



Geneva, 22 April 2020

**Subject: Urgent mitigation measures to protect duty stations from the current negative economic impacts of COVID-19**

Dear Mr Djacta,

We hope that this message finds you and your loved ones in good health despite the difficult times.

We refer to your letter of 31 March 2020 regarding the possible negative effects of COVID-19 on staff remuneration.

In your letter you assured us that it was within your delegated authority to have, if necessary, special measures implemented. In light of this, we would like to draw to your attention that we have received numerous reports from our members in group II duty stations regarding the negative impact of COVID-19 on the take-home pay of staff in those duty stations. Please see the attached report from a FICSA member which clearly illustrates the concerns of staff in one duty station, as an example. In addition, the staff federations are seeing many cases of a substantial increase in the cost of living across the board with many staff noting a considerable disparity in the cost of the “basket of goods” in recent weeks.

We count on your understanding and look forward to hearing from you, at your earliest convenience, as to how the ICSC intends to deploy special measures in affected duty stations to mitigate the negative impacts of COVID-19 on staff remuneration. In order to facilitate this, we would like to suggest an informal meeting in the coming week to allow us to present the issues more broadly and to brainstorm possible immediate solutions to this growing concern.

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Mr Larbi Djacta  
Chairman, ICSC  
International Civil Service Commission  
United Nations (10th Floor)  
Two United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017, USA

All three Staff Federations, representing thousands of international civil servants worldwide, remain available to discuss this matter with you and the ICSC secretariat and provide additional information as necessary.

Sincerely yours,



Mr Stefan Brezina  
CCISUA President



Ms Tanya Quinn-Maguire  
FICSA President



Mr Stephen Towler  
UNISERV President

Annex: 1

Cc. FICSA members  
UNISERV  
CCISUA