

Evaluation of the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization

Report of the Chairperson of the informal consultations on the evaluation of the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization

1. The Director-General has the honour to transmit to the Executive Board at its 146th session the Chairperson's summary and proposed way forward regarding the informal consultations on the evaluation of the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization held on 20 September and 9 October 2019 (see Annex).¹

ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

2. The Executive Board is invited to note the report, and to consider adopting the draft decision contained in the Annex.

¹ In this report, the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly and Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board are numbered according to the 48th edition of Basic documents.

ANNEX

INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE EVALUATION OF THE ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

CHAIRPERSON'S SUMMARY AND PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

A. Code of conduct for the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization

(a) Extent of travel during the campaign period

1. While delegations attending the informal consultations on the evaluation of the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) broadly supported the idea of creating equity among candidates in their opportunities to present themselves to Member States, no consensus emerged on the proposal to limit the extent of travel of candidates. The consideration was put forward that a limit on travel might restrict the opportunities for Member States that are further away from Geneva to engage with the candidates.
2. Further ways to enhance equity among candidates in their opportunities to present themselves to Member States include an improved web forum, a second candidates' forum and an advancement of the deadline for Member States to submit candidatures for the post of Director-General before the regional committee meetings in the year preceding the appointment. These options are further elaborated below.

(b) Amounts and sources of funding in relation to the electoral campaign

3. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed broad support for strengthening the wording of paragraphs B.II.3 and B.II.7 of the code of conduct for the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization to increase transparency by requiring that campaign activities, including amounts and sources of funding for campaign activities, be disclosed and communicated to the Secretariat by all Member States and candidates, and by stipulating that all Member States and candidates should disclose, rather than consider disclosing, such information, as well as information about grants or aid funding to other Member States, in a prompt manner.

(c) Official travel and electoral campaign

4. The code of conduct states that candidates should not combine their official travel with campaign activities. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed support for an amendment to paragraph B.II.10 to clarify that candidates on official travel may participate in the web forum, the candidates' forums and events on the margins of sessions of the regional committees.

(d) Compliance with the code of conduct

5. Delegations attending the informal consultations acknowledged that the code of conduct does not currently provide for a mechanism to consider and investigate allegations of breaches of the code of

conduct. This appears partly to be a result of the decision of the World Health Assembly, in resolution WHA66.18 (2013), that the code of conduct should not be legally binding. They also recognized that, in case of allegations of misconduct by internal candidates, mechanisms are provided within WHO to assess compliance with the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules and the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.

6. Delegations attending the informal consultations conveyed an interest in considering the establishment of an independent external group as a mechanism to oversee compliance with the code of conduct by Member States and candidates. In that respect, it is suggested that the Secretariat should explore, in advance of the 147th session of the Executive Board, whether there are codes of conduct applicable to the election of the executive heads of intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system and, if so, whether such codes are legally binding and whether they include compliance mechanisms.

(e) Web forum and publication of information on candidates

7. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed broad support for enhancing the opportunity to engage with candidates through an improved web forum, with some delegations recalling the technical limitations of the web forum used during the previous election. In particular, support was expressed for enabling searches among questions and answers in the web forum; the printing of questions and answers and cutting and pasting; establishing a slightly longer duration of the web forum; and setting a word limit on question and answers. Options and proposals under section A(e) are contained in Appendix 1 below.

8. Delegations attending the informal consultations broadly supported adopting amendments to the code of conduct to reflect that the provision of a username and password for the web forum and the posting of candidates' particulars on the WHO website would be an automatic consequence of being a candidate. In addition, they agreed to provide that such a forum should not take place in case only one candidate has been proposed for the post of Director-General.

Amendments proposed under section A are set out in Appendix 2 below

B. Candidates' forums

(a) Avoiding duplication and nature of questions

9. Delegations attending the informal consultations noted that during the candidates' forum held during the last Director-General election process, the level of difficulty of questions put to the candidates varied greatly, so that some delegations had multiple opportunities to ask questions while others did not have an opportunity to do so. Some of the delegations attending the informal consultations expressed support for giving to all Member States and Associate Members participating in the forums the same opportunity. Mechanisms to that effect should be identified.

10. Delegations attending the informal consultations further noted that it is the responsibility of individual Member States attending the candidates' forums to ensure that the same question is not asked twice, taking into account that questions are not necessarily duplicative even if they may at first appear to be. A few options are available concerning the method of selection of questions:

- (i) Member States and Associate Members could be invited to indicate if they wish to ask the candidates a question by placing their token in one of six receptacles (one for each

region). After six questions, one from each region, have been asked, the contents of the six receptacles could be merged into one and the selection of those invited to ask questions could continue, one-by-one, on a fully random basis until the time available is exhausted. This option presupposes that, as in the previous Director-General election process, candidates would be interviewed one after the other.

(ii) Member States and Associate Members could be invited to indicate if they wish to ask the candidates a question by placing their token in the respective receptacles (one for each candidate.) Questions could be asked in turn to each candidate. The candidate asked the question could have three minutes to respond. Before moving on to the next question, the other candidates could in turn have up to one minute to respond to the question if they so wish. This option presupposes that candidates would be interviewed all together at the same time.

(b) Devoting more time to the question-and-answer session

11. Delegations attending the informal consultations indicated support for a format allowing interviews lasting one hour as follows: 10 minutes for an oral presentation and 50 minutes for questions and answers. Amendments proposed in that respect are set out in Appendix 3 below.

(c) Expanding the range of opportunities for discussion with candidates under the auspices of WHO

12. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed interest in a second opportunity for a more interactive engagement with candidates to be held between the session of the Executive Board when the nomination of the Director-General will take place and the session of the Health Assembly when the appointment will take place, but also noted the very significant cost for the Organization of organizing a second forum and expressed concerns as to the challenges that proliferation of events might create, including with respect to the ability of smaller delegations to participate.

13. As to the format of a second candidates' forum, delegations attending the informal consultations expressed interest in a more interactive panel discussion between the candidates and Member States and Associate Members attending the forums, while taking into account the resource implications for the Secretariat arising therefrom.

14. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed strong support for advancing the deadline for the submission of proposals by Member States to before the first regional committee meeting in the year preceding the appointment, so that all candidates could present themselves on the margins of regional committee meetings, if they so wished. That point is further addressed in section F(a) below.

(d) Broadcasting the candidates' forums

15. Delegations attending the informal consultations indicated broad support for public broadcasting, accessible to all internet users, of future forums through a link on the WHO website, in order to improve the transparency of the process for the appointment of the Director-General. Amendments proposed in that respect are contained in Appendix 3 below.

C. Nomination of candidates by the Executive Board

(a) Short-listing

16. Delegations attending the informal consultations acknowledged that the drawing up of a short list of five candidates was rigid in case the overall number of candidates was only slightly higher. At the same time, while appreciating the merit of the short-listing process, they did not agree that flexibility around the number of candidates short-listed should be introduced in the absence of criteria that would make the eventual number of candidates on the short list predictable. It is, therefore, proposed not to amend the current framework on that point, i.e. to maintain that, if more than five candidates are proposed by Member States, the Board should draw up a short list of five candidates through successive secret ballots.

(b) Modalities of the interview

17. Delegations attending the informal consultations recognized the value of holding interviews in the Executive Board. However, while agreeing that interviews of short-listed candidates should be limited to 60 minutes, they expressed a preference for a more interactive format. Given that candidates are already provided prior to the session of the Executive Board at which the Director-General is nominated with opportunities to make their vision known, including through campaign material, delegations attending the informal negotiations expressed the view that 20 minutes could be devoted to an oral presentation and 40 minutes to a question-and-answer session. A decision point to that effect is contained in the draft decision proposed below.

D. Voting process

(a) Alternatives to secret ballot

18. Delegations attending the informal consultations supported the use of secret ballot voting for the Director-General, noting that the executive heads of other intergovernmental organizations of the United Nations system were also elected by secret ballot and emphasizing the importance of a voting system that would not jeopardize the future relationship between Member States and the Director-General appointed, while also expressing appreciation to the Secretariat for the smooth running of the secret ballot voting process during the last election process. A decision point to that effect is contained in the draft decision proposed below.

(b) Options to accelerate the voting procedures, if no secure electronic voting system is available

19. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed a clear preference to maintain the current paper-based voting system, as improved and deployed at the most recent election. The Secretariat was asked to further investigate the option of using an optical scanner to count paper votes and to report to the Executive Board at its 147th session accordingly. A decision point to that effect is contained in the draft decision proposed below.

E. Role of the Secretariat in the election process

20. Delegations attending the informal consultations agreed that the Secretariat should take appropriate steps to ensure that the organization of the election of the Director-General is conducted at

arm's length from any internal candidates by establishing, within the Secretariat, a unit with operational independence. A decision point to that effect is contained in the draft decision proposed below.

F. Overall duration and organization of the election process

(a) Length of the electoral campaign period

21. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed support for bringing forward the date on which the names of the candidates are announced to mid-August, before the start of the first regional committee, so as to enable all candidates to attend all the regional committee meetings, if they so wish, but also expressed concerns as to the financial implications for the Secretariat in organizing six additional events, one in each WHO region. This would moreover amount to lengthening the campaign period and run counter to a separate proposal to shorten the campaign period.

22. That change would require an amendment to Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, as set out in Appendix 4 below, together with a related amendment to the section on the candidates' forums and other events with candidates as set out in Appendix 3 below.

(b) Transition period between appointment and start of the contract

23. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed support for lengthening the transition period between the appointment of the Director-General by the Health Assembly and her or his taking office. This would imply deferring the start date of the contract of the incoming Director-General, currently set at 1 July of the year of appointment, to mid-August of the year of appointment, prior to the date on which the first regional committee meeting is held.

24. In order to give effect to that proposal, a one-off extension of one and a half months could be agreed for the term of the current Director-General's contract, which would require the Health Assembly to suspend Rule 106 of its Rules of Procedure in relation to the length of the term and to amend the contract of the Director-General originally agreed upon. A decision point to that effect is contained in the draft decision proposed below.

ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

25. In respect of **sections A, B, C and F(a)** (code of conduct for the election, candidates' forums, nomination of candidates by the Executive Board, length of the electoral campaign period) above, the Executive Board is invited to consider adopting the following draft decision, subject to its consideration of, and choice among, the amendments proposed in Appendices 2, 3 and 4 below:

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Chairperson of the Informal Consultations on the evaluation of the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization:¹

(1) recommended to the Seventy-third World Health Assembly the adoption of the amendments to Annexes 1 and 2 to resolution WHA66.18 (2013) on the code of conduct

¹ Document EB146/39.

for the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization and the candidates' forum, respectively, as set out in Appendices 2 and 3 below;

(2) recommended to the Seventy-third World Health Assembly that it continue to conduct the appointment of the Director-General by means of a paper-based secret ballot vote as currently provided for in its Rules of Procedure;

(3) recommended to the Seventy-third World Health Assembly that in future the beginning of the Director-General's contract be set in mid-August of the year of appointment and that the contract of the incumbent Director-General be amended accordingly;

(4) decided, with respect to the short list of candidates to be established in accordance with Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, that the interviews of candidates short-listed for the post of Director-General should be limited to 60 minutes, divided between: (i) an oral presentation of no more than 20 minutes on the candidate's vision for the future priorities of the Organization, with an analysis of current problems facing it and suggestions as to how those should be addressed; and (ii) a question-and-answer session of no more than 40 minutes;

(5) decided to adopt the amendment to Rule 52 of its Rules of Procedure, as set out in Appendix 4 to this document, in order to provide opportunities for all candidates for the post of Director-General to present themselves to Member States on the margins of the sessions of the WHO regional committees prior to the year in which the election takes place.

26. In respect of **section A(d)** above (code of conduct), the Executive Board requested the Secretariat to explore, in advance of the 147th session of the Executive Board, whether there are codes of conduct applicable to the election of the executive heads of other intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system and, if so, whether such codes are legally binding and whether they include compliance mechanisms.

27. In respect of **point 1 of Appendix 1** below (technical design of the web forum), the Executive Board is invited to consider further investigation of commercially available off-the-shelf cloud solutions, meeting the need for an enhanced and more interactive web forum.

28. In respect of **section D** above (voting process), and points 2 and 3 of Appendix 1 below (secure electronic voting, enforceability of limiting communications during the vote), the Executive Board decided:

(a) In respect of section D(a) above, to confirm its decision to continue to conduct the nomination of the Director-General by means of a paper-based secret ballot vote as currently provided in its Rules of Procedure;

(b) In respect of section D(b) above and point 2 of Appendix 1 below, to request the Secretariat, in advance of the 147th session of the Executive Board, to research and evaluate options for counting votes by means of an optical scanner;

(c) In respect of point 3 of Appendix 1 below, to retain the current practice of asking delegates to switch off their electronic devices and leave them switched off for the duration of the vote.

29. In respect of **section E** above (role of the Secretariat in the election process), the Board is invited to request the Director-General to take appropriate steps to ensure that the organization of the election of the Director-General is conducted at arm's length from any internal candidates by establishing, within the Secretariat, a unit with operational independence.

APPENDIX 1

**PROPOSALS AND OPTIONS WITH A PREDOMINANT
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMPONENT****Point 1. Technical design of the web forum**

1. The report by the evaluation management group on the evaluation of the election of the Director-General indicated that suggested improvements focus on improving the interactivity of the web forum tool, limiting the number of questions submitted and extending the period over which the forum is available. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed broad support for enhancing the opportunity to engage with candidates through an improved web forum, in particular, for enabling searches among questions and answers in the web forum as well as the printing of questions and answers and cutting and pasting, for a slightly longer duration of the web forum, and for setting a word limit on question and answers.

2. An enhanced and more interactive web forum tool could be provided by using customizable off-the-shelf cloud solutions, available from companies specializing in such services, at a relatively low level of cost. In contrast, replicating the interactive functionality of such popular collaboration platforms in the existing web forum tool is likely to be cost-prohibitive. Users may be familiar with the design and functionality of commercially available off-the-shelf solutions and such solutions could enable restricted access for candidates and Member States only. There may, however, be potential issues concerning the availability of such solutions in all Member States.

3. The use of an interactive off-the-shelf tool to conduct the web forum would have further implications that Member States may wish to consider. While issues concerning the categorization of questions could potentially be overcome by enabling users to “tag” questions and answers, the Secretariat’s role in moderating a more interactive web forum may have to be different from the one during the previous election, due to the spontaneity and speed with which candidates and Member States could post questions and answers on a more interactive web forum tool. It would be technically possible to limit the number of questions that delegations may put to candidates. If it was intended to make use of the built-in machine translation capacity that off-the-shelf tools may provide, Member States should be informed that such translations could happen very quickly but may not be carried out with the same thoroughness and skill as the translations provided during the previous web forum. It should also be noted that such a tool is likely to increase the demands on candidates to participate in the web forum, which may already be regarded as significant.

4. If the Executive Board wishes to pursue the idea of a more interactive tool to carry out the web forum part of the election process, commercially available off-the-shelf cloud solutions could be investigated further.

Point 2. Secure electronic voting

5. The benefits in terms of time saved through an electronic voting system for the election of the Director-General are self-evident. The challenge is to find an electronic solution that: can ensure a safe and secure vote, free from risk of error or interference; is both secret and verifiable in the case of challenge; and is cost-effective. As evidenced by the study commissioned by the Secretariat in 2016, current solutions have inherent flaws, are expensive, and pose substantial risks to the voting process. Alternatively, new and emerging technologies are not yet proven to be reliable and cost-effective.

6. In any event, the level of confidence and transparency provided by a paper-based voting system conducted at the Health Assembly cannot at present be replicated by an electronic voting system. Nor do electronic voting systems allow for verification of results in the event of a challenge in the way that a paper-based system does.

7. The Secretariat has benchmarked the use of electronic voting against the voting systems used by other United Nations and related organizations. Among the bodies that responded, only WMO seems to have used an electronic voting system to elect its executive head. A system that is broadly similar to the one used by WMO in the past was rejected following the 138th session of the Executive Board in January 2016 (at which the system was tested) because it was not considered to be sufficiently user friendly. None of the other entities that responded uses an electronic voting system for the election by secret ballot of their executive head, even if the entity uses electronic voting for other decisions. The bodies that responded were: the International Criminal Court (in respect of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute), the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, FAO, IAEA, ICAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, the United Nations, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU and WMO.

8. It is the secret nature of the vote for the Director-General that creates the particular difficulties. If a recorded vote or roll-call vote were used instead (see above Section D of document), an electronic solution is likely to be more feasible.

9. If the Executive Board wishes to retain a secret ballot for the election of the Director-General, the option of using an optical scanner to count paper votes could be investigated further. An optical scanner combined with paper-based voting would provide a secure and end-to-end verifiable election process. It would also be likely to provide savings in terms of time with respect to counting of votes.

Point 3. Enforceability of limiting communications during the vote

10. Two options were reviewed by the Secretariat to limit communications during the vote from within the voting venue:

(a) to ask representatives of Member States to leave their electronic devices outside the voting premises. This option would require logistical arrangements for the Secretariat to coordinate with Member States before, during and after the voting process. Aside from creating logistical challenges, this option relies on an “honour-based” system, unless delegates are subjected to a search upon entry to the room. It is unlikely that such an honour-based system would be any more effective than the current “honour system” of asking delegates to switch off their electronic devices and leave them switched off for the duration of the vote;

(b) installation of jammers or “blockers” of communications signals within the voting premises. This option is deemed infeasible as the installation of such devices is strictly prohibited in Switzerland (and many other Member States) except for specific use by government authorities.¹ These devices block all communications by mobile telephones and could pose substantial dangers during times of emergencies.

In the light of these considerations, it is recommended that the current practice of requesting delegates to switch off all their electronic devices should be maintained.

¹ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

APPENDIX 2

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION¹

Proposed amendments to the code of conduct for the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization, as contained in World Health Assembly resolution WHA66.18, Annex 1, are set out below, with proposed deletions indicated in strikethrough and proposed additions in bold text.

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B. Requirements for the different steps of the election process

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II. Electoral campaign

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3. All Member States and candidates should ~~consider~~ **promptly** disclosing their campaign activities (for example, hosting of meetings, workshops and visits), **together with the amount and source of all funding for campaign activities**, and communicate them to the Secretariat. Information so disclosed will be posted on a dedicated page of the WHO website.

...

7. Member States proposing persons for the post of Director-General should ~~consider~~ **promptly** disclosing grants or aid funding to other Member States **during the campaign period and** the previous two years in order to ensure full transparency and mutual confidence among Member States.

...

10. Candidates, whether internal or external, should not combine their official travel with campaigning activities. Electoral promotion or propaganda under the guise of technical meetings or similar events should be avoided. **It is understood, however, that candidates for the post of Director-General on official travel may participate in the web forum, the candidates' forums and events on the margins of regional committee sessions.**

...

11. After the Director-General has dispatched all proposals, curricula vitae and supporting information to Member States in accordance with Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Secretariat will open on the WHO website a password-protected forum for questions and answers, open to all Member States and candidates. ~~who request to participate in such a forum~~ **Such a forum will not be held in case only one candidate has been proposed.** The Secretariat will also post on the WHO website information on all candidates ~~who so request~~ including their curricula vitae and other particulars of their qualifications and experience as received from Member States, **within the deadline provided in the second paragraph of Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive**

¹ In this report, the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board are numbered according to the 48th edition of Basic documents.

Board of the World Health Organization, as well as their contact information. The website will also provide links to individual websites of candidates **if any and** upon request. Each candidate is responsible for setting up and financing his or her own website.

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APPENDIX 3

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CANDIDATES' FORUM¹

Proposed amendments to the candidates' forum, as contained in World Health Assembly resolution WHA66.18, Annex 2, are set out below, with proposed deletions indicated in strikethrough and proposed additions in bold text.

CANDIDATES' FORUMS AND OTHER EVENTS WITH CANDIDATES**A. CANDIDATES' FORUMS**

Convening and conduct of the forums

1. ~~Two~~ **The** candidates' forums will be convened by the Secretariat at the request of the Executive Board as a self-standing events: **one** preceding the **session of the Board, at which candidates will be nominated for the post of Director-General and one prior to the session of the Health Assembly at which the appointment will take place.** ~~Both candidates' forums and~~ will be chaired by the ~~Chairman~~ **Chair** of the Board, with the support of the Officers of the Executive Board. The Board will ~~formally convene the candidates' forum and decide its~~ **the dates of the forums** at the session preceding the session at which the nomination will take place.

Timing

2. The candidates' forums shall be held not later than two months in advance of the sessions of the Board **and the Health Assembly** ~~session~~ at which the nomination **and appointment** will take place, **respectively.**

Duration

3. The duration of the candidates' forums will be decided by the Officers of the Board depending on the number of candidates. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the maximum duration of the forums shall be three days **each.**

Format

4. **The first candidates' forum will consist of interviews with the candidates.** Each candidate shall make a presentation of up to ~~30~~ **10** minutes, which will be followed by a question and answer session so that the overall duration of each interview shall be 60 minutes. The order of the interviews shall be determined by lot. ~~The forum shall decide, upon the proposal of the Chairman, on detailed arrangement for the interviews.~~

4 bis. The second candidates' forum will consist of a more interactive panel discussion between the candidates and Member States and Associate Members attending the forum.

¹ Already showing the amendments adopted by the 144th session of the Executive Board in January 2019 through decision EB144(4).

~~5. Member States and Associate Members participating in the candidates' forum will be invited to prepare questions for each candidate during the initial presentation. Questions to be asked to each candidate will be drawn by lot by the Chairman.~~

5. Further detailed arrangements for the interviews may be decided either by the Board at its session preceding the event or by the Member States and Associate Members attending the forum upon the proposal of the Chair of the Board.

Participation

6. Participation in the candidates' forums will be limited to Member States¹ and Associate Members of the World Health Organization.

~~7. For those Member States or Associate Members which are not able to attend, t~~The candidates' forums will be broadcast by the Secretariat through a **link on the WHO website accessible to the public** ~~password-protected web site.~~

Documentation

8. The curricula vitae of candidates and other supporting information provided in line with Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure of the Board **within the deadline set out in the second paragraph thereof** will be made available electronically to all Member States and Associate Members in the **WHO official languages** ~~versions provided on a password-protected website.~~

B. OTHER EVENTS WITH CANDIDATES

9. The Secretariat will, in a format to be decided upon by the Executive Board in consultation with the relevant Regional Directors, convene (an) event(s) for all the candidates who so wish, on the margins of each regional committee session preceding the Board session at which the nomination will take place. Those events will not be held in case only one candidate has been proposed.

¹ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

APPENDIX 4¹

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULE 52 OF THE RULES OF
PROCEDURE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION²³**

Current version	Proposed amended version
...	...
Any Member State may propose for the post of Director-General one or more persons, submitting with the proposal the curriculum vitae or other supporting information for each person. Such proposals shall be sent under confidential sealed cover to the Chair of the Executive Board, care of the World Health Organization in Geneva (Switzerland), so as to reach the headquarters of the Organization not less than four months before the date fixed for the opening of the session.	Any Member State may propose for the post of Director-General one or more persons, submitting with the proposal the curriculum vitae or other supporting information for each person. Such proposals shall be sent under confidential sealed cover to the Chair of the Executive Board, care of the World Health Organization in Geneva (Switzerland), so as to reach the headquarters of the Organization not less than four six months before the date fixed for the opening of the session.
The Chair of the Board shall open the proposals received sufficiently in advance of the session so as to ensure that all proposals, curricula vitae and supporting information are translated into all official languages, duplicated and dispatched to all Member States three months before the date fixed for the opening of the session.	The Chair of the Board shall open the proposals received sufficiently in advance of the session so as to ensure that all proposals, curricula vitae and supporting information are translated into all official languages, duplicated and dispatched to all Member States three five months before the date fixed for the opening of the session.

¹ Proposed deletions are indicated in strikethrough and proposed additions in bold text.

² Already showing the amendments adopted by the 144th session of the Executive Board in January 2019 through decision EB144(4).

³ In this report, the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board are numbered according to the 48th edition of Basic documents.

<p>Immediately after the dispatch to Member States of the proposals, curricula vitae and supporting information, the Director-General shall, in consultation with the Chair of the Board, convene a candidates' forum open to all Member States and Associate Members, to which all candidates will be invited to make themselves and their vision known to Member States on an equal basis. The candidates' forum shall be chaired by the Chair of the Board and shall be held not later than two months before the opening of the session. The Board shall decide on the modalities of the candidates' forum. The candidates' forum shall not be convened in case only one person has been proposed for the post of Director-General.</p>	<p>Immediately A After the dispatch to Member States of the proposals, curricula vitae and supporting information, the Director-General shall, in consultation with the Chair of the Board, convene a two candidates' forums open to all Member States and Associate Members, to which all candidates will be invited to make themselves and their vision known to Member States on an equal basis. The candidates' forums shall be chaired by the Chair of the Board and shall be held not later than two months before the opening of the session. The first forum should be held not later than two months before the opening of the Board and the second one not later than two months before the opening of the Health Assembly. The Board shall decide on the modalities of the candidates' forums. The candidates' forums shall not be convened in case only one person has been proposed for the post of Director-General.</p>
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