

12 September 2018

EM/2018/19

Dear IPBES Member States,

I would like to invite you to submit to the secretariat, nominations of candidates for the Bureau of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). Elections for membership of the Bureau will be held during the seventh session of the IPBES Plenary (29 April to 4 May 2019, Paris, France).

Nominations should be made by completing the nomination form at www.ipbes.net/nominations/bureau-ipbes7 including the submission of a curriculum vitae of the nominee.

As stipulated in rule 15 of the rules of procedure for the Plenary of IPBES, the Bureau of the Plenary, consisting of the Chair, four Vice-Chairs, and five other officers, is elected from among the members of the Platform. Each region is represented by two officers in the Bureau, taking into account the principle of geographical representation. The Chair and four Vice-Chairs, one of whom acts as Rapporteur to the Plenary, will be selected with due consideration to scientific and technical expertise from each one of the five United Nations regions. The five additional members of the Bureau will carry out relevant administrative functions.

The term of office of a Bureau member is 3 years with the opportunity for re-election for one consecutive term. In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure, the term of office of the members of the Bureau, which commenced at the end of the fourth session of the Plenary, will end at the close of the seventh session, when the new Bureau is to be elected.

The secretariat will post the names of the nominees and their curricula vitae, on the website of IPBES as soon as they are received. Information on nominations received will also be compiled by the secretariat in an information document to the Plenary.

According to rule 15 of the rules of procedure, candidates for the Bureau will be proposed by Governments for nomination by regions and election by the Plenary. In order to allow consultations at the regional level ahead of the seventh session of the Plenary, we would like to ask you to send your nominations by **4 January 2019**.

Further information on the nomination and selection of the officers of the Bureau, as well as their role and required expertise are provided in the rules of procedure for the Plenary of the Platform (as adopted in decision IPBES-1/1 and amended in decision IPBES-2/1, see [here](#)), and in the functions, operating principles and institutional arrangements of IPBES as set out in appendix I to the Resolution establishing IPBES (UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9, appendix I, see [here](#)). All nominees for election as the Chair and Vice-Chairs need to have relevant expertise from the agreed guidelines.

With regard to the election of the Chair, rule 15, paragraph 3 states that the Chair will be rotated among the five United Nations regions every 3 years without the possibility of re-election as Chair.

At the sixth session of the Plenary, the Chair held informal consultations on the matter of rotation, and the following paragraph was included in the report of the session (IPBES/6/15, paragraph 18): "In his report back to the Plenary on the outcome of these consultations, [the Chair] said that all the regional groups had reaffirmed the applicability of rule 15 of the rules of procedure for the sessions of the Plenary, which included the provision that the Chair of the Bureau would be rotated among the five United Nations regions every three years without the possibility of re-election as Chair. While all the regions had acknowledged that applying this rule on rotation would mean that the next Chair of IPBES would come from the African region, the Eastern European region or the Latin American and the Caribbean region, there had been no consensus on whether the Plenary should decide on the sequence in which the regions would assume the Chair. Therefore, the Plenary agreed to continue to apply rule 15 and to reflect that agreement in the report of the session".

I thank you in advance for your support and cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely



Anne Larigauderie
Executive Secretary
Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services