

THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BLACK SOILS (INBS)

Terms of Reference (ToRs)

Chair and Vice-Chair

The International Network of Black Soils (INBS) is led and coordinated by a Chair and Vice-Chair. A member of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) Secretariat will act as a facilitator of the Network.

The Chairperson of the INBS will:

- Ensure that the INBS work plan is executed and ensure the work objectives and plan deliverables are met in time, and updated when necessary;
- Help organize and chair the INBS annual meetings;
- Maintain active communication between other technical networks of the GSP, as well as with the GSP Secretariat, in relation to the execution of the INBS activities;
- Maintain active communication with established organizations and networks dealing with black soils and advocate for their inclusion and participation in the INBS;
- Ensure that the Harbin Communiqué is executed and the INBS is actively involved;
- Report— jointly with the GSP Secretariat and the Chair of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)— to the GSP Plenary Assembly about the INBS progress;
- Attend meetings of other relevant networks and events of interest to the success and visibility of INBS; and
- Advocate for the mobilization of resources to execute the INBS work plan as well as the consolidation of the International Research Institution of Black Soils (IRIBS).

The Chair is supported by a Vice-Chair in all her/his activities and tasks.

The appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the INBS will take place during the annual meeting of the Network. The term for the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson is two years after election, extendable via INBS'S decision to a second term.

INBS Chair and Vice-Chair selection criteria

Candidates for the position of Chair and Vice-Chair of the INBS must meet the following criteria:

- ⇒ Should be an internationally recognized expert on black soils;
- ⇒ Should belong to or have collaborated with international soil networks or institutions;
- ⇒ Be familiar with the recommendations of the Harbin Communiqué and of the Global Status of Black Soils report;
- ⇒ Should have time to commit to the implementation of the INBS work plan;
- ⇒ Not have any conflict of interest in regards to the objectives, data and information generated by the INBS.

To facilitate a transparent election process of the INBS Chair/Vice-Chair, interested candidates should send a short CV (maximum one page) to the INBS facilitator (Yuxin.tong@fao.org), which will be evaluated and disseminated among INBS members for open voting.