



For Immediate Release
To OSC Member States, Public, Media And
International Attention

15 August 2026
No: SRC/10/2026

STATEMENT

BY THE SRC/SRJI ON THE BRIEF STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (EOSG) OF THE ORGANISATION OF SOUTHERN COOPERATION (OSC) ABOUT THE OSC EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 13 AUGUST 2026

Staff Representation Committee (SRC) / Staff Rights and Justice Initiative (SRJI) of the Organisation of Southern Cooperation (OSC) staff take note of the brief statement issued by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG) at the OSC Secretariat following the Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) of the Organisation of Southern Cooperation (OSC) held virtually on 13 August 2026 by once again denying access to staff representatives.

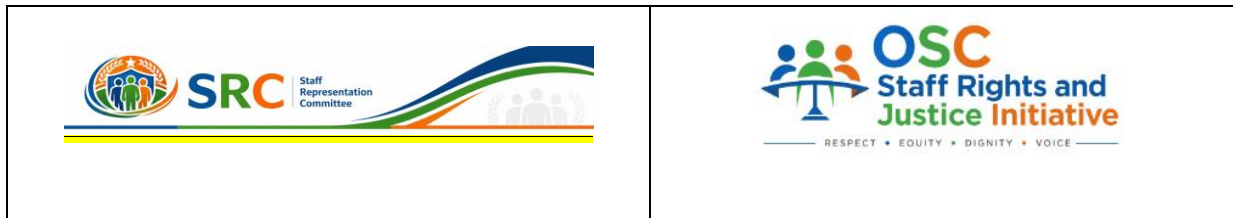
The SRC/SRJI welcomes the continued engagement of the OSC Member States in seeking solutions to the unresolved institutional and financial issues facing the Organization, particularly the grave situation of OSC staff members who have remained unpaid for over 17 months. The prolonged non-payment of salaries and other entitlements has created a serious humanitarian situation for staff and their families, violating their human and livelihood rights, and requires urgent and decisive action.

At the same time, the SRC/SRJI regrets that its repeated requests to participate in or have access to the EGA were not accommodated, despite the fact that the central issues under consideration directly concern the staff of the Organisation. The SRC/SRJI firmly believes that staff representatives should be meaningfully involved in any process addressing their employment, outstanding salaries, benefits and other legitimate entitlements.

The SRC/SRJI is also concerned that the brief statement issued by the EOSG following the EGA, which makes no reference to the plight of the staff or to the urgent need to resolve their outstanding entitlements. Given the gravity of the situation, the SRC/SRJI considers the absence of any reference to the staff situation a matter of serious concern.

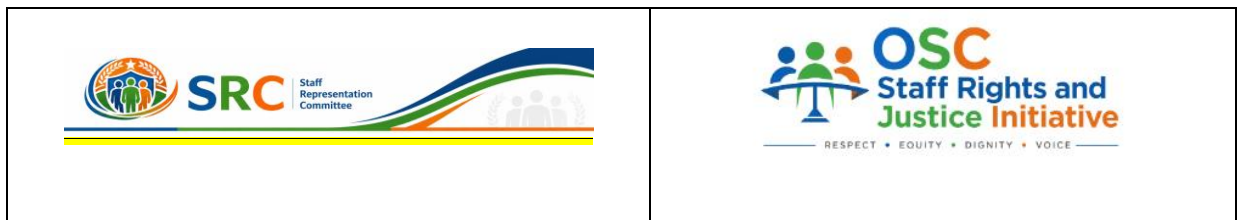
The SRC/SRJI further expresses its concern regarding the manner in which the liquidation and closure process of the OSC has so far been conducted by the outgoing Secretary-General and his administration. The process must have been guided by the principles of transparency, accountability, due process and institutional responsibility that are expected of an international intergovernmental organization and its caretaker executive managers.

In particular, the SRC/SRJI believes that any communication such as statement or internal memorandum purporting to convey the outcome of a governing body meeting or position of its Member States should clearly be based on and reflect the appropriate institutional authority and established procedures of the Organization. This is especially important during a sensitive closure process, from which the Secretary-General has announced his withdrawal as of 13 August 2026.



In view of the foregoing, the SRC/SRJI:

1. Supports the position of Member States calling upon the outgoing Secretary-General to remain in office until the end of September 2026, in order to provide institutional continuity and ensure that the liquidation and closure process is completed in an orderly, transparent and accountable manner, as the outgoing Secretary-General has led the organisation to its current situation and misled the staff about the financial realities of the organisation. In this regard, now that the former Secretary-General considers himself as an aggrieved party, the SRC/SRJI emphasizes the need for a comprehensive and independently audited account of the Organization's financial resources including a loan of USD 20 million and a donation of USD 25 million promised to the Organisation by the outgoing Secretary-General, all expenditures, assets, liabilities and other material resources before the final closure of the Organization.
2. Calls on the Member States to convene the next Extraordinary General Assembly at the earliest opportunity, with the involvement of the outgoing Secretary-General considering his responsibilities as the chief administrative officer of the Organisation when he was in office, and take the necessary measures to address the unresolved situation facing staff members, payment of their salaries and protection of their rights as international civil servants, as a matter of priority and in a dignified and orderly manner.
3. Requests a full and meaningful involvement of staff representatives in all remaining proceedings concerning the liquidation and closure of the OSC, particularly on matters directly affecting staff members and their outstanding entitlements, ideally through a joint committee of Member States and staff representatives to ensure the final phase of the OSC closure is conducted in a fair, transparent, accountable, orderly and dignified manner, consistent with the principles and standards expected of an international intergovernmental organization representing its founding sovereign states.
4. Reiterates its commitment to constructive engagement with the Member States and all relevant stakeholders including the former Secretary-General in seeking a responsible and dignified resolution to the current situation.
5. Urges Member States to instruct the outgoing Secretary-General to make available all relevant documents of all GAs/EGAs to staff and their collective platform SRC/SRJI for their information, record and reference as is the case in established international intergovernmental organisations.
6. Asks Member States to direct the outgoing Secretary-General and caretaker Administration to provide all staff members with their documentation such as properly prepared termination notices, employment certificates and recommendation letters that will help them in their search for a future employment without any difficulty. All these have so far been denied to all staff represented by the SRC/SRJI and in this regard, due to lack of duly issued termination letters, legally all staff still remain employed by the OSC and continue to accumulate their salaries, contractual benefits and entitlement.
7. Representing approximately fifty (50) staff members of the OSC, a significant majority, wishes also to underline that the closure of the Organization should not mean the abandonment of responsibility towards its staff and the legitimate rights, welfare and dignity of the staff from host country and other countries from across the Global South must remain at the centre of the closure process.



8. To conclude, what the OSC is going through is most unfortunate and how the closure process has so far has been handled is well below any international best practices and standards. At this point in the closure process Member States' leadership and guidance to the caretaker managers and administration to fulfil their responsibilities properly to ensure a smooth and orderly closure bear utmost importance.

**Staff Representation Committee (SRC) / Staff Rights and Justice Initiative (SRJI)
established by the Organisation of Southern Cooperation (OSC) staff members
15 August 2026**

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