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**Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy
Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
Sixth session**

Medellin, Colombia, 18–24 March 2018

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda*

**Organizational matters: election of members of the
Multidisciplinary Expert Panel****Multidisciplinary Expert Panel: nomination and selection
process and proposals received for members of the Panel****Note by the secretariat**

1. At its third session, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) elected 25 members to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in accordance with the rules of procedure for the Plenary as adopted in decision IPBES-1/1 and amended in decision IPBES-2/1. The term of office of those members will end at the close of the sixth session of the Plenary.
2. At the fifth session of the Plenary, Mr. Mariteuw Chimère Diaw (African States), Ms. Katalin Török (Eastern European States), Mr. Mersudin Avdibegović (Eastern European States) and Mr. Marcelo Cabido (Latin American and Caribbean States) were selected as alternates to replace four members who had resigned, to serve until the end of the sixth session of the Plenary in line with rule 29 of the rules of procedure.
3. At its sixth session, the Plenary will thus be invited to elect 25 members to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel.
4. In line with rule 26 of the rules of procedure, candidates for the Panel are to be proposed by members of the Platform for nomination by the regions and election by the Plenary. Taking into account disciplinary and gender balance, each region is to nominate five candidates for membership of the Panel. In addition, rule 26 provides criteria that could be taken into account in nominating and selecting members of the Panel, including the following:
 - (a) Scientific expertise in biodiversity and ecosystem services with regard to both natural and social sciences and traditional and local knowledge among the members of the Panel;
 - (b) Scientific, technical or policy expertise and knowledge of the main elements of the IPBES programme of work;
 - (c) Experience in communicating, promoting and incorporating science into policy development processes;
 - (d) Ability to work in international scientific and policy processes.
5. In accordance with rule 29, the term of office of all the Panel members is three years, with a possibility of re-election for one consecutive term.
6. In October 2017, the Executive Secretary invited members of the Platform to submit written nominations and accompanying curricula vitae of nominees for the Panel by no later than 4 December 2017. The invitation was accompanied by a guidance document on the process for the proposal by

* IPBES/6/1.

members of the Platform, nomination by regions, consultations, selection by the Plenary of the members of the Panel and eligibility for re-election. By 4 December 2017, 27 nominations had been received from the IPBES focal points. In the light of the low number of nominations received, the deadline for nominations was extended beyond 4 December to 2 February 2018. A list of the 35 nominations received by 15 December, when the present note was finalized, is set out in its annex.

7. Governments are informed of the need for members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to commit 20 per cent of their time to the work of the Panel, which translates to roughly 10 weeks a year, with significant international travel. Governments are also requested to consider the need to ensure that nominees from developed countries have the necessary financial resources at their disposal to attend two Multidisciplinary Expert Panel meetings as well as several IPBES workshops every year.

8. The Committee on Conflicts of Interest will review the conflict of interest disclosure forms of candidates for election to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to determine their eligibility for election according to rule 3 of the conflict of interest policy and implementation procedures adopted by the Plenary in decision IPBES-3/3. The report of the Committee will be set out in document IPBES/6/INF/22, and an update will be included in the oral report by the Executive Secretary to the Plenary at its sixth session under agenda item 5.

9. The list of all nominees as at 11 December 2017 for consideration by the Plenary at its sixth session is set out in the annex to the present note. An updated compilation of nominations received by 2 February 2018 will be made available in document IPBES/6/INF/25, while the curricula vitae of the nominees are set out in documents IPBES/6/INF/26–IPBES/6/INF/30 for each of the five United Nations regions, respectively. The nominations received are available on the IPBES website at <https://www.ipbes.net/nominations/mep-2017>.

10. The Bureau members will facilitate interregional and intraregional consultations for the selection of the Panel members during the regional consultations to be held immediately prior to the sixth session of the Plenary.

Annex**Proposals received for members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (as at 11 December 2017)**

<i>Nominated by</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Gender</i>
African States			
Cameroon	Mariteuw Chimere Diaw ^a	African Model Forests	Male
Madagascar	Voahangy Raharimalala ^a	Office National pour l'Environnement	Female
Morocco	Nard Bennas	Université Abdelmalek Essaadi	Female
Morocco	Brahim Haddane	Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment - Rabat	Female
Morocco	Mohammed Sghir Taleb	Institut Scientifique, Mohammed V University in Rabat	Male
Nigeria	Edu Effiom	Government of Cross River State, Nigeria	Male
South Africa	Nicholas King	Self-employed	Male
Sudan	Aisha Elfaki	Wildlife Research Centre	Female
Sudan	El Khitma Mohammed	Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources	Female
Zambia	Gertrude Ngenda	University of Zambia Institute for Economic and Social Research	Female
Asia-Pacific States			
China	Ning Wu	Chengdu Institute of Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Male
Japan	Shizuka Hashimoto	Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Tokyo	Male
Philippines	Theresa Mundita Lim	Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Biodiversity Management Bureau	Female
Eastern European States			
Belarus	Ruslan Novitsky ^a	National Academy of Sciences of Belarus	Male
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mersudin Avdibegović ^a	Faculty of Forestry, University of Sarajevo	Male
Hungary	Katalin Török ^a	Institute of Ecology and Botany, Hungarian Academy of Sciences	Female
Turkey	Emre Keskin	Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Faculty of Agriculture, Ankara University	Male
Latin American and Caribbean States			
Costa Rica	Carmen Roldán	Fondo Nacional de Financiamiento Forestal	Female
Saint Lucia	Marie-Louise Felix	Sir Arthur Lewis Community College	Female
Saint Lucia	Francillia N. Solomon	Government of Saint Lucia	Female
Trinidad and Tobago	Reia Guppy	The University of Trinidad and Tobago	Female

<i>Nominated by</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Gender</i>
Trinidad and Tobago	Rahanna Juman	Institute of Marine Affairs	Female
Western European and other States			
Belgium	Nele Witters	Hasselt University, Centre of Environmental Economics	Female
Denmark	Carsten Rahbek	Natural History Museum of Denmark, University of Copenhagen	Male
Finland	Janne Kotiaho	University of Jyväskylä, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences	Male
Finland	Tiina Nieminen	Natural Resources Institute Finland, (Luke)	Female
France	Françoise Gaill	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique - Institut Ecologie et Environnement (CNRS - INEE)	Female
France	Alain Karsenty	Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD)	Male
France	Esther Katz	Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)/Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN)	Female
France	Sandra Lavorel	Université Grenoble Alpes	Female
France	Virginie Maris	Centre d'Ecologie Fonctionnelle et Evolutive – Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CEFE – CNRS)	Female
Netherlands	Esther Turnhout	Forest and Nature Conservation Policy Group, Wageningen University	Female
Portugal	Isabel Sousa Pinto	University of Porto	Female
Sweden	Marie Stenseke ^a	Department of Economy and Society, University of Gothenburg	Female
Switzerland	Markus Fischer	University of Bern	Male

^a Current member of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel; all these members are eligible for a second term.