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UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND

Amendments to the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund: report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board

Tenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the eleventh session of the General Assembly

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the amendments to the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Fension Fund which, in accordance with article XXXVII of those Regulations, the Joint Staff Fension Board has recommended to the General Assembly $(A/3146, annex II^{\frac{1}{2}})$.

Articlė III

- 2. The proposed amendment to article III, consisting of a re-wording of its first paragraph and the addition of a new paragraph 4, is intended to repair an omission in the existing text of the article.
- 3. Article II of the Regulations provides that every full-time staff member of a member organization shall become a participant in the Pension Fund if he enters employment under a contract for one year or more, or when he has completed one year of employment. It is further provided in article III of the Regulations that a participant previously employed by a member organization in a non-pensionable capacity may elect, within one year of admission into the Fund, to validate the period of his proof employment. As now worded, this provision does not specifically distinguish between the following cases:

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 8.
56-31181

- (a) Cases where the prior service was non-pensionable solely for reasons connected with the duration of the contract or the length of actual service; and
- (b) Other cases including those where the category of employment was normally excluded from participation in the Fund regardless of the length or type of contract.
- 4. The proposed amendment to article III has the effect of excluding the validation of prior service in any case where the terms of employment specifically define that service as non-pensionable. It covers instances in which a staff member is transferred to employment which is of a pensionable character (either in the same or in another participating organization), or in which the employment itself, having been non-pensionable in character, is re-defined as pensionable. Technically, the present text of article III permits of the staff member's validating his prior, non-pensionable service in either such instance, despite the fact that this action clearly runs counter to the underlying intent both of that article and of article II.

Article XXIX

- 5. The amendment which the Joint Staff Pension Board recommends to article XXIX provides that the review of basic tables (service and mortality tables, etc.) shall be made at intervals of not more than six years instead of the five years prescribed in the existing text. Such a change offers the double advantage that the review, in which use is made of much of the data required for the actuarial valuation (normally held at three-yearly intervals), would coincide with alternate valuations, and that some economy would thus result.
- 6. The Advisory Committee recommends that the amendments to articles III and XXIX of the Regulations should be adopted in the form proposed by the Joint Staff Pension Board.

New supplementary article B

7. The new supplementary article B is a contingent recommendation of the Board, which the Advisory Committee has considered in a separate report (A/3351) on the use of Pension Fund capital for housing loans to staff of the participating organizations.

ANNEX

Text of amendments recommended by the United Nations
Joint Staff Pension Board and the Advisory Committee
on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Existing text

Revised text

Article III

1. A participant who has been in the employment of a member organization in a non-pensionable capacity may elect within one year of the commencement of his participation to have the period of such prior employment included in his contributory service to the extent to which he pays into the Pension Fund, in accordance with the administrative rules established for this purpose by the Joint Staff Pension Board, a sum or sums equal to the contributions which he would have paid had he been subject to these regulations throughout this period, with compound interest at 2 1/2 per cent per annum, and provided that there has been continuity of employment. For the purposes of this article, intervals of not more than thirty calendar days in the period of employment shall not be considered as breaking the continuity of employment. The time covered by these intervals shall not be included in the period of contributory service.

1. A participant who has been in the employment of a member organization as a full-time staff member and whose participation in the Pension Fund was at that time excluded by article III of these regulations because he entered employment under a contract for less than one year, or had completed less than one year of service, may, subject to paragraph 4 of this regulation, elect within one year of the commencement of his participation to have the period of such prior employment included in his contributory service to the extent to which he pays into the Pension Fund, in accordance with the administrative rules established for this purpose by the Joint Staff Pension Board, a sum or sums equal to the contributions which he would have paid had he been subject to these regulations throughout this period, with compound interest at 2 1/2 per cent per annum, and provided that there has been continuity of employment. For the purposes of this article, intervals of not more than thirty calendar days in the period of employment shall not be considered as breaking the continuity of employment. The time covered by these intervals shall not be included in the period of contributory service.

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- 2. Payment into the Pension Fund of amounts equal to twice the amount of the payment so made by the participant shall be made by the member organization designated for that purpose in accordance with arrangements concluded by the member organizations.
- 3. The earliest date from which employment with the United Nations can be validated is the first day of February 1946.

Article XXIX

The Joint Staff Pension Board, upon the advice of a qualified actuary or actuaries, shall adopt from time to time service and mortality tables and the rate of regular interest which shall be used in all actuarial calculations required in connexion with the Pension Fund. Unless and until changed by the Joint Staff Pension Board, a rate of 2 1/2 per cent per annum shall be the applicable rate of regular interest. Once in each five years following the establishment of the Pension Fund, the Board shall have an actuarial investigation made into the mortality, service, and compensation experience of the participants and beneficiaries of the Pension Fund; and taking into account the results of such investigation the Board shall adopt such mortality, service and other tables as it shall deem appropriate,

- 2. Payment into the Pension Fund of amounts equal to twice the amount of the payment so made by the participant shall be made by the member organization designated for that purpose in accordance with arrangements concluded by the member organizations.
- 3. The earliest date from which employment with the United Nations can be validated is the first day of February 1946.
- 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article, a participant may not make pensionable a period during which he was employed under a contract of employment which specifically excluded his participation in the Pension Fund.

The Joint Staff Pension Board, upon the advice of a qualified actuary or actuaries, shall adopt from time to time service and mortality tables and the rate of regular interest which shall be used in all actuarial calculations required in connexion with the Pension Fund. Unless and until changed by the Joint Staff Pension Board, a rate of 2 1/2 per cent per annum shall be the applicable rate of regular interest. At least once in each six years following the establishment of the Pension Fund, the Board shall have an actuarial investigation made into the mortality, service, and compensation experience of the participants and beneficiaries of the Pension Fund; and taking into account the results of such investigation, the Board shall adopt such mortality, service and other tables as it shall deem appropriate.