

Decision IPBES-2/1: Amendments to the rules of procedure for the Plenary with regard to rules governing the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel

The Plenary

Adopts rules 25–28 of its rules of procedure as set out below, thereby amending those rules:

Rule 25

1. The interim membership of the Panel will be based on equal representation of five participants nominated by each of the five United Nations regions. Such a membership will be in place for not more than a two-year period in order to allow the final regional structure and expert composition to be agreed at a session of the Plenary. The members of the Bureau will also be observers of the Panel during this period.
2. The membership of the Panel will be based on equal representation of five participants nominated by each of the five United Nations regions.
3. The co-chairs of the Panel may invite the Bureau to participate as observers of the Panel. The chairs of the scientific subsidiary bodies of the multilateral environmental agreements related to biodiversity and ecosystem services and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change will be observers. The Panel may also invite experts from the United Nations organizations that are partners of the collaborative partnership arrangement to participate as observers, as appropriate.
4. The members of the Panel are elected for their personal expertise and are not intended to represent any particular region.

Guidelines for the nomination and selection of members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel

Rule 26

Candidates for the Panel are to be proposed by members of the Platform for nomination by the regions and election by the Plenary. In the event that a region cannot agree on its nomination, the Plenary will decide. Taking into account disciplinary and gender balance, each region will nominate five candidates for membership of the Panel. The following criteria could be taken into account in nominating and selecting members of the Panel:

- (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 Platform's 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.

Rule 27

1. The secretariat of the Platform will invite members of the Platform to submit to the secretariat written nominations and accompanying curricula vitae of nominees for the Panel no less than four months before the scheduled election. Curricula vitae of all nominees are to be submitted to the secretariat and made available to members of the Platform, together with the names of persons nominated, as well as the identity of the region or observer making the nomination, on the website of the Platform.

2. The Plenary can accept late nominations at its discretion.

Election of members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel

Rule 28

1. The members of the Panel will be elected by the Plenary by consensus, unless the Plenary decides otherwise.
2. If the Plenary decides to elect members of the Panel by vote:
 - (a) The elections will be held during ordinary sessions of the Plenary;
 - (b) Each member of the Plenary has one vote in the elections;
 - (c) All elections will be decided by a majority of the members present and voting;
 - (d) All elections will be held by secret ballot, unless otherwise decided by the Plenary;
 - (e) After completion of the elections, the number of votes for each candidate and the number of abstentions will be recorded.