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Global Soil Partnership

Plenary Assembly



Third session

Rome, 22-24 June 2015

Appointment of members of the ITPS

Executive Summary

- This document submits, for endorsement by the Assembly, a list of experts selected according to established criteria, to serve on the ITPS for a new 2 year term.
- The GSP Terms of Reference stipulate that the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) should provide scientific and technical advice and guidance on global soil issues primarily to the GSP, and in relation to specific requests submitted by global or regional institutions. Rule VI of the agreed Rules of Procedure describes in more detail the expected functions and composition of the ITPS (including desirable regional and gender balance and mix of disciplines and experience) as well as the requisites to become members of this panel.
- It is recalled that the ITPS has the following regional distribution:
 - five from Africa
 - five from Asia
 - five from Europe
 - five from Latin America and the Caribbean
 - three from the Near East
 - two from North America
 - two from the South West Pacific
- It is also recalled that potential members should be assessed against the following qualifications:
 - a recognized academic profile (postgraduate level);
 - demonstrated experience at international level in different soil-related activities, ranging from research to development;
 - a record of sound publications subjected to peer reviews;

- a position that would not preclude the provision of advice independently from employment status and nationality.

Suggested action by the GSP Plenary Assembly

- The Plenary Assembly may wish to:
 - endorse the list of 27 experts who will accordingly serve on the ITPS for a two year term;
 - ask the Secretariat to continue to facilitate the activities of the ITPS, including the organization of meetings and logistical support.

1. A call for experts was sent out on 27th April 2015 - together with the invitation to the Plenary Assembly - requesting GSP partners to nominate experts. A total of 60 nominations were received by the Secretariat.

2. After a rigorous assessment against the established criteria, a short list was communicated to FAO Members through the Regional Chairs, for final selection of experts in respective regions, bearing in mind that - apart from suitable qualifications - the ITPS should reflect proper regional coverage and gender balance.

3. The final lists of experts for all regions were given to the Secretariat so that the Assembly could proceed with the formal appointment of members.

4. The results from this process are presented below:

i. Africa

- Mr. Nsalambi V. Nkongolo (Democratic Republic of Congo)
- Mr. Bhanoorduth Lalljee (Mauritius)
- Mr. Martin Yemefack (Cameroon)
- Ms. Isaurinda dos Santos Baptista Costa (Cape Verde)
- Ms. Botle Mapeshoane (Lesotho)

ii. Asia

- Mr. Patiram Brajendra (India)
- Mr. Sopon Chomchan (Thailand)
- Mr. Kazuyuki Yagi (Japan)
- Mr. Bahriuloom Amanullah (Pakistan)
- Mr. Gan-Lin Zhang (China)

iii. Europe

- Mr. Luca Montanarella (Italy)
- Mr. Gunay Erpul (Turkey)
- Mr. Rainer Horn (Germany)
- Mr. Peter de Ruiter (The Netherlands)
- Mr. Pavel Krasilnikov (Russian Federation)

iv. Latin America and the Caribbean

- Mr. Juan Antonio Comerma (Venezuela)

- Mr. Miguel Taboada (Argentina)
 - Ms. Maria de Lourdes Mendonca Santos Breffin (Brazil)
 - Mr. Fernando Garcia Préchach (Uruguay)
 - Ms. Oneyda Hernandez Lara (Cuba)
- v. Near East
- Mr. Talal Darwish (Lebanon)
 - Mr. Ahmad S. Muhaimeed (Iraq)
 - Mr. Saéb AbdelHaleem Khresat (Jordan)
- vi. North America
- Mr. Dan Pennock (Canada)
 - Mr. Gary M. Pierzynsky (United States of America)
- vii. South West Pacific
- Mr. Neil McKenzie (Australia)
 - Mr. Siosiua Halavatau (Tonga)