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منظمة  
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للإغذية والزراعة

# FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Hundred and Ninety-first Session**

**Rome, 16-20 May 2022**

**FAO Oversight Advisory Committee Membership**

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

**Beth Crawford**

**Director, Office of Strategy, Programme and Budget (OSP)**

**Secretary, Oversight Advisory Committee**

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The membership of the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee consists of five external Members. The Committee's Terms of Reference provide that Members serve for a three-year period, which may be renewed for a maximum of three further years after the initial term, by a decision of the FAO Council.
- The FAO Oversight Advisory Committee currently comprises three women and two men. At the end of June 2022, two Members of the Committee - Mr Fayezul Choudhury and Ms Anjana Das - will have completed their initial three-year terms.
- Mr Choudhury is a senior executive with vast UN and international experience in the areas of strategic planning, financial management and reporting, internal control, risk management, budgeting and performance management, and global accounting. In addition, Mr Choudhury has distinguished himself for his outstanding conduct of the Committee as Chairperson.
- Taking into account Mr Choudhury's active and positive contributions; the need to balance the Committee in terms of continuity and turnover; and to maintain the Committee's range of collective professional experience, the Director-General is recommending the extension of appointment of Mr Choudhury for a further, final three-year term.
- Ms Das has informed the Director-General that she would not seek renewal for a second term as Member of the Oversight Advisory Committee due to her taking up other new initiatives that require her time and commitment. The Director-General accepted her decision and expressed his appreciation for the commitment, hard work and diligent efforts that Ms Das put into the work of the Committee.
- The Organization has initiated the process of recruitment of a new Member to replace Ms Anjana Das, and expects to submit a proposal to the Finance Committee and the Council for review and approval respectively at their forthcoming Sessions.

### GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

- The Finance Committee is invited to consider the document and make a recommendation to the Council regarding the extension of appointment of Mr Fayezul Choudhury as Member of the Oversight Advisory Committee for a further, final three years, as recommended by the Director-General.

#### Draft Advice

##### **The Committee:**

- **considered the document in which the Director-General proposed that Mr Fayezul Choudhury's term on the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee be extended for a further, final three years;**
- **noted such extension would be made by the Council with effect from 1 July 2022;**
- **noted that a process for recruitment of a new Member has started to replace Ms Anjana Das and that a proposed submission would be presented to the Finance Committee and the Council for review and approval respectively at their forthcoming Sessions;**
- **supported the Director-General's proposal regarding Mr Choudhury and agreed to submit the recommendation to the Council.**

## Introduction

1. The Oversight Advisory Committee serves as an independent expert advisory panel to assist the Director-General and the Finance Committee on the internal control arrangements, risk management processes, financial reporting and internal audit, investigation, ethics and ombudsman functions of the Organization. The Committee advises on these matters taking into consideration the Financial Rules and Regulations, as well as policies and procedures applicable to FAO, and its operating environment.
2. The Oversight Advisory Committee consists of five external Members. Members are selected on the basis of their qualifications and relevant experience at senior level in the areas of: oversight including audit, investigation and ethics, financial management, governance, risks and controls. Due regard is paid in their selection, as feasible, to gender and geographic representation in the Committee.
3. The Committee's Terms of Reference provide that Members serve for an initial period of three years, which may be renewed for a maximum of three further years after the initial term, by a decision of the FAO Council.
4. The FAO Council at its 161st Session Rome (8-12 April 2019) endorsed the appointment of Mr Fayezul Choudhury and Ms Anjana Das as Members of the Committee for an initial period of three years.<sup>1</sup> In June 2022, both Members will have completed their initial three-year terms.

## Current Members of the Committee

5. The current members of the Committee, and their present terms, are as follows:
  - Mr Fayezul Choudhury (Bangladesh / UK / USA), Chairperson of the Committee, former Chief Executive Officer, International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), World Bank former Controller and Vice President, Strategic Resource Management and former Vice President, Corporate Finance and Risk Management. His current term, which is renewable, ends in June 2022;
  - Mr Gianfranco Cariola (Italy), Director Internal Audit, Gruppo ENI S.p.A., former Chief Audit Executive of Telecom Italia S.p.A. and former Group Chief Audit Executive of Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane S.p.A. Member since December 2017. His current term, which is not renewable, ends in December 2023;
  - Ms Anjana Das (India), Executive Secretary, UN Board and Panel of External Auditors. Her current term ends in June 2022 and she expressed that she would not seek renewal for another term as Member of the Oversight Advisory Committee due to her taking up other new initiatives that require her time and commitment;
  - Ms Malika Aït-Mohamed Parent (Algeria / France / Switzerland), Independent Anti-Corruption Expert, International Speaker and Investigator. Her current term, which is renewable, ends in July 2023; and
  - Ms Hilary Wild (Ireland / UK), Independent Finance and Audit Committee Expert. Her current term, which is renewable, finishes in July 2023.

## Actions on Extension and Appointment

6. Taking into account the Committee's current composition and upon advice received from the Secretary of the Oversight Advisory Committee, the Director-General is recommending the extension of appointment of Mr Fayezul Choudhury for a further, final three years. Mr Choudhury's summary curriculum vitae is provided in *Annex I*.
7. Ms Anjana Das informed that she does not wish to seek renewal for a second term as Member of the Oversight Advisory Committee and the Organization has initiated a process for the recruitment of a new Member. It is expected that a submission would be presented to the Finance Committee and the Council for review and approval respectively at their forthcoming Sessions.

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<sup>1</sup> CL 161/REP paragraph 19.h)

**Annex 1****Mr Fayezul Choudhury****INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS (IFAC), New York, USA  
Chief Executive Officer (2013-2018)**

IFAC is a public interest organization which represents the global accounting profession. Members include approximately 175 national accounting bodies in 130 countries and the 24 largest international audit networks. As IFAC Chief Executive Officer:

- Reported to the board of directors
- Overall responsibility for development and execution of IFAC's strategy, budget, risk management and work plans
- Responsible for effective management of human, financial and operational capital
- Principal management interlocutor and secretary to the IFAC Board and its committees Planning and Finance, Audit, Governance, and Nominations

**THE WORLD BANK GROUP, Washington, DC, USA  
Vice President, Corporate Finance and Risk Management (2008-2010)  
Controller and Vice President, Strategic Resource Management (2000-2008)  
Senior positions including Chief Accounting Officer, IFC and World Bank (1985-2000)**

The World Bank Group comprises the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA). Key responsibilities in Vice President roles for IBRD and IDA included:

- Accounting policy, preparing financial statements, maintaining effective internal controls, and liaising with internal and external auditors for the IBRD and IDA
- World Bank spokesperson on global accounting and auditing issues, including advocating internationally and nationally for adoption and implementation of global standards
- Strategic planning, budgeting and performance reporting for IBRD and IDA
- Balance sheet management of the IBRD and IDA-capital adequacy and pricing
- Enterprise risk management and credit risk
- Primary management interlocutor with the Audit Committee and Budget Committee
- Chair, President's Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Group

**PRICE WATERHOUSE, London, UK (1974 - 1985)**

- Management consulting group (1978-1985)
- Public accounting and auditing (1974-1978)

**Professional Representation Activities**

- Member, Governance and Nominating Committee, International Integrated Reporting Council
- Member, International Public Interest Oversight Board over standards relating to audit and assurance, ethics, and education for the accountancy profession
- Member, Iraq Advisory and Monitoring Board, under UN Security Council mandate
- Member, Standards Advisory Council, International Accounting Standards Board
- Chair, Global Steering Committee, International Forum for Accountability Development
- Member, Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee, United Nations Development Program
- Board Member and Treasurer, and member of Audit and Governance Committee, Partnership for Transparency Fund, which advances citizen-led approaches to improve governance, increase transparency, and reduce corruption in developing countries
- Trustee, Chair of Audit Committee and member of Nominating Committee of World Learning

**Nationality, Academic and Professional Qualifications**

- Citizenship: Bangladesh, United Kingdom, United States
- MA (Hons), Engineering Science and Economics, Jesus College, University of Oxford
- Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales
- Executive Development Program: Harvard / Stanford / INSEAD Business Schools