



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Distr.: General
15 September 2016

Original: English

Industrial Development Board

Forty-fourth session

Vienna, 22-24 November 2016

Agenda item 12 of the provisional agenda

Preparations for the selection process for the post of the Director General

Preparations for the selection process for the post of Director General

Note by the Secretariat

The present note contains information on the legislative procedures and timelines relating to the selection process for the post of Director General and recommends a draft decision on a candidates' forum, if required.

I. Introduction

1. In order to ensure a smooth and timely selection process in accordance with the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on the "Selection and conditions of service of executive heads in the United Nations system organizations" (JIU/REP/2009/8), and based on the successful introduction of a forum of candidates for the post of Director General in 2013 (decision IDB.40/Dec.10), the present document provides background information on the legislative procedures of UNIDO governing the appointment of the Director General and on preparations for a candidates' forum in case one is required.

II. Legislative procedures of UNIDO

2. Article 11.2 of the Constitution stipulates that the Director General shall be appointed by the General Conference upon recommendation of the Industrial

For reasons of economy, this document has not been printed. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.



Development Board for a period of four years. Article 11.2 also provides that the Director General may be reappointed for a further term of four years, after which he shall not be eligible for reappointment.

3. At its second special session on 28 June 2013, the General Conference appointed Mr. LI Yong as Director General of UNIDO for a period of four years from 28 June 2013 or until the Director General to be appointed at the seventeenth regular session of the General Conference assumes office, whichever is later (decision GC/S.2/Dec.7). The seventeenth session of the General Conference will take place in Vienna from 27 November to 1 December 2017.

4. Rule 61.2 of the rules of procedure of the Board provides that a candidate for the post of Director General shall be nominated in writing by his or her Government to the President of the Board. Rule 61.2 goes on to stipulate that, to be eligible for consideration, nominations of candidates must be received by the President of the Board at the latest two months prior to the opening date of the last regular session of the Board before the General Conference which is to appoint the Director General.

5. The forty-fifth session of the Board, to be held tentatively from 27 to 30 June 2017, is the last regular session of the Board before the seventeenth session of the General Conference. It is accordingly foreseen that the forty-fifth session of the Board will consider nominations for the post of Director General and make a recommendation to the General Conference on the appointment or reappointment of the Director General, as the case may be.

6. The exact dates of the forty-fifth session of the Board will be decided by the Board at its current session. In accordance with paragraph (f) of decision IDB.39/Dec.7 and past practice, the Board holds regular sessions of four working days in General Conference years in which the Board is to consider the recommendation of a candidate for the post of Director General. Therefore, if the forty-fifth session commences on 27 June 2017, the deadline for receipt of nominations by the President of the Board will be 27 April 2017.

7. In line with past practice, a note verbale on the subject will be circulated to Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Member States in December 2016 at the latest. The note will notify Member States of the legislative procedures of UNIDO governing the appointment of the Director General and invite interested Member States to inform the President of the Board of the names and curricula vitae of candidates they wish to nominate for the position. In line with rule 61.2, the President will request the Secretariat to circulate such nominations as are received to Member States without delay.

8. The names and curricula vitae of any candidates received by the President of the Board within the established deadline will be presented in a document to the forty-fifth session of the Board. If balloting is required in order for the Board to recommend a candidate to the General Conference, secret ballots will be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in rules 61.4 to 61.9 of the rules of procedure of the Board and appendix B to those rules. The Board's recommendation on the appointment of the Director General will be considered by the General Conference in accordance with rule 103 of the latter's rules of procedure.

III. Procedures for the candidates' forum at UNIDO

9. The first forum of candidates for the post of Director General was convened on 21 May 2013 (decision IDB.40/Dec.10). In order to minimize costs, the candidates' forum was scheduled back-to-back with the twenty-ninth session of the Programme and Budget Committee. The costs of each candidate's participation in the forum were borne by the nominating Member State.

10. In 2017, in the event that more than one candidate is nominated for the post, it is proposed to schedule a candidates' forum on 15 May 2017, i.e. one day before the thirty-third session of the Programme and Budget Committee (16 to 18 May 2017).

11. It is recommended that the same procedures as those applied in 2013 and set out in document IDB.40/21/Add.1 should be followed for the candidates' forum in 2017 and future candidates' forums. The modalities are reproduced in the annex to the present document.

IV. Action required of the Board

12. The Board may wish to consider adopting the following draft decision:

“The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Takes note of the information contained in document IDB.44/17;

(b) Decides that a forum of candidates nominated for the post of Director General will be held in those years in which a Director General is to be appointed, except that no candidates' forum will be held if the only candidate is a Director General who is nominated for reappointment in terms of Article 11.2 of the Constitution;

(c) Also decides that future candidates' forums will be conducted in accordance with the modalities reproduced in the annex to document IDB.44/17;

(d) Further decides to convene a candidates' forum on 15 May 2017, if required pursuant to paragraph (b) above.”

Annex

Procedures for the candidates' forum for the selection of the Director General

(a) Each candidate, nominated by his/her Government in accordance with rule 61.2 of the rules of procedure of the Board, will make a presentation to a meeting open to all Member States. The observers (Holy See, Palestine, Sovereign Military Order of Malta), accredited intergovernmental organizations that express interest as well as the Staff Council representatives (President and two Vice-Presidents) may also attend the forum;

(b) The meeting will be chaired by the President of the Board and scheduled after the deadline for receipt of candidatures and well in advance of the last regular session of the Board before the session of the Conference which is to appoint the Director-General. To minimize costs, it is proposed to schedule the candidates' forum back-to-back with the session of the Programme and Budget Committee;

(c) All candidates will be seated at the podium. Each will make a statement of up to 20 minutes. The candidates will speak from a lectern in the order, following the English alphabet, of the names of their nominating countries. The statements should include a presentation of the candidate's vision for the Organization and the strategic direction he/she would pursue in the event of appointment. Candidates who wish to do so may use PowerPoint;

(d) After all candidates have delivered their statements, the chair will invite Member States wishing to ask questions to write the name of the delegation on a piece of paper and drop it into a box for a draw. When the name of a Member State is drawn, that delegation will ask its question and each candidate will have a maximum of three minutes to respond to it;

(e) The order of responses by candidates will be in the reverse order of the presentations, starting with the last candidate who made his/her presentation;

(f) The chair should ensure that all regional groups are given an opportunity to ask questions. Thus, if several members of one group are drawn, the chair could suggest that another name be drawn from the box;

(g) At the end of the meeting, each candidate will be given three minutes to sum up. The order will continue to be that which applies to answers to questions;

(h) The chair, with the assistance of the Secretariat, will ensure that the allocated time, for the statements, answers and the summing up, is respected;

(i) Candidates may speak in any of the UNIDO languages. Full interpretation services will be provided;

(j) Copies of the presentations of candidates will be placed on the Permanent Missions Extranet.