



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

Bonn, Germany, 3–9 July 2022

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters: election of officers**Election of officers****Note by the secretariat****Introduction**

1. At its ninth session, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) will be invited to hold regular elections for the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel.
2. The Plenary will also be invited to elect a vice-chair from the Asia-Pacific States as part of the Bureau to replace the vice-chair who resigned in 2021. The Plenary will further be invited to elect alternate members of the Bureau from the African States and the Asia-Pacific States.
3. Relevant information is set out in sections I (election of members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel) and II (election of members of the Bureau) below.

I. Election of members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel

4. At its sixth session, held in Medellín, Colombia, in March 2018, the Plenary elected a Multidisciplinary Expert Panel consisting of 25 members.
5. Paragraph 1 of rule 29 of the rules of procedure for sessions of the Plenary provides that the term of office of each Panel member is three years and should start at the closure of the session at which he or she is elected and end at the closure of the session at which his or her successor is elected.
6. At the seventh session of the Plenary, Ms. Dorothy Wanja Nyingi (African States) and Ms. Adriana Flores-Díaz (Latin American and Caribbean States) were selected to replace two members who had resigned, for the remainder of the terms of office of the resignees.
7. In its decision IPBES-8/2, the Plenary decided, notwithstanding rule 29 of the rules of procedure, that the terms of office of the current members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel would be extended until the closure of the ninth session of the Plenary, with their successors elected at that session.
8. At its ninth session, the Plenary will thus be invited to elect 25 members to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel.

* IPBES/9/1.

9. In line with rule 26 of the rules of procedure, candidates for the Panel are to be proposed by members of IPBES 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.
10. According to rule 29 of the rules of procedure for sessions of the Plenary, there is a possibility of re-election for one consecutive term.
11. In line with rule 27 of the rules of procedure, the secretariat, through notification [EM/2021/43](#) of 22 December 2021, invited members of IPBES to submit written nominations and accompanying curricula vitae of nominees for the Panel by 9 March 2022. The invitation was accompanied by a guidance note on the process for the submission of proposals by members of IPBES, nominations by regions, consultations within regions and selection by the Plenary, as well as information on eligibility for re-election of current members.
12. Members are reminded that candidates from developed countries would need to have financial resources at their disposal to support their participation in up to two meetings of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel per year, as well as several other IPBES meetings. IPBES does not provide financial support to members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel from developed countries, including nationals or residents of European Union member States or experts nominated by European Union member States, to attend IPBES meetings.
13. A list of nominations received by April 2022 is available in document IPBES/9/INF/3. All nominations received, including late nominations, are available on the IPBES website at <https://ipbes.net/nomination-mep-ipbes9-list>.
14. 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 on that review will be set out in document IPBES/9/INF/23, and an update will be included in the oral report by the Executive Secretary to the Plenary at its ninth session under item 5 of the provisional agenda.
15. Members may wish to hold interregional and intraregional consultations prior to and during the ninth session of the Plenary, with a view to each of the five United Nations regions nominating five candidates for election by the Plenary, in accordance with rule 26 of the rules of procedure and to ensure the overall gender and disciplinary balance of the Panel.
16. Each region may also wish to nominate, for selection by the Plenary, alternate candidates to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, who would replace any members of the Panel who resign before the end of their terms of office.

II. Election of members of the Bureau

17. At its seventh session, held in Paris in April and May 2019, the Plenary elected a Bureau consisting of a chair, four vice-chairs and five other officers. Information on the composition of the Bureau is available at <https://ipbes.net/bureau>.
18. Paragraph 3 of rule 15 of the rules of procedure for sessions of the Plenary states that the term of office of a Bureau member is three years and that such term of office starts at the closure of the session at which the member is elected and ends at the closure of the session at which the member's successor is elected. In its decision IPBES-8/2, the Plenary decided, notwithstanding rule 15 of the rules of procedure, that the term of office of the current members of the Bureau would extend until the closure of the tenth session of the Plenary, at which their successors would be elected.

19. In August 2021, the vice-chair from the Asia-Pacific States resigned from the Bureau for personal reasons. At its ninth session, the Plenary will thus be invited to elect a vice-chair from the Asia-Pacific States.
 20. The African States and the Asia-Pacific States may also wish to designate alternate members of the Bureau for approval by the Plenary, in line with rule 15, paragraph 4 of the rules of procedure, as those regions do not currently have any designated alternate members.
 21. Through notification [EM/2021/34](#) of 24 November 2021, the secretariat invited Governments from the African States and the Asia-Pacific States to submit proposals for candidates and accompanying curricula vitae by 9 March 2022.
 22. A list of nominations received by April 2022 is available in document IPBES/9/INF/4. All nominations received, including late nominations, are available on the IPBES website at https://ipbes.net/nomination/bureau_members_ipbes9-list.
 23. The Committee on Conflicts of Interest will review the conflict-of-interest disclosure forms of candidates for election to the Bureau 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 on that review will be set out in document IPBES/9/INF/23, and an update will be included in the oral report by the Executive Secretary to the Plenary at its ninth session under item 5 of the provisional agenda.
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