PART 1

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

Nominee

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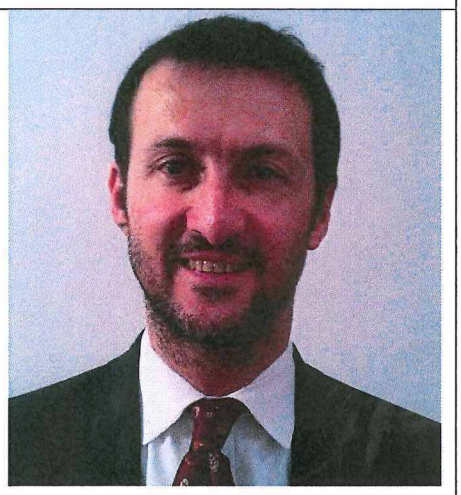

STATEMENT/DECLARATION OF SERVICE:

Dear Colleagues,

I am a candidate in the upcoming election of staff representatives to serve on the UN Staff Pension Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund which provides retirement, disability and death benefits for more than 20 organizations in the UN system.

My understanding of the UNJSPF comes, first and foremost, from being a staff member for 21 years, first at the FAO, then at the UN Secretariat (since 1996), and from the variety of posts I have held over the years. As chief of the UN Payroll Section, from 2004 to 2006, I was in charge of the payroll of all NY-based staff (UN, UNICEF, UNDP) and international staff in UN missions and UNDP/UNICEF field offices. I gained great insight from that experience into the challenges of providing services to my colleagues in various organizations and locations as well as into the diverse situations faced by our colleagues.

In addition, since 2010, I have been the chief of the Insurance and Disbursement Service, handling health and life insurance and workers compensation for the staff of the UN worldwide and of the New York-based funds and programmes. Through managing the After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) programme, I am familiar with the needs of and challenges of communicating to retirees of all ages and all places of residence. Working regularly with actuaries, I am conversant with actuarial concepts and fully aware of the need to ensure the long-term viability of the Fund through a sound strategy to fund its liabilities and a solid UN system-led investment strategy.

I believe in the need for the UNJSPF to take further advantage of technology by expanding on-line services, to ease the administrative burden on participants and retirees and on the UNJSPF Secretariat in charge of providing services.

While the UNJSPF rules are mostly sound, the evolving nature of employment in the UN system warrants a closer review of the participation rules, especially for colleagues who separate from their Organization with less than 5 years of service.

Similarly, equity for all staff members should be one of the governing principles of the Fund's operation, and the extension of the survivor's benefits to all spouses recognized by the participating entities must be addressed by the Pension Board. Colleagues should no longer have to worry about the wellbeing of their family, especially when required to work in hazardous environments.

The Pension Fund is a unique institution within the UN system. If you elect me, I will work tirelessly and collaboratively with the other elected representatives and Pension Board members to tackle outstanding concerns and all aspects of the Fund's long-term sustainability. You can count on me. I am available to answer your questions at monier@un.org

Please do not forget to vote. This is an important election, and your voice needs to be heard.