Civil Service Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme

General Council Report 1254

(Meeting/s of 24 February 1993, 29 September 1993)

Claim that the domestic subsistence rates be increased with effect from 1 January 1993 on the basis of the agreed formula.

Subsistence Rates

1. At the General Council meeting of 24 February the Staff Side presented a claim for a revision of the domestic subsistence rates with effect from the 1 January 1993 on the basis of the agreed formula. The claim was referred for consideration to the Home Subsistence subcommittee of Council (established in 1973 - General Council Report 611 refers).

2. At the General Council meeting of 29 September 1993 the report of the subcommittee on the claim - copy attached - was before the Council. The Staff Side indicated that, in the absence of any offer from the Official Side on the claim, it wished to record disagreement on the claim. This report, accordingly, records disagreement.

3. This report was adopted on 11 November 1993.

General Council Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme

Report of General Council Subsistence Subcommittee

1. A claim by the Staff Side for a revision of the home subsistence rates with effect from the 1 January 1993 was presented at the General Council meeting on 24 February 1993 and was referred to the subcommittee for consideration.

2. The subcommittee met on four occasions - 29 March, 16 April, 7 May and 17 June. At the meeting of 29 March the Official Side furnished the
Staff Side with the list of hotels which fell to be replaced and information from Bord Failte on increases in meal costs. Details of the claim were discussed at length by both sides during the course of the subsequent subcommittee meetings.

3. The increase derived from input of the data into the agreed formula showed an increase of less than 5% in the rates compared with the 1992 rates. The Official Side advised the Staff Side that in view of the provisions of paragraph 2 of General Council Report No. 306, which specified 5% as the threshold below which no change should be made, the 1992 rates of home subsistence should continue to apply in 1993.

4. Following further discussion, during which the Staff Side disputed the Official Side's interpretation of General Council Report No. 306 and the Official side maintained its position that a rates increase was not warranted, it was decided to report back to General Council.

This report was adopted on 11 November 1993