



Governing Body

323rd Session, Geneva, 12–27 March 2015

GB.323/PFA/INF/6/2

Programme, Financial and Administrative Section

PFA

FOR INFORMATION

Pension questions

Report of the Board of Trustees of the Special Payments Fund

Summary: The Special Payments Fund is a financial assistance fund for former ILO staff (or surviving spouses) who are United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund beneficiaries. Assistance is based on financial need, in accordance with strict criteria that are set out in the Special Payments Fund's terms of reference approved by the Governing Body. The annual report of the Board of Trustees to the Governing Body was last considered in March 2014 (320th Session).

Author unit: Human Resources Development Department (HRD), Pensions Unit.

Related documents: GB.320/PFA/INF/7; GB.244/PFA/10/8; GB.254/PFA/10/13.

1. Since its last report, which was examined by the Governing Body at its 320th Session (March 2014),¹ the Board of Trustees of the Special Payments Fund has met once, on 13 March 2014.

Payments authorized for 2014 at the Board's 75th Session (March 2014)

2. The Board authorized grants amounting to a total of US\$125,362, to be paid in four quarterly instalments during the year 2014. This included four grants under the amendment to the terms of reference of 1989² and nine grants under the amendment to the terms of reference of 1992.³ The average age of the recipients was 76 years. During recent years, the number of beneficiaries has remained within the range of 11 to 15.
3. As in previous years, the Board of Trustees awarded grants according to the criteria in its terms of reference and gave particular attention to individual cases of hardship. To be eligible for assistance, former officials or their surviving spouses must have an annual net income of less than 70 per cent of the local G.1, step 6, salary that is paid to General Service staff in the country of residence.⁴
4. The Board expressed its appreciation for the provision of a cost increase of 26,000 Swiss francs (CHF) provided for in the Programme and Budget for 2014–15, especially since the last cost increase was approved in 1996. Although there are sufficient funds available for current expenditures, the Board will continue to closely monitor the Fund's balance and report to the Governing Body as necessary.

Geneva, 9 February 2015

¹ GB.320/PFA/INF/7.

² GB.244/PFA/10/8 (officials who served the ILO after 1945 and fulfil certain other conditions, or their survivors).

³ GB.254/PFA/10/13 (survivors of former ILO officials who, on retirement, converted part of their pension into a lump sum).

⁴ The local annual salary for 2014 at G.1, step 6, was 61,701 Swiss francs (CHF) in Switzerland, and €34,332 in France.