Staff Representative of the United Nations to the Staff Pension Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Nominee		
Full name [please print]	**John Martin Levins**	
ORG/DEPT/Division	**UNS-UNJSPF-IMD**	
Duty Station	**New York**	
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STATEMENT/DECLARATION OF SERVICE:

John M. Levins is a Chartered Accountant with extensive experience in investment accounting across three UN organizations and in the private sector. He has seen active UN field service in both peacekeeping and humanitarian operations in Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Thailand, the Sudans (including Darfur), Pakistan, Kenya and Senegal. His HQ postings include Rome and New York, where he is currently serving as a UNJSPF Project Officer. Before joining the UN, John worked in public accounting in Australia and the Middle East, as an author/writer, and in the petroleum industry.

John considers that the $44 billion of funds held by the Pension Fund is ultimately the property of UN staff members, held in trust for them by the UN. As such, it behoves the Fund to manage those funds effectively and efficiently for the participants' benefit. He shares the concern of many at the Fund's increasing actuarial deficit, largely as a result of consistently lower-than-expected investment performance over recent years. He strongly believes that UN staff should not be eventually obliged to make up for this deficit through increased pension contributions via greater salary deductions; nor should their employing organizations or Member States be asked to cover any difference in time. If elected, he intends to listen closely to his constituency and be a strong voice for continued accountability within the Fund and for the interests of both participants and retirees.

Those supporting John's nomination come from a wide selection of UN bodies including many Departments in the Secretariat, UNDP, UNICEF, UNJSPF and UNWOMEN, as well as retirees and past and present staff representatives.

John brings the experience of a solid 35-year history of volunteer community service to the role of UNSPC Staff Representative, including work on student, staff union and professional committees, various international school boards, and national-based community organizations on three continents. He has been recognized for the most outstanding of this work by Queen Elizabeth II as a Member of the Order of the British Empire, by Australia as a Member of the Order of Australia, by the US Secretary of State, and by his own professional body. Irish-born and Australian by nationalization, John was educated in Ireland, Zambia, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and Australia where he earned a double-degree in Accounting, and Financial Management and Economics and qualified as a Chartered Accountant. He and his Romanian wife have three children. They ask for your confidence and your vote.