

The BAFUNCS Benevolent Fund seeks new volunteer trustees.



The British Association of Former United Nations Civil Servants Benevolent Fund (BAFUNCS Benevolent Fund or BBF) was set up as an independent charity by BAFUNCS in 1987, to receive funds under charity rules and provide support to those with connections to both the UN system and the UK in cases of need, hardship or distress. BAFUNCS itself is an unincorporated association, not a charity. Information about the history, role and function of the BBF can be found in the *Guide to the BAFUNCS Benevolent Fund*, available from the BBF's webpage, <https://bafuncs.org/bafuncs-benevolent-fund-bbf-rev/>, together with other documents.

The BBF holds capital funds, in part from a generous legacy received in 2008. It generates income from this capital and also receives other donations. The BBF may use both capital and income funds to support its beneficiaries.

The role of the trustees is to ensure that the Fund operates in accordance with its governing document, in particular regarding the disbursement of grants and loans to beneficiaries. The trustees must also ensure that the Fund is compliant with Charity Commission rules and guidance.

The trustees meet approximately four times a year in London at the UN International Maritime Organization (usually from 11:30 to 14:30, including lunch at the IMO) and conduct other business in between meetings via Zoom, phone or email. Trustees are unpaid; however, travel costs for meetings are reimbursed. The BBF currently has six trustees, including the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and is now seeking two further trustees.

Potential trustees from a variety of backgrounds are welcome to apply as the BBF is seeking to have diversity in its Board. Relevant kinds of experience include field work, computing, project management, legal affairs, financial management, welfare support, spousal support, and charitable work. Trustees must be members of BAFUNCS.

Members interested in a trustee role should, in the first instance, contact the Secretary. Applicants will be asked to send a short CV and will be invited to meet the trustees at an in-person or Zoom meeting. While trustees of the BBF play an important role in proposing new trustees, the formal appointment of a new trustee is the responsibility of the Executive Committee of BAFUNCS.

New trustees will usually be offered the support of an existing trustee for mentoring and advice.

The BBF is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, registration number 297524. The website of the Charity Commission contains valuable guidance on the responsibilities of trustees (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>) and (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-for-charities-with-a-connection-to-a-non-charity>). **It is recommended that you read this guidance before applying to the BBF.**

Contact: Secretary, Joanna Tempowski (07484 125762; tempowskij@me.com)