

May 2025

FAFICS President addresses Member Associations and Senior Management

In May, FAFICS President Jerry Barton had a busy travel and speaking schedule, seeking open dialogue and spreading information about FAFICS.

The first leg of this trip was at the request of AFICS Chile where he interacted not only with the members of the Association but also visited ECLAC, the Resident Coordinator's Office in Chile, and had a virtual meeting with the 14 Member Associations in Latin America.

Then he flew to New York to deliver his remarks at the AFICS NY Annual General Meeting at the invitation of AFICS NY President, Darshak Shah. The event was attended by hundreds of retirees in the east coast area, as well as key people from the UN Secretariat, the UNJSPF, UNDP, UNFCU, and other partner organizations. He also participated in the AFICS NY monthly meeting of its Governing Board where he appraised the Board members of recent developments in FAFICS including preparations for the Federation's 55th Council Session and Commemoration of its 50th anniversary.

Additionally, the President also addressed virtually, and through a written message the annual general meetings of AAFU-AFUS France and FFOA Rome, upon the requests, respectively of President Patrick Gallaud and Edward Seidler.

The Presidents presence, remarks and interactions with AFICS members were well received. His message throughout these meetings resonates –

“Even in retirement, we remain part of the UN family — a community still committed to the principles we served. As the world faces growing challenges — from climate change and conflict to inequality and threats to multilateralism — our voices, experience, and values are more important than ever. Let us continue to support one another, advocate for the Organization’s mission, and help ensure the goals of the United Nations remain alive and relevant for future generations. In these challenging times, I urge all of us to do what we can to actively support the principles of the UN Charter, especially in ensuring that future retirees have the information they need, so they know their options and have access to social environments.”

