



**Top Urgent - For Immediate Release –
This Statement Requires Immediate Member
States, Public, Media And International Attention**

**3 August 2026
No: SRC/8/2026**

PRESS STATEMENT

Response by Staff Rights and Justice Initiative (SRJI) and Staff Representation Committee (SRC) and to the Statement Issued by the Caretaker Secretary-General of the Organisation of Southern Cooperation (OSC)

The Staff Rights and Justice Initiative (SRJI), launched by a significant number of the OSC staff members, has taken note of the statement issued by the Caretaker Secretary-General, Sheikh Manssour Bin Mussallam, regarding his decision to withdraw from the OSC closure proceedings.

While his statement seeks to place responsibility solely on the Member States, it omits a fundamental reality: the Secretary-General himself has been the Chief Officer and legal representative of the Organisation of Southern Cooperation (OSC) since its establishment and therefore bears the responsibility for the actions, decisions, and failures that have occurred under his leadership. Leadership carries accountability, especially during a crisis. However, he has not only avoided providing any meaningful updates about the closure process and possible timeline for payment of staff salaries, benefits and entitlements for over one and half a year, the Secretary-General now decides to withdraw from the process without addressing the core matter: payment of staff salaries, benefits and entitlements without further delay.

For more than seventeen months, staff members have worked without salaries. Throughout this period, repeated assurances have been made that obligations would be fulfilled, yet meaningful action to protect staff rights or enforce accountability has not been taken.

The attempt to portray himself merely as another aggrieved party overlooks his central role in the management of the Organisation during the period in which these violations of fundamental human rights have occurred. Responsibility cannot be shifted entirely to Member States when executive leadership bears legal, fiduciary, and moral duties to safeguard the Organisation and its employees.

In this regard, the Caretaker Secretary-General's withdrawal from the closure process does not absolve him of any responsibility for decisions taken during his tenure, nor does it diminish the rights of staff to seek justice and accountability from all responsible parties, including the Secretary-General himself as well Member States.

To this end, the SRJI and SRC reiterate that the issue is not about individual narratives but about justice and dignity. We therefore call attention to the circumstances surrounding the OSC closure, the prolonged non-payment of staff salaries, benefits and entitlements which is to be handled and processed in accordance with contractual obligations, Regulations, Rules and Administrative Memorandum setting the framework of the closure process, including a three-month notice period and corresponding payments.

Staff demand remains unchanged: full payment of all outstanding salaries and entitlements, accountability for those responsible, and justice for every affected staff member and stakeholder.

**Staff Rights and Justice Initiative (SRJI) and
Staff Representation Committee (SRC)**

Website: <https://osc-srji.com>

E-mail: src.osc.iio@gmail.com