

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

Informal consultations on the evaluation of the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization

Chair's summary and proposed way forward

1. The Director-General has the honour to transmit herewith to the Seventy-third World Health Assembly for its consideration the Chair'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 25 February and 7 July 2020 (see Annex).

ACTION BY THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

2. The Health Assembly is invited to consider adopting the draft decision contained in the Annex.

ANNEX

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

CHAIR'S SUMMARY AND PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

1. The Executive Board at its 146th session on 4–8 February 2020 requested, inter alia, the Director-General to facilitate informal consultations with Member States concerning the length of the campaign period in respect of proposed amendments to Annexes 1 and 2 to resolution WHA66.18 (2013) on the code of conduct for the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization and the candidates' forum, respectively.¹
2. Informal consultations were held on 25 February and 7 July 2020. Delegations attending the informal consultations expressed the view that:
 - (a) a second candidates' forum should be held; and
 - (b) no regional events on the margins of the WHO regional committees sessions should be organized by the Secretariat; but prospective candidate(s) may be invited to attend regional committees sessions preceding the Board session at which the nomination will take place, upon request of a Member State(s) to the Regional Director concerned, and may conduct campaign activities on the margins of the regional committees sessions.

ACTION BY THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

3. The Health Assembly is invited to consider adopting the following draft decision:

The Seventy-third World Health Assembly, 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 Organization² and taking into account the discussions at the 146th session of the Executive Board,³ decided to adopt the amendments to Annexes 1 and 2 to resolution WHA66.18 (2013) on the code of conduct for the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization and the candidates' forum, respectively, as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to this document.

¹ Decision EB146(22).

² Document EB146/39.

³ See the summary records of the Executive Board at its 146th session, fourteenth meeting, section 6, and fifteenth meeting, section 1.

Appendix 1

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

Proposed amendments to the code of conduct for the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization, as contained in resolution WHA66.18, Annex 1, are set out below,¹ with proposed deletions indicated in strikethrough and proposed additions in bold text.²

...

B. Requirements for the different steps of the election process

...

II. Electoral campaign

...

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 in campaign activities 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 ~~5262~~ of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Secretariat will open on the WHO website a password-protected forum for questions and

¹ The appendix shows the proposed amendments contained in document EB146/39, Annex 2, that were considered by the Executive Board at its 146th session.

² Proposed changes arising from the informal consultations are indicated: bold and strikethrough indicates proposed deletions to proposed additions included in document EB146/39, Annex 2, and bold and underlined indicates proposed new text. Note that the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board in document EB146/39, Annex 2, were numbered according to the 48th edition of Basic documents. The Rules of Procedure in the current appendix have therefore been numbered according to the 49th edition of Basic documents.

answers, open to all Member States and candidates. ~~who request to participate in such a forum~~ **Such a forum will not be held in the case of 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 5262 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive 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~~ **her** or ~~her~~ **his** own website.

Appendix 2

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CANDIDATES' FORUM

Proposed amendments to the candidates' forum, as contained in resolution WHA66.18, Annex 2, are set out below,¹ with proposed deletions indicated in strikethrough and proposed additions in bold text.²

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

Convening and conduct of the forums

1. ~~Two~~ **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~~ **decide 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.~~

¹ The appendix shows the proposed amendments contained in document EB146/39, Annex 3, that were considered by the Executive Board at its 146th session.

² Text in bold and strikethrough indicates proposed deletions, arising from the informal consultations, to proposed additions included in document EB146/39, Annex 3. Note that the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board in document EB146/39, Annex 2, were numbered according to the 48th edition of Basic documents. The Rules of Procedure in the current appendix have therefore been numbered according to the 49th edition of Basic documents.

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.

~~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~~**62** 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.~~

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¹ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.