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| **UNITED  NATIONS** | Description: Description: !UNLOGO | | Description: Description: !UNEP | E:\Logos\UNESCO (black).jpg |  | Description: E:\Logos\UNDP (blck).jpg |  | **BES** |
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|  | | **Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services** | | | | | Distr.: General 11 December 2017  Original: English | |

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[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

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:
   1. 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;
   2. Scientific, technical or policy expertise and knowledge of the main elements of the IPBES programme of work;
   3. Experience in communicating, promoting and incorporating science into policy development processes;
   4. 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 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)

| [*Nominate*](https://www.ipbes.net/nominations/mep-2017?combine=&order=field_government_member&sort=asc)*d by* | *Name* | *Affiliation* | *Gender* |
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| **African States** |  |  |  |
| Cameroon | Mariteuw Chimere Diawa | African Model Forests | Male |
| Madagascar | Voahangy Raharimalalaa | 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 Novitskya | National Academy of Sciences of Belarus | Male |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Mersudin Avdibegovića | Faculty of Forestry, University of Sarajevo | Male |
| Hungary | Katalin Töröka | 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 |
| 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 Stensekea | 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.

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1. \* IPBES/6/1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)