

STAFF HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

Record of Decisions
of the 283rd meeting of the Management Committee

Thursday, 17th October 2024

at 10:00 a.m., Lac Room X (Library)

Present:

Representing the insured persons of the ILO:

Ms. Catherine Comte-Tiberghien (Titular member)
Mr. Pierre De Lame (Titular member)
Mr. Yvan Poulin (Titular member)
Ms. Mireille Ecuivillon (Substitute member)
Ms. Gwendolyn Fabros (Substitute member)
Ms. Clara Van Panhuys (Substitute member)

Representing the Director-General:

Mr. Tilmann Geckeler (Titular member)
Mr. Fikri Gurzumar (Titular member)
Mr. Marc Fillieux (Substitute member)

Other attendees:

Mr. Florian Léger, SHIF Executive Secretary
Ms. Heather Harris, SHIF Claims Supervisor
Ms. Corinne Michoud, SHIF Secretary

Apologies for absence were received from:

Representing the Director General:

Mr. Luca Bormioli
Mr. Sietse Buijze
Mr. Giuseppe Zefola

The meeting opens at 10.05 a.m.

Item 1: Approval of meeting agenda
(SHIF/MC/24/283/AG)

MC refers to document ref. SHIF/MC/24/283/AG and decides that the item 9 referred to as “Copie de facture à envoyer au patient lors d’un règlement direct à l’établissement” under item 10 (Any other business) of the agenda should be considered as an item in itself under item 9 and that item 10 should read: Any other business.

Item 2: Approval of the Record of Decisions of the 282nd meeting of the Management Committee
(SHIF/MC/24/RD.282)

MC refers to document ref. SHIF/MC/24/RD.282 and **approves the Record of Decisions.**

Item 3: Update on the SHIF WorkPlan for 2024

ES updates MC on the SHIF WorkPlan.

In terms of service level, the Turn-Over-Time (ToT) of claims during the second quarter of 2024 was 4.3 days, a record low.

The submission of secondary insurance claims on SHIF Online is available since September.

A SHIF Newsletter was published in July 2024. Among other items, it was mentioned that two additional SHIF claims adjusters had been hired in September 2023. A representative of the Administration explains that the task force has finished its work and that the 2 Dakar positions have been secured until the end of 2025 and that a proposal to include them in the 2026-2027 Programme and Budget has been made. He adds that the Director-General has indicated satisfaction with the present functioning of the SHIF.

The SHIF Secretariat has held a number of briefings for SHIF insured in specific region/offices since the last meeting of the Management Committee such as India, Bangkok, Latin America, Jordan, Africa, Dar Es Salaam.

The 2024 edition of the SHIF Regulations and Administrative Rules in 3 languages has been published in May 2024. There is some delay in the preparation of the 2023 annual report due to the heavy workload.

Regarding the pilot to improve access to health care for field offices, ES informs MC about the 11 countries (One in Latin America: Peru, four in Asia & Pacific: Cambodia, Indonesia, The Philippines and Vietnam, five in Africa (Ethiopia, Côte d’Ivoire, Kenya, Senegal and Tunisia and one in the Middle East: Lebanon). ES expects the pilot to start beginning of November.

**Item 4: Request for approval of payment of benefits
beyond the maximum annual liability**
(SHIF/MC/24/283/4.1 – 4.2 – 4.3)

Item 4.1.

This special case concerns a request for approval of payment of benefits beyond the maximum liability set at US\$ 150,000.00 of approved expenses per calendar year (Article 2.6 of the SHIF Regulations) for a retired SHIF insured and his spouse, whose medical expenses in 2023 and in 2024 have exceeded the annual maximum liability due to a serious illness.

MC authorizes payment of benefits for up to a maximum of US\$ 900'000.00 of approved expenses for the retiree and his spouse’s medical treatment in 2023 and up to a maximum of US\$ 1’000’000.00 for 2024.

Item 4.2.

This special case concerns a request for approval of payment of benefits beyond the maximum liability set at US\$ 150,000.00 of approved expenses per calendar year (Article 2.6 of the SHIF Regulations) for the surviving spouse of a retired SHIF insured, whose medical expenses in 2024 have exceeded the annual maximum liability due to a serious illness.

MC authorizes payment of benefits for up to a maximum of US\$ 850'000.00 of approved expenses for the insured member's medical treatment in 2024.

Item 4.3.

This special case concerns a request for approval of payment of benefits beyond the maximum liability set at US\$ 150,000.00 of approved expenses per calendar year (Article 2.6 of the SHIF Regulations) for a retired SHIF insured person and his spouse, whose medical expenses in 2024 have exceeded the annual maximum liability due to a serious illness.

MC authorizes payment of benefits for up to a maximum of US\$ 750'000.00 of approved expenses for the retired SHIF insured and his spouse's medical treatment in 2024.

Item 5: SHIF Financial situation as at 30.09.2024 and technical results for the period 01.01.2024-30.09.2024 (SHIF/MC/24/283/5)

A representative of the administration presents the SHIF financial situation as at 31.09.2024 and the technical results for the period 01.01.2024-31.09.2024. The net result for the period is a surplus of 1.3 million USD, composed of a net operating surplus of US\$ 0.6 million and a net investment income of US\$ 0.8 million. He notes that the variation in the number of payment batches processed in each reporting period has an important impact to the technical result of that period.

ES adds that the technical surplus is a relatively good news as there has been an important increase in benefits paid compared to the previous year. Contributions have increased even more rapidly than benefits because of the increase in the contribution rate in January 2024, the cost-of-living adjustment of pensions (on which contribution from retirees are assessed) and an increase in the number of insured. ES also notes that, probably for the first time in the history of the SHIF, benefits paid in Switzerland represents less than 60% of the total benefits paid over the period.

MC notes that an actuarial analysis will be done next year.

Item 6: Appointment of members of the SHIF Appeals Board

According to §2 of Article 5.5 of the SHIF Regulations, **the Management Committee appoints as Chairpersons of the SHIF Appeals Board:**

- **Mr. Moussa Oumarou**
- **Mr Pierre Sayour**

Item 7: Cases of substantiated fraud of persons voluntarily insured in accordance with article 1.3 or 1.6 under the old SHIF regulations (SHIF/MC/24/283/7)

The Chairperson of the SHIF Management Committee introduces document SHIF/MC/24/283/7. As the document has been distributed late and MC has several questions on the issue before a decision can be taken, **MC asks the Secretariat to redraft the document for submission at its next meeting. As drafting the abstract of the 5 to 7 cases of fraud against the Fund on a case-by-case basis may take**

time, ES informs MC that the redrafted document may not be ready for the next meeting but for a future meeting.

Item 8: General meeting of insured persons

While the Management Committee had decided in the past to hold a General Meeting of insured persons every year, **the Management Committee decides not to hold a meeting this year but only next year, probably in October.** It is expected that by then the SHIF Annual reports for 2023 and 2024 will be published and presented.

Item 9: Copie de facture à envoyer au patient lors d'un règlement direct à l'établissement hospitalier

According to the Swiss Law of Medical Insurance (LAMal), medical providers are obliged to send a copy of the invoice to the insured when the insurer directly pays the provider. In addition, most of the agreements that the SHIF has with Clinics and Hospitals stipulate that requirement. However, in practice, some medical providers tend not to send a copy of the invoice to the insured persons.

MC asks ES to write to the major Clinics and Hospitals in Switzerland to remind them of their contractual obligation.

Item 10: Any Other business

10.1: Dates of the SHIF Management meetings in 2025.

MC decides to hold 4 meetings, one per quarter in 2025. The dates will be approved before the end of 2024. Additional meetings may be convened if necessary.

10.2: Reimbursement advice

ES confirms that a ticket has been opened with Infotec to revisit the possibility to send the reimbursement advice (blue sheet) by email instead of the blue sheet by post.

The meeting ends at 12.40 p.m.
