



Thursday, 5 June 2014

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

The three staff federations of the United Nations Common System would like to express their deep concern as well as the disappointment of their staff around the world with regards to the severe cuts being made to posts at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

We understand that these cuts were undertaken in utmost secrecy, without due consultation, and in direct violation of the principles expressed in General Assembly Resolution 128. Furthermore, the speed at which they are being made will have a seriously deleterious impact on UNDP staff; this from an organization that claims on its website to "empower lives."

The federations are not aware of this being prompted by a financial crisis and have yet to see evidence that cutting 30 per cent of the staff will make UNDP more rather than less fit to serve its purpose.

Regardless of the delegation of authority that UNDP enjoys, UNDP staff are UN staff, hired under the UN staff regulations. In this context we do not believe that the provisions of Chapter 8 of the staff regulations, requiring consultation on this issue, were adhered to.

We therefore ask that you, as UN Secretary-General, intervene in this matter to put the restructuring on hold and to remind the UNDP Administrator of the UN staff rules and regulations, to which she is legally bound.

The staff federations look forward to receiving your feedback in due course.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurances of our highest consideration,

Ian Richards
President
CCISUA

Diab El-Tabari
President
FICSA

Dimitri Samaras
President
UNISERV

Mr. Ban Ki-moon
United Nations Secretary General

cc: Ms. Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator