



Before: Duty Judge Teresa Bravo
Registry: Geneva
Registrar: René M. Vargas M.

LAPPER

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**ORDER
ON JOINT MOTION FOR
SUSPENSION OF PROCEEDINGS**

Counsel for Applicant:
Robbie Leighton, OSLA

Counsel for Respondent:
Jérôme Blanchard, LPAS, UNOG

Introduction

1. By application filed on 15 October 2021, the Applicant contests the recovery of an overpayment part of the dependency allowance that he received for his children. The Respondent was expected to file his reply by 17 November 2021.
2. By Order 169 (GVA/2021) of 16 November 2021, the Tribunal suspended the proceedings and the deadline for the Respondent's reply until 17 December 2021 to allow the parties to resolve this matter amicably.
3. By joint motion filed on 16 December 2021, the parties informed the Tribunal that "discussions on a possible settlement of the Applicant's claim are ongoing". Consequently, they request a further suspension of the proceedings of one month pending their informal discussions.

Consideration

4. The Tribunal recalls that the General Assembly has consistently encouraged alternative dispute resolution and commends the parties for their ongoing engagement in settlement discussions.
5. To support the parties in their settlement endeavour, the Tribunal will grant the joint motion.

Conclusion

6. In view of the foregoing, it is ORDERED THAT:
 - a. The proceedings and the deadline for the Respondent's reply in Case No. UNDT/GVA/2021/055 be further suspended until **Monday, 17 January 2022** to allow the parties to continue amicable settlement discussions;
 - b. If a settlement agreement is reached within this period, the parties shall inform the Tribunal accordingly without delay, and the Applicant shall confirm to the Tribunal, in writing, the withdrawal of his application; or

c. If no settlement agreement is reached within the prescribed period, the parties shall promptly inform the Tribunal, and the Respondent shall file his reply by **Monday, 17 January 2022**, unless a reasoned deadline extension is requested to and decided by the Tribunal.

(Signed)

Judge Teresa Bravo (Duty Judge)

Dated this 17th day of December 2021

Entered in the Register on this 17th day of December 2021

(Signed)

René M. Vargas M., Registrar, Geneva