MC refers to documents ref. SHIF/MC/21/RD.266 and SHIF/MC/21/RD.266 Cont. and approves the Records of Decisions.

Item 3: Reimbursement of invoices denominated in Lebanese Pounds (LBP)

ES explains the issues concerning SHIF reimbursement of invoices denominated in Lebanese Pounds (LBP). The United Nations Operational Rate of Exchange (UNORE) for USD has held steady and is very different from the market exchange rate. This results in the reimbursement of unduly high USD amounts for claims submitted in LBP. The SHIF reimbursements in Lebanon have therefore significantly increased in the last months. ES also explains the different solutions that the UN in NY for the MIP and the Worldwide plans, the WHO and UNOG in Geneva have recently adopted. MC holds a detailed discussion on this difficult issue and adopts the following decision:

In order to ensure the sustainability of the financial situation of the Fund, the MC decides to establish the exchange rate to be used to settle invoices denominated in LBP based on the exchange rate used by the United Nations (UN) for the self-funded health insurance plans of UN staff, based on modalities to be arranged by the SHIF Secretariat in consultation with ILO Finance and JUR. This decision is based on Art. 2.13 of the SHIF Regulations (Exchange rates) and the Management Committee's general responsibility for managing the Fund. All insured members in Lebanon will be informed accordingly. This decision applies with immediate effect to all pending claims, unless a proof of exchange at a less favorable rate is provided along with claims. It will be reviewed in 6 months, at the latest, based on further developments.

Item 4: Preparation of the General Meeting of insured persons

MC agrees that the General Meeting of insured persons that will take place on Friday 17 December 2021 will have exactly the same format as the one used for the 2020 General Meeting of insured persons. Secretariat is asked about technical possibilities regarding how participants can ask their questions.

Item 5: Terms of reference for the 2021 Actuarial analysis of the SHIF

This agenda item will be discussed at the next meeting of the MC in 2022.

Item 6: Any other Business

6.1 Update on an agreement with an important provider in the Geneva area

ES informs the MC that an important provider in the Geneva area has decided in July 2021 to terminate the agreement concluded with the SHIF and health insurances from other international organizations as of 31 December 2021. The reason for the termination is that the provider would like to introduce a tariffication based on Swiss DRG with the aim to simplify invoicing. Negotiations with the provider have been ongoing since August 2021 but so far no agreement has been reached. ES warns the Committee that there may be no signed agreement between the provider and the ILO/SHIF as of 1 January 2022.

The meeting ends at 11.00 a.m.