



COUNCIL

Hundred and Seventy-third Session

Rome, 10 July 2023

Election of Chairperson and Members of the Programme Committee

1. Under Rule XXVI of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO), the Programme Committee consists of a Chairperson and 12 Members (two Members from each of the following regions: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Near East, and one Member from North America and from Southwest Pacific). Each Member Nation seeking election to the Committee should communicate the name of the representative they would appoint if elected, and details of his or her qualifications and experience, to the Secretary-General of the Conference and Council (Rule XXVI.2 of the GRO).
2. The procedure for the election of Members of the Committee provides for Member Nations of the Organization to stand for election for a specific region, as determined by the Conference for the purpose of Council elections, and that the Council first elect a Chairperson from among the nominated representatives of Member Nations. The Chairperson shall be elected on the basis of individual qualifications and shall not represent a region or a country.
3. The nominations received are listed below and the information on the qualifications and experience of the candidates for (i) the office of Chairperson is given in *Appendix A* and for (ii) Membership of the Committee is given in *Appendix B*.

4. The following nominations have been received for the post of Chairperson of the Programme Committee:

Ms Yael Rubinstein (Israel)

5. The following nominations have been received for election to the Programme Committee:

AFRICA	SOUTH AFRICA TANZANIA	(Ms Nosipho Nausca Jean Jezile) (Ms Jacqueline Boniface Mbuya)
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	JAPAN MALAYSIA	(Mr Kuraya Yoshihiro) (Mr Abdul Rahman Bin Abdul Wahab)
EUROPE	NETHERLANDS (KINGDOM OF THE) SWITZERLAND	(Mr Marcel Beukeboom) (Ms Krisztina Bende)
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	ARGENTINA BRAZIL	(Mr Carlos Bernardo Cherniak) (Ms Carla Barroso Carneiro)
NEAR EAST		
NORTH AMERICA	CANADA	(Mr Maarten de Groot)
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC	NEW ZEALAND	(Ms Jenny Reid)

6. The elections are governed by the provisions of Rule XII of the GRO. In accordance with paragraph 10 of this Rule, the Chairperson may submit to the Council that appointment be decided by clear general consent without recourse to a secret ballot when there are not more candidates than seats to be filled.

APPENDIX A

ISRAEL

Name: **Ms YAEL RUBINSTEIN**

Present functions/activities:

July 2021 – June 2023	Chairperson of the Programme Committee – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome
October 2019 - present	Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Agencies Based in Rome

Main previous functions/activities:

November 2017 - October 2019	Deputy Director General, Economics and Projects Division – The Mini Regional Cooperation
September 2013 – August 2017	Ambassador of Israel to Singapore and non-resident Ambassador of Israel to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
November 2011 – August 2013	Senior Political Advisor at J5 IDF
August 2010 – August 2011	Fellow at the NSC (National Security College)
September 2005 – September 2009	Ambassador of Israel to the Kingdom of Thailand, and non-resident Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia
April 2003 – August 2005	Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary (non-resident) of Slovakia, Slovenia and Croatia; Central Europe Department, MFA Jerusalem
September 2001 – April 2003	Director, Economic Affairs Department 2, MFA Jerusalem
August 1999 – August 2001	Director, Economic Affairs Department 3, MFA Jerusalem
September 1997 – August 1999	International Organizations Department, MFA Jerusalem
August 1995 – September 1997	Counselor, Israeli Mission to the United Nations, New York
July 1991 – August 1995	North America Department, MFA Jerusalem
May 1990 – June 1991	Assistant to the Senior Deputy Director General's Bureau, MFA Jerusalem
August 1989 – April 1990	Economic Affairs Department, MFA Jerusalem
April 1989 – August 1989	First Secretary, London
September 1986 – March 1989	Second Secretary, London
November 1983 – May 1986	Personnel Training Department

1982 – 1983 Parliamentary aid, the Knesset
1979 – 1983 Teaching Assistant, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
1979 – 1980 Lecture Assistant, Falk Institute
1978 Guide for the Israeli Society for the Protection of Nature
1976 – 1977 Officer in the Air Force, Israel Defense Force (IDF)

Education

2010 - 2011 Graduated from NSC
2010 – 2011 MA in Political Science, Haifa University
1983 MA in Economics, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
1982 BA in Economics and International Relations, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Courses

2002 - 2003 “Tel Aviv – Jaffa”, plus short courses on the Middle East and English language
2000 – 2001 Conflict Management in Administrative Positions
1992 - 1995 The Media; the Media in the United States
1991 Salzburg Seminar on US Policy
1989 Advanced Diplomacy
1986 “Jerusalem” Administration
1983 - 1984 Cadet Course, MFA Jerusalem

Languages

Hebrew, English and partial French and Italian

Rewards

3/2011 Silver Reward from the King and Queen of Thailand

Personal

Born in Israel. Has two children, Michal and Yuval

APPENDIX B

ARGENTINA

Name: **Mr CARLOS BERNARDO CHERNIAK**

Current roles or activities:

2019-2023 Permanent Representative of the Argentine Republic to FAO, IFAD and WFP.
Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Livestock of the FAO Committee on Agriculture.

Main previous roles or activities:

- 2019 Chairperson of the Group of 77 + China (Rome Chapter).

Lawyer, lecturer in International Relations Theory, and career diplomat, with sound experience in human rights, international negotiations and cooperation.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of the Argentine Republic:

2010-2016

- Director of Parliamentary Affairs (2016-2019);
- Director of the Office of Nuclear Affairs and Defence (2006-2010); and
- Special Advisor in the Cabinet of the Undersecretary of Institutional Relations (1998-2000).

Deputy Head of Mission and Head of the Political Office of the Argentine Embassy in Italy, playing a key role in the promotion of human rights and bilateral cooperation.

BRAZIL

Name: **Ms CARLA BARROSO CARNEIRO**

Present functions/activities:

From March/2023 Permanent Representative at the Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and related International Organizations

Main previous functions/activities:

Ambassador Carla Barroso Carneiro has held outstanding positions in the Ministry of External Relations and other Brazilian Federal Agencies during 28 years serving her country as career diplomat. Ambassador Barroso Carneiro was Chief International Advisor to the Ministry of Regional Development (2020-23), Special International Advisor to the Ministry of Citizenship (2015-2019), Special International Advisor to the Ministry of education (2015-2019) and Advisor on International Affairs to the Chief of Staff of the Presidency of Brazil (2013-2015).

In the Ministry of External Relations, Ambassador Barroso Carneiro was the Head of the Division of Southern America IV (2008-2013) and served as Second and First Secretary in the Embassies in Paris (2000-2003) and Bogota (2003-2006) and as a Counsellor in the Embassy in Tokyo (2006-2008).

In 2022, Ambassador Barroso Carneiro was among 50 women from 13 countries selected for a grant in the London School of Economics Leadership Programme (W50 Leadership). She holds a master degree from the Institut d'Hautes Études en Amérique Latine – IHEAL (France, 2003) and a specialization degree in Economics from the Universidad de Los Andes (Colombia, 2006). Her thesis entitled “Japan’s energy diplomacy” was approved with distinction in the Course of High Level Studies in the Rio Branco Institute, Ministry of External Relations (Brazil, 2008).

Ambassador Carneiro Barroso was born in Pirassununga, São Paulo, Brazil, in January 21st, 1970. She is married and has one daughter.

CANADA

Name: **Mr MAARTEN DE GROOT**

Present functions/activities:

August 2021 to present Deputy Permanent Representative of Canada to FAO

Main previous functions/activities:

2017-2021	Deputy Director, Colombia Program, Global Affairs Canada Embassy of Canada to Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia Managed all aspects of finance, contracts, and administration, in addition to leading on innovative finance dimensions, including for results-based finance in the cacao sector
2015-2017	Deputy Director – Food Security Policy, Global Issues and Development Branch Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, ON Engaged internationally on food security policy through G7, G20, GACSA, and CFS platforms, including as Canada’s representative on the G7 Food Security Working Group.
2014-2015	Sr. Environment Policy Adviser, Global Issues and Development Branch Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade, and Development, Gatineau, QC Analysed climate finance options, including projecting diverse funding scenarios as part of Canada’s climate change funding approach (MC process).
2012-2014	Deputy Coordinator and Sr. Regional Environment Specialist Regional Service Centre (RSC), Canadian High Commission, Nairobi, Kenya Supported the design and implementation of the first regional service centre, while also serving as regional lead for environmental project and program technical support, community of practice, and knowledge management in Eastern/Southern Africa
2009-2012	Deputy Director, Ethiopia Program, Adviser: Food Security and Agriculture CIDA, Canadian Embassy, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Managed all aspects of finance, contracting, and administration, while also serving as project manager for complex livelihoods projects, and analyst for water, irrigation, value chain and watershed management projects.
2007-2009	Regional Water and Environment Specialist, Americas Branch CIDA, Canadian Cooperation Office, Tegucigalpa, Honduras Provided technical analysis for planning, implementation and monitoring projects in WASH, watershed management, and agricultural development in Central and South America.
2002-2007	Water Specialist/Project Manager, Americas Branch CIDA, Gatineau, Canada
2001-2002	Program Analyst, Water Environment Protection Program City of Ottawa, R.O. Pickard Environmental Centre, Ottawa, Canada
1998-2000	Research and Teaching Assistant (Irrigation, Hydrology, Watershed Management) Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

1998

Adviser, Green Business Practices
Conversion for the Environment Foundation, Moscow, Russia

JAPAN**Name: Mr KURAYA YOSHIHIRO**Present functions/activities:

June 2021 - present Minister-Counsellor, Embassy of Japan in Italy
 Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN Agencies for
 Food and Agriculture in Rome
 Member of the Finance Committee
 Vice-Chairperson of the Finance Committee
 Chairperson of the Asia Regional Group (January 2022 - June 2022)
 Member of the Staff Pension Committee (November 2022 - present)

Main previous functions/activities:

2019 - 2021 Director, International Strategy Office, International Affairs
 Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)
 - In charge of the overall policy coordination of the Department
 - Engaged in TICAD7

2018 - 2019 Director for International Agricultural Organizations, MAFF
 - In charge of FAO and other international agencies
 - Engaged in the G20 Niigata Agriculture Ministers' Meeting

2017 - 2018 Director, International Office, Production Bureau, MAFF
 - Engaged in trade negotiations including CPTPP, JAPAN-EU EPA

2015 - 2016 Deputy Director, Grain Trade and Operation Division, MAFF
 - Co-chaired the 4th meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency
 Rice Reserve (APTERR) Council held in Bangkok, Thailand

2013 - 2014 Deputy Director, Regional Agricultural Production Division, MAFF
 - In charge of sugar cane and sugar beet production promotion

2011 -2012 Deputy Director, National Policy Unit, Cabinet Secretariat

2009 - 2010 Deputy Director, Assistant Chief Cabinet Secretary's Office

2007 - 2008 Deputy Director, International Economic Affairs Division, MAFF

2004 - 2007 First Secretary/Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan in Italy and
 Alternate Permanent Representative of Japan to FAO and WFP

MALAYSIA

Name: **Mr ABDUL RAHMAN BIN ABDUL WAHAB**

Present functions/activities:

Present - Nov 2024 Counsellor (Agriculture Affairs)
Alternate Permanent Representative Of Malaysia To The UN Rome
Based Agencies

Main previous functions/activities:

2020 Senior Officer
Ministry Of Agriculture And Food Security Of Malaysia

NETHERLANDS (KINGDOM OF THE)

Name: **Mr MARCEL BEUKEBOOM**

Present functions/activities:

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| 1 Sept 2021-Present | Permanent Representative to the United Nations organizations in Rome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observer at the FAO Council - Member of the Executive Board of WFP - Member of the Bureau of WFP (March 2022-March 2023) - Alternate Governor and Member of the Executive Board of IFAD - Member of the Global Future Council on Food and Water of the World Economic Forum (WEF) |
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Main previous functions/activities:

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|-------------|---|
| 2016-2021 | Climate Envoy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Member of the Platform for Sustainable Finance, network of the Dutch financial sector - Advisory Council Environmental Sciences Group, Wageningen University & Research (WUR) - Member of the Milano Group, the interdisciplinary network connecting food, agriculture and climate |
| 2012-2016 | Head Food Security and Financial Sector (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-chair of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program at the World Bank (GAFSP) - Council member of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) - Member of the Global Agenda Council for Food Security of the World Economic Forum (WEF) |
| Before 2012 | Postings in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Washington DC (Netherlands Embassy - international trade and multilateral affairs); - The Hague (Ministry of Foreign Affairs - regional policy and program management); - Pretoria (Netherlands Embassy - development and humanitarian affairs); - The Hague (Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning); - New York (UN secretariat – political affairs and UNSC reform) |

NEW ZEALAND

Name: **Ms JENNY REID**

Present functions/activities:

June 2022 to current Deputy Permanent Representative for NZ to FAO

Main previous functions/activities:

2000 - 2022 Ministry for Primary Industries - Management roles in Science and Risk Assessment; Market Access and International Policy

SOUTH AFRICA

Name: **Ms NOSIPHO NAUSCA JEAN JEZILE**

Present functions/activities:

From January 2021 to Present Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of South Africa in Italy, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome (FAO), Governor to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Permanent Representative to the World Food Program (WFP).
Also accredited as non-resident High Commissioner of the Republic of South Africa to the Republic of Malta and as non-resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of South Africa to the Republic of San Marino and the Republic of Albania

Main previous functions/activities:

2007 - 2020 Director General of the South African Department of Environmental Affairs. Part of the responsibilities as a Director General included oversight of the Department's Public Entities such as South African Biodiversity Institute (SANBI); South African National Parks; Isimangaliso and South African Weather Services (SAWS).

SWITZERLAND

Name: **Ms KRISZTINA BENDE**

Present functions/activities:

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| September 2023 - | Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations organizations in Rome
Head of the Swiss Mission to the United Nations organizations in Rome |
| September 2020 - currently | Starting September 2023 (Appointed by the Swiss Federal Council; to take office on September 1, 2023)
European Free Trade Association (EFTA)
Director of Trade Relations |
- Senior Director and Member of the Board;
 - Contributes to strategic orientation of organization in third country relations and internal matters of EFTA;
 - Represents Board in Gender Equality Group;
 - Supervises Division's tasks including on topics related to Sustainable Development and Agriculture;
 - Supervises third country relations and negotiations worldwide;
 - Supervises horizontal issues, amongst other Sustainable Impact assessments, Monitoring of trade and sustainable development publications, and communication to wider public, stakeholders, etc.;
 - Manages Human Resources and Division Budget, including technical cooperation programs.

Main previous functions/activities:

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|------------------------------|--|
| September 2007 – August 2020 | Federal Ministry of Economy, Research and Education, Federal Office for Agriculture
Head of Unit |
| January 2006 – August 2007 | Federal Ministry of Economy, Research and Education, Federal Office for Agriculture
Deputy Head of Unit |
- Responsible for negotiations on agricultural matters at the World Trade Organization, with the European Union, and multiple other partner countries and organizations;
 - Negotiated or supervised negotiations on agricultural chapters of free trade agreements;
 - Member of several government strategic working groups, development of position papers for ministers and liaison with Parliament;
 - Seconded the Director General and accompanied ministers in high level political meetings;
 - Management of human resources and unit's budget.
- Responsible for agricultural matters in trade negotiations;
 - Seconded head of unit and replaced him fully in his absence;
 - Managed unit representation budget.

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- March 2007 – June 2007 European Commission, Directorate for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI)
National Expert Officer
- May 2005 – December 2005 European Commission, Directorate for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI)
Scientific Advisor
- February 2004 – April 2005 European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe
Case lawyer
- January 2003 – January 2004 Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Political Directorate
Policy Advisor
- Deputy Head of unit for Economic Partnership Agreements negotiations.
 - Monitoring of WTO's Agriculture Committee;
 - Negotiator at the WTO.
 - Processed individuals' complaints put before the Court against Switzerland;
 - Multiple case management;
 - Published decisions of particular interest to the Court in areas of fair trial, freedom of expression and protection of private sphere and family life.
 - Advisor on the Convention on biodiversity, especially Cartagena Protocol and the UNCCD.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Name: **Ms JACQUELINE BONIFACE MBUYA**

Present functions/activities:

May 2021 -To date Employed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania, Rome, Italy

1. Minister Plenipotentiary, Agricultural Attaché and Alternate Permanent Representative to UN Rome-Based Agencies
2. Participate in Committees: CFS, COAG, and COFI
3. Coordination of Agricultural investments matters along the value chain (crops, animals, fisheries, and forestry) between Tanzania and Italy and other Countries of representation

Main previous functions/activities:

1989-2021 Employed by the Ministry of Agriculture and specialized in the following areas:

1. Program/Project development and management;
2. Designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating agricultural projects and programs;
3. Facilitation and Coordination of the FAO, IFAD, WFP, AGOA, and WTO Multilateral arrangements;
4. Participated as a member of the FAO Council 2009 – 2011, as an observer at the FAO Council 2015 – to-date
5. Mainstreaming regional programs such as the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP), Maputo, and Malabo declarations agenda, FAO Country Programme Framework (CPF), IFAD Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP), and WFP Country Strategic Plan (CSP) to the national programs;
6. Budget developer and planer for the Ministry Departments;
7. Regional (EAC and SADC) integration, and Bilateral Cooperation;
8. Negotiations on cooperation frameworks at the Regional level (EAC-EU-EPA) and (EAC-US-Trade), and Bilateral other countries/institutions;
9. Research on agricultural policy, international trade, and marketing;
10. Trade negotiations such as EAC-EU-Economic Partnership Agreement, EAC-USA-Trade facilitation;
11. Phytosanitary, Produce Inspection, Plant Quarantine, and Certification; and
12. Tracking and coordination of donor-funded projects and advice accordingly to ensure their implementation in accordance with National Agricultural Development Programs