

Monday, 6 June 2016 | Global | DM

Pension and separation payments update



Clearing the backlog in pension and separation benefits has been a source of concern for newly separated/retired staff members and the Management. As reported earlier on [iSeek](#), the UN Management and the Pension Fund decided three months ago to establish

performance indicators as a way of objectively monitoring progress in eliminating backlog accumulated as of 1 March 2016 (1,706 cases for the UN Secretariat and 1,730 cases for UN Specialized Agencies) by the end of May 2016.

The Pension Fund just reported to UN Management that as of 31 May 2016, 97% of backlog has been eliminated as a result of dedicated efforts by the task force. The remaining 3% (95 cases) are in progress to be completed in June.

The UN Management is equally concerned about a major increase in the number of new cases received by the Pension Fund during March, April and May 2016. The Fund has been systematically addressing those cases as a top priority. As of 31 May 2016, the Fund processed a total of 1,065 (41%) of the 2,584 new cases for the UN Secretariat and 263 (32%) of 833 new cases for UN Specialized Agencies. In addition, a number of special cases were also processed, bringing the total of processed and paid benefits in the month of May to 1,272 (survivor benefits, residual settlements, child benefits, among others).

To address effectively a higher than average monthly inflow of separation cases, UN Management is working closely with the Fund to take necessary measures that prevent these cases turning into another backlog. A series of exigent measures have been put in place to increase the Fund's processing capacity. A second Task Force is currently being established to deal with the current and an upcoming surge of separation cases expected from peacekeeping missions in the third quarter of 2016.

In addition, the Pension Fund and UN Management decided to initiate jointly an end-to-end review aimed at simplifying and streamlining the processes from separation to benefit payment with the goal of all newly separated staff/ retirees receiving their separation benefit/ first pension payment within 30 days of separation.

UN Management will continue to support and work closely with the Pension Fund and meet with its leadership team on a monthly basis to assess the progress made; outcome of which will be communicated to staff.

Click [here](#) for a pre-recorded webcast of a Pre-Retirement Seminar held on 3 May.

Previously on iSeek: [Backlog in payments of pension benefits is being eliminated.](#)

Source: Department of Management (DM) on iSeek