

## The CPIT in 5 easy steps

Points I to V below cover the five most frequently asked questions about the CPIT: how to join, pay your contributions, purchase benefits and calculate your future pension, and what other benefits membership entitles you to.

### I. How do I become a member?

1. Complete the Membership Agreement and return it to the CPIT address indicated at the end of this document.
2. Remember: to be a member of the CPIT, you must be a conference translator or interpreter and able to prove that you are working as such, either via your membership of the AITC or AIIC, or via your application to join one or the other association. The Foundation Council will, in exceptional instances and on a case-by-case basis, consider requests for membership from professional conference interpreters and translators who do not meet these conditions.

### II. How do I pay my contributions?

1. If you're working for an organization in the **United Nations common system**, ask the human resources unit for the organization's form for CPIT contributions, complete it and sign it (the form will refer to Banque Pictet & Cie). In some organizations, the signed form will be valid for all your present and future contracts; in others, it will have to be periodically renewed. The organization will deduct the percentage stipulated in the AITC or AIIC agreement from your pay (between 12.5% and 13.5%) and send it to the CPIT.
2. If you're working as an interpreter for the **European Union** or for a **coordinated European organization**, inform the human resources unit that you're a member of the CPIT and ask it to pay both the employee and employer contributions to Pictet & Cie in Geneva. If you don't do this, the employer's share will be lost.
3. If you're working for an organization that does not deduct the contribution, you can **pay it yourself** to Pictet & Cie, indicating your name (in block capitals) and individual CPIT account number and that you're making a contribution. You can obtain *bulletins de versement* (payment slips used at the Swiss Post Office) by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Fund (not Pictet & Cie).
4. At times of the year when you're not working, you can, if you wish, and following the same procedure, **make additional direct contributions** to the CPIT. You will, at the very least, have to pay

the annual minimum contribution of 600 Swiss francs, which is set aside to cover administrative costs.

5. If, in a given year, the amount deducted from your salary by the organizations employing you and the amount you have paid in yourself total less than CHF 30,000 – the current annual ceiling established by the Foundation Council – you can **make additional contributions** up to that ceiling.

**Example:**

**In a given year, the organizations paid in CHF 16,500 (deducted from your salary) on your behalf. You can pay in an additional maximum amount of CHF 13,500 (30,000 – 16,500) before 31 December. In so doing, you improve your future pension benefits.**

6. If you have a **permanent position** at an international organization and are a member of the CPIT, pay your contribution directly to Pictet & Cie, as indicated in paragraph 3 above.

### III. How do I purchase benefits?

In order to improve your retirement pension, you can buy additional benefits, up to an amount corresponding to the average amount of your annual contributions, multiplied by the number of years between your age on joining and the age of 20 (Article 11.4 of the Regulations). That amount may be limited in some cases by Swiss legislation. New members can purchase benefits after the end of the first year of membership, but are under no obligation to do so immediately; purchases can also be spread over time.

When purchasing benefits, please:

- (a) clearly state on the payment order that it concerns a "purchase of benefits" (the entire sum of the purchase is paid into your savings account, with no deductions for insurance or costs, unlike contributions);
- (b) inform the Fund in writing.

The maximum amount you are authorized to purchase is indicated on the insurance certificate every member receives during the first quarter of each year.

**Think twice!** Benefits resulting from a purchase cannot be paid out in the form of capital for three years as of the date of purchase.

### IV. How do I calculate my future pension?

The amount of your pension depends on the following:

- the age at which you joined the Fund;
- the amount of your annual contributions (paid in by the organizations or by you);
- the amount of your purchases;
- yield on capital;

- how well the Fund did in a given year (if it did well, and its financial situation permits, the Fund redistributes its earnings to its members).

**You can ask to receive your pension as of the age of 60 if you stop working at that point, but in that case your pension will be calculated using a less favourable conversion rate (see Article 21 of the Regulations). You can also, if you work past the age of 65, continue to contribute and delay the payment of your pension until the age of 70 at the latest (Article 20.3).**

Of course, every case is different. The personal certificate sent to each active member during the first quarter of each year provides individual information on the estimated amount of your future pension, the amount of the disability benefit, and the amount you can purchase. A few examples with figures are provided below.

**N.B. CPIT members can also choose to receive all or part of their pension savings in the form of capital, on condition that they give six months' advance notice.**

## Sample calculations

We have taken three examples (member joining at 30, 40 and 50) and in each case have calculated:

- the amount of the annual pension you would receive at 65, using a conversion rate of 6.35% and two hypothetical rates of interest paid on active members' accounts (2.5% and 0%) in the coming years, if your average annual contribution is CHF 5,000, CHF 10,000 or CHF 20,000;
- the additional extra pension you would receive, in each of the three cases, for every CHF 10,000 of additional benefits purchased one year after joining.

All the calculations were made using two *hypothetical* interest rates:

- the CPIT technical interest rate, which is used to calculate the amounts set aside to finance pensions (the rate is currently 3%, and is therefore a medium- to long-term target that cannot be attained each year);
- the interest rate paid on active members' accounts by decision of the Foundation Council. That rate may be reduced from one year to the next, and may be as low as 0% in a bad year. Conversely, in a good year, the Foundation Council may decide to apply a higher rate. On your individual certificate, the interest rate used to forecast future pensions is 2.5%, an attainable average over the long term.

Average annual payment in CHF	5,000		10,000		20,000	
Rate paid on active member accounts	2.5%	0.0%	2.5%	0.0%	2.5%	0.0%
<b>Case 1: age on joining 30 (35 years of contributions)</b>						
Annual pension in CHF	14,450	9,094	30,870	19,429	63,711	40,098
Additional pension per CHF 10,000 purchase	1,470	635	1,470	635	1,470	635
<b>Total annual pension in CHF</b>	<b>15,920</b>	<b>9,729</b>	<b>32,340</b>	<b>20,064</b>	<b>65,181</b>	<b>40,733</b>
<b>Case 2: age on joining 40 (25 years of contributions)</b>						
Annual pension in CHF	8,986	6,496	19,197	13,878	39,620	28,642
Additional pension per CHF 10,000 purchase	1,149	635	1,149	635	1,149	635
<b>Total annual pension in CHF</b>	<b>10,135</b>	<b>7,131</b>	<b>20,346</b>	<b>14,513</b>	<b>40,769</b>	<b>29,277</b>
<b>Case 3: age on joining 50 (15 years of contributions)</b>						
Annual pension in CHF	4,717	3,898	10,078	8,327	20,799	17,185
Additional pension per CHF 10,000 purchase	897	635	897	635	897	635
<b>Total annual pension in CHF</b>	<b>5,614</b>	<b>4,533</b>	<b>10,975</b>	<b>8,962</b>	<b>21,696</b>	<b>17,820</b>

## V. Other benefits

### A. In the event of disability

The annual disability pension is equal to 150% of the total contribution paid during the calendar year preceding the start of the inability to work (Articles 24 to 26 of the Regulations). Should you become disabled, the Fund will also pay your contributions until such time as you are no longer entitled to a disability pension, at the latest until the standard retirement age of 65 (Article 23). In other words, the Fund will continue to pay into your account an amount equal to the previous year's contribution, minus the amounts set aside to cover costs and insurance.

### B. In the event of death

Should you die before you retire, the CPIT pays your beneficiaries a lump-sum benefit (Articles 27 to 30 of the Regulations). After retirement, it pays a pension to your surviving partner/spouse (Articles 31 to 33) or a lump-sum death benefit to your beneficiaries (Articles 34 and 35).

**Do you have other questions? Contact the members of the Foundation Council or write to the CPIT (CPIT, c/o Swiss Life Pension Services, Mr. Claude Yves Adam, Avenue de Rumine 13, Case postale 1260, 1001 Lausanne, Switzerland). You can also reach the CPIT secretariat by telephone (+41 (0) 21 329 22 69) or e-mail (claudeyves.adam@slps.ch).**

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