



COMMUNICATIONS

INVITATION TO PROVIDE INPUT FROM THE INTERNAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

14/24

**Geneva
15 May 2024**

To: FICSA Members using UNAT - **UNRWA, ICAO, IFAD, IMO, ITLOS, UPU**
FICSA Members from the UN Secretariat using UNAT/UNDT/OSLA –
UNGSC, SCBD, UNICTF
FICSA Standing Committee for Legal Questions

From: FICSA Secretariat

Dear colleagues,

The Internal Justice Council of the United Nations was created in In 2008 through UN General Assembly resolution 62/228 to ensure independence, professionalism and accountability in the system of administration of justice. The principal tasks of the Council are selecting judges, drafting a code of conduct for the judges and communicating its views on the implementation of the system of administration of justice. The Council prepares and includes in its annual report to the Assembly, for its approval, a detailed programme of work for each calendar year in accordance with the mandates under relevant Assembly resolutions.

For the current General Assembly session, please see [report A/78/121](#).

Our records indicate that your organizations use the UN Administrative Tribunal, Dispute Tribunal or OSLA. The Internal Justice Council invites you, through FICSA, to provide your views on the programme of work of the Council as set out in the report above, specifically on the items below:

- a) Reviewing the code of conduct for the judges of the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal;
- b) Continuing to examine fear of and protection against retaliation for staff bringing cases and those testifying before the Tribunals and for reporting misconduct, including further information on the progress made in protection against retaliation for both staff and non-staff personnel in the context of the reviews currently under way;
- c) Providing recommendations to reduce the number of unfounded applications.

Specifically pertinent to element c) of the Council's programme of work, the Council requests inputs pertinent to the report of the Advisory Committee for Administrative and Budgetary Questions, A/78/580, paragraph 11, copied below for convenience:

11. The Advisory Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will provide information in his next report on existing tools and mechanisms to minimize the risk of unnecessary, vexatious and/or

frivolous litigation, including on the filtering role of the Management Evaluation Unit, on the current level of recourse to the informal system of administration of justice, and on decisions by the Tribunals awarding costs against parties that manifestly abuse the proceedings, in accordance with their statutes, as well as more granular data on decisions of non-receivability by the Tribunals. The Committee also trusts that enhanced data and statistics on applications that are determined to be frivolous, vexatious and/or an abuse of the Tribunals' process, including related cost implications, will be provided in his next report (see also para. 6 above).

If your Staff Association/Union members have any views on the above, we would appreciate it if you could forward them to FICSA to channel to the Internal Justice Council by **Monday, 20 May 2024**.
