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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Hundred and Fifty-third Session

Rome, 12 - 14 May 2014

Appointment of Two Members to the Audit Committee

Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:

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Other documents can be consulted at www.fao.org*



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- As the terms of two members of the Audit Committee are coming to an end in 2014, a selection panel was established in order to select new members and/or renew the term of office of outgoing members, and submit its recommendations to the Executive Director.
- The recommendations of the Executive Director for appointment to the Audit Committee are presented in this document.

GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

- The Finance Committee is requested to review the Executive Director's recommendations for appointment to the Audit Committee and recommend their approval by the Executive Board.

Draft Advice

- **In accordance with Article XIV of the General Regulations of WFP, the FAO Finance Committee noted the competence of the candidates recommended by the Executive Director and recommended that their appointment be approved by the Executive Board.**

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**Executive Board
Annual Session**

Rome, 3–6 June 2014

RESOURCE, FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY MATTERS

Agenda item 6

For approval

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APPOINTMENT OF TWO MEMBERS TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE



NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Secretariat invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document to contact the WFP staff focal points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

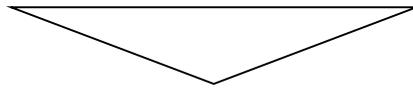
Assistant Executive Director, PG*: Ms E. Rasmusson tel.: 066513-2005

Secretary to the Executive Board: Ms E. Joergensen tel.: 066513-2603

Should you have any questions regarding availability of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

* Partnership and Governance Services Department

DRAFT DECISION*



The Board approves the renewal of the terms of two Audit Committee members as follows:

- Ms Irena Petruškevičienė (Lithuania) from 30 July 2014 to 29 July 2017; and
- Mr James A. Rose III (United States of America) from 30 July 2014 to 29 July 2017.

It also approves the timeframe for selection of future members outlined in paragraphs 7 and 8 in the document (WFP/EB.A/2014/6-B/1).

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the Decisions and Recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

BACKGROUND

1. At its Annual Session in 2013, the Board was informed that the terms of two Audit Committee (AC) members were coming to an end on 29 July 2014, as follows:
 - Ms Irena Petruškevičienė (Lithuania); and
 - Mr James A. Rose III (United States of America).
2. In accordance with paragraph 19 of the terms of reference of the AC, a selection panel was constituted: the Board approved the selection of two Board representatives (see WFP/EB.A/2013/6-B/1), the Executive Director selected two senior managers, and the AC selected one of its members to the selection panel, which was composed as follows:
 - Mr Benito Santiago Jiménez Sauma, Alternate Permanent Representative of Mexico;
 - Mr Khalid Mehboob, Alternate Permanent Representative of Pakistan,¹
 - Mr Antoine Antoun, Chairperson of the AC;
 - Mr Amir Abdulla, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, WFP; and
 - Mr James Harvey, Chief of Staff and Director, Office of the Executive Director, WFP.
3. The two AC members with terms ending in 2014 expressed interest in serving for another term. The selection panel held consultations on 21 March 2014 to discuss actions and a timeframe in relation to the selection or renewal of AC members.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE SELECTION PANEL

Renewal/Appointment of AC Members

4. The selection panel agreed unanimously on the following considerations:
 - the need for continuity, given that the second and final term of the remaining three members of the AC would end in 2015;
 - the need for coherence, in that the Board had expressed its satisfaction with the annual report of the AC;
 - the need to keep a collective balance, ensuring that issues such as the mix of skills, geographical distribution and gender balance were taken into account; and
 - the possibility of a straightforward renewal of the terms of AC members who had not served more than one term, as per paragraph 22 of the AC terms of reference; the panel nevertheless considered that such renewal should be informed.
5. Moreover, the two AC members with terms ending in 2014:
 - had served one term as members of the AC and each expressed in writing their interest in the renewal of their tenure;
 - had already undergone a thorough selection process when appointed for the first term;

¹ Following the departure of Mr Zulfiqar Haider Khan, Alternate Permanent Representative of Pakistan, from Rome, the Embassy of Pakistan nominated Mr Khalid Mehboob as alternate.

- had demonstrated strong commitment to WFP by fully participating in three quarterly meetings each year as well as frequent teleconferences convened in preparation for these meetings and to discuss other relevant issues; and
 - formed part of an AC that was functioning well at the individual and collective levels.
6. In view of the above, the selection panel recommended to the President of the Board and the Executive Director that the two AC members with terms ending in 2014 be renewed for a second and final term. The recommendations would then be submitted by the Executive Director to the Board for approval at its Annual Session, as required by paragraph 21 of the AC terms of reference.

Timeframe for Selection

7. In order to avoid delays, a general timeframe for the selection of AC members was also proposed to the selection panel, taking into account the terms of the present members:
- A selection panel would meet in September 2014 to confirm the details of the selection procedure of three new members to replace Mr Antoun, Ms Lazzati and Ms Mzondeki, who will have served their second and final term. The selection procedure should specifically outline a process to begin in October 2014. Recommendations for appointment would be submitted to the Board at its 2015 First Regular Session.
8. The Board representatives to be appointed to the selection panels would have to be approved by the Board at its 2014 Annual Session.
9. The selection panel decided to recommend the above sequence to the President of the Board and the Executive Director.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

10. On the basis of the AC terms of reference and of the above considerations and recommendations of the selection panel, the Executive Director recommends to the Board that it approve the renewal of the terms of the two outgoing AC members.
11. Career details of the two candidates can be found in document WFP/EB.A/2010/6-C/1/Add.1.² If their renewal is approved by the Board, the members would each serve a final term of three years, ending 29 July 2017.
12. The Executive Director also recommends adoption of the timeframe presented in paragraphs 7 and 8 of this document.

² Document available at the following link:

<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/eb/wfp218845.pdf>