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Organización de las
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الغذية والزراعة
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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Hundred and Eightieth Session

Rome, 18 - 22 May 2020

FAO Audit Committee Membership

Queries on the substantive document may be addressed to:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The membership of the FAO Audit Committee consists of five external Members and a Secretary *ex-officio*. All Members are appointed by the Council on recommendation of the Finance Committee following a selection process managed by the Director General. The updated Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee endorsed by the Council at its 161st session provide that Members may be renewed up to a maximum of six years' service on the Committee.
- The FAO Audit Committee currently comprises three men and two women, with representation from three geographical regions. In anticipation of the end of tenure of two Members of the Audit Committee in June 2020, this document proposes to fill the resulting vacancies on the Committee.
- In line with Recommendation 5 of the Joint Inspection Unit report *Review of audit and oversight committees in the United Nations system*¹ the skills and professional expertise of the Audit Committee Members includes “*a balanced mix of public and private sector experience at the senior level. In addition, a strong understanding of the structure and functioning of the United Nations system and/or intergovernmental and international organizations is desirable.*”
- Following an advertisement for the appointment of Audit Committee Members and interviews conducted by a panel composed of FAO senior managers, as well as an external advisory expert, the Director-General is recommending the appointment to these future vacant positions of Ms Malika Aït-Mohamed Parent (Algeria) and Ms Hilary Wild (UK/Ireland), for an initial period of three years, renewable thereafter up to a maximum of six years in total.
- The profiles of Ms Parent and Ms Wild, together with the current Members of the Committee, closely match the professional expertise required to complete the balanced mix of the composition of the Committee.

GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

- The Finance Committee is invited to consider the document and make a recommendation to the Council regarding the appointment of two Audit Committee Members following the selection process managed by the Director-General.

Draft Advice

- **The Committee considered the document in which the Director-General proposed that Ms Malika Aït-Mohamed Parent (Algeria) and Ms Hilary Wild (UK/Ireland) be appointed as Members of the FAO Audit Committee for an initial period of three years. Such appointments would be made by the Council effective from 1 July 2020.**
- **The Committee supported the Director-General's proposal and agreed to submit the recommendation to the Council.**

¹ JIU/REP/2019/6

INTRODUCTION

1. The Audit Committee serves as an 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, inspection, investigation and ethics functions of the Organization. The Audit 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. The Audit Committee provides advice and information to the governing bodies in these areas, through its annual reports and, as appropriate, updates to the Finance Committee during the interval periods.

2. The Audit Committee consists of five external Members, and the Director of the Office of Strategy, Planning and Resources Management (OSP) is the Secretary *ex-officio*. 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, risk and controls. Due regard is paid in their selection to gender and geographic representation in the Committee. The Committee elects its own Chairperson.

3. The Committee's revised Terms of Reference² provide that new Members serve for an initial period of three years renewable up to six years. Ms Enery Quinones (USA) and Mr Verasak Liengsrirawat (Thailand), who were Members of the Committee since June 2014 will end their terms in June 2020. The present proposal is made to fill the resulting vacancies on the Committee.

Current Members of the Committee

4. The current Members of the Committee, and their present terms, are as follows:

- Ms Enery Quinones (USA), former Chief Compliance Officer at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Member since June 2014. Her current term, which is not renewable, finishes in June 2020;
- Mr Verasak Liengsrirawat (Thailand), retired former Director of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Member since June 2014. His current term, which is not renewable, finishes in June 2020;
- Mr Gianfranco Cariola (Italy), Group Chief Audit Executive of Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane spa, former Chief Audit Executive of RAI spa and Senior Vice President - Head of Audit Plans, Methodologies & ICS of ENI spa. Member since December 2017. His current term, which is renewable, finishes in December 2020;
- Ms Anjana Das (India), Executive Secretary, UN Board & Panel of External Auditors. Her current term, which is renewable, finishes in June 2022; and
- Mr. Fayezul Choudhury (USA), former Chief Executive Officer, International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), and former Vice President, Corporate Finance and Risk Management, World Bank. His current term, which is renewable, finishes in June 2022.

Actions on Appointments

5. In January 2020, the Organization advertised online for the appointment of Members of the FAO Audit Committee. The deadline for applications was set to 20 February 2020. Based on the applications received, Senior Management, taking into consideration qualifications and relevant experience at senior level in the areas of: oversight including audit, investigation and ethics, financial management, governance, risk and controls, established a short list of ten candidates to be interviewed. A selection panel chaired by Deputy Director-General Laurent Thomas and comprised of Legal

² CL 161/REP para. 19.k) Audit Committee Terms of Reference; CL 161/4 para. 8.f); FC 175/11 Annex 2

Counsel, Director OSP, Director OHR, Deputy Directeur de Cabinet and, as external member of the panel, a former FAO Inspector-General and an HR Officer serving as Secretary to the Panel, interviewed candidates on 16 and 17 April 2020. Based on the Panel's report, the Director-General, in consideration of the candidates' experience in oversight, is recommending the appointment of:

- Ms Malika Aït-Mohamed Parent (Algeria) - Independent Anti-Corruption Expert, International Speaker and Investigator
- Ms Hilary Wild (UK/Ireland) – Independent Finance and Audit Committee Expert

6. Summary curriculum vitae of Ms Malika Aït-Mohamed Parent and Ms Hilary Wild are attached.

SUMMARY CURRICULUM VITAE

Ms Malika Aït-Mohamed Parent

Summary profile

With 30 years of experience in the humanitarian sector, Ms Parent has actively contributed - at senior management level- to strategic development, policy creation & implementation, network empowerment and compliance enforcement requiring travel to more than 90 countries on all continents.

Professional experience

Since 2015: Independent Anti-Corruption Expert, International Speaker and Investigator (122+ events across continents)

2010-2014 Under Secretary General; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Led the Governance and Management Services Business Group (93 professionals, 60 different nationalities) and provided strategic guidance and provision of critical corporate services to the Headquarters and field offices across continents (2200 staff; 500 million CHF annual budget)

2007 - 2014 Chief of Staff, Director of Cabinet, for three successive Secretary Generals; IFRC

2006 Head of Middle East and North Africa regional department; IFRC

2000 - 2006 Head of Principles and Values Department; IFRC

1995 - 2000 Head of Youth Department; IFRC

1995 Head of the National Tracing Service - French Red Cross

1990 - 1995 National Youth Director - French Red Cross

1987 - 1989 Teacher, Economics - Lycée Albert de Mun, Paris, France

Oversighting

UNHCR Independent Audit and Oversight Committee, Vice-Chair (2018-2021; renewable)

ILO Independent Oversight Advisory Committee, Member (2019-2021; renewable)

ICRC-IFRC Joint Statutes Commission, Chair (since 2018)

Auditing

ISO37001 Auditor, Eurocompliance, France (since 2018). Performed ISO 37001 audits in the banking industry in Switzerland (2018), France (2019) and Morocco (2019).

Teaching

Frequent Visiting Faculty, International Anti-Corruption Academy (Austria)

Faculty Member, Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Center – Geneva (Switzerland)

Academic supervisor (IACA: Masters in Anti-Corruption & Masters in Anti-Corruption Compliance and Collective Action; Geneva University: Masters in European and International Governance)

Lecturer (CERAH, Geneva University, Montreal University, Fordham University-IDHA, Panthéon-Assas Paris II University, Bioforce Institute, Richemond School of Law)

Jury Member (Haute Ecole de Gestion de Genève: Bachelor; AES: Certification 2018, 2019)

Researcher in Anti-Corruption in Aid, Leading CurbingCorruption.Com Aid Sector

Trainer in Pre verbal communication (ArCom, ROLACC, IACA)

Consulting

Advisor-Consultant providing institutional diagnostics and road maps in setting up Accountability and Transparency business frameworks, Enterprise Risk Management processes, for a better governance.

Investigator, as part of multidisciplinary investigation teams for internal/administrative investigations.

Partner, Anticorruptionexperts.org assisting businesses in designing and implementing ethics and anti-bribery & corruption compliance systems, specialized in ISO 37001.

Education

- 2019: Synergologie®, AES Professional credit 2019 (Madrid, May 2019)
- 2018: ISO 37001, Auditor, Eurocompliance, France 2018: Geopolitics and Global futures, GCSP, Switzerland
- 2018: Synergologie®, AES Professional credit 2018 (Lausanne, May 2018)
- 2017: Synergologie®, AES Professional credit 2017 (Paris, March 2017) 2017: Questiology, level 1 and level 2; semantic and linguistic tools
- 2016: Masters of Arts in Anti-Corruption Studies, the first global interdisciplinary graduate program for professionals focusing on the advanced study of anti-corruption and compliance, International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), Austria
- 2016: Special Award for the most innovative anti-corruption research, IACA, Austria 2016: Synergologie® (Level 1,2,3) Certification, Swiss Institute of Synergology, Switzerland a communication discipline whereby body movements can be decoded, emotions understood, lies detected, and the unspoken revealed
- 2016: Fraud & Corruption in Procurement, Interviewing Technique, Behavioural Perspective, International Anti-Corruption Academy, Austria
- 2015: Fraud Prevention certificate, IFRC & Transparency International Norway e-learning 2014: Anti-Corruption in Local Governance, International Anti-Corruption Academy, Austria
- 2014: The Fight Against Corruption, UNODC e-Certificate,
- 2000: Masters in Management, McGill University, Canada
- 1999: International Masters Program in Practicing Management, consortium of Lancaster University, UK; McGill University, Canada; Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, India; Kobe-Tokyo Universities, Japan; INSEAD, France
- 1989: Masters in Economics, General & Public, Paris I Pantheon Sorbonne, France

Languages

French (mother tongue); English (fluent)

SUMMARY CURRICULUM VITAE

Ms Hilary Wild

Summary profile

Relevant senior executive experience as a former Comptroller of WHO and as a Director of both investment banking and asset management in the private sector. Extensive experience of oversight including audit, investigation, ethics, financial management, governance, risk management and internal controls. Experience as chair and member of oversight committees at WMO, UNDP, ILO and UNESCO as well as with other not-for-profit organisations.

Professional experience

Current

The International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, ICARDA, Beirut, Lebanon

Member Board of Trustees, Chair Finance & Audit Committee, member Executive Committee July 2015- July 2021

Constanter Genossenschaft, Zug, Switzerland

Member Audit & Compliance Committee October 2017 – October 2020

Church Commissioners, London, UK

Member Audit & Risk Committee February 2019- December 2021

CGIAR System Management Board, Montpellier, France

Member Board, and Audit & Risk Committee September 2019- August 2021

WaterAid UK, London, UK

Trustee and Audit Committee Chair October 2019- December 2022

Alliance Bioersity-CIAT, Rome, Italy/Cali, Colombia *Member Board of Trustees, and member of*

Audit, Risk & Finance Committee January 2020- December 2022

Previous

UNESCO, Paris, France

Chair Oversight Advisory Committee, June 2014 – June 2019

World Health Organization Staff Health Insurance Global Oversight Committee, Geneva, Switzerland

Alternate member September 2017 – August 2019

Bath and North East Somerset Council, UK

Member of the Members' Remuneration Independent Review Panel, 2015 - 2017

CGIAR Consortium, Montpellier, France

Independent member Audit and Risk Committee CGIAR Consortium Board, 2015-2016

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) Nairobi, Kenya

Board Vice Chair and Chair of Audit and Finance Committee, February 2010 - April 2016

International Labour Office, Geneva, Switzerland

Chair Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee, January 2013 – December 2015

United Nations Development Programme Audit Advisory Committee, New York USA

Member July 2009-July 2011, Chair July 2011 – July 2014

World Health Organization Investment Committee, Geneva, Switzerland

Member July 2007- December 2011

World Meteorological Organization Audit Committee, Geneva, Switzerland

Member 2004 – March 2012

Prior career history

World Health Organization Geneva, Switzerland

- 2005-2007 Director, Business Change and Co-Director Global Management System Project, responsible to develop business model and co-direct a US\$60mn global project to replace a myriad of legacy IT systems with a single ERP system in over 120 offices world wide.
- 1999-2005 Comptroller, responsible for strategic financial, accounting and operational budget policy issues; appropriate financial control and accounting of the organization's financial resources; central responsibilities for budget preparation; statutory financial reports, and related reporting to donors; management of banking requirements, investment of funds world wide (value c. US\$1bn); financial management of all staff entitlements world wide including staff health insurance fund (value c. US\$300mn); financial management of insurance arrangements; development, enhancement and support of financial and related IT applications worldwide.
- Member Board of United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund; Chair of Advisory Committee on Compensation Claims, Contract Review Committee, Property Survey Committee, Advisory Investment Committee, Audit Steering Committee.

Dresdner RCM Global Investors, London, UK.

- 1997-1999 Director, Charity Asset Management

Kleinwort Benson Group, London, UK

- 1994-1997 Director, Kleinwort Benson Investment Management Ltd, Charity Asset Management
- 1993-1994 Director, Kleinwort Benson Ltd, Leasing & Asset Finance
- 1992-1993 Director, Kleinwort Benson Ltd, Head of Transportation, Leasing & Asset Finance
- 1990-1991 Assistant Director, Head of Shipping/Eastern Europe Department

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) New York, USA

- 1986-1990 Chief of Finance

Larsson Group London, UK

- 1985-1986 Finance Director and Personal Financial Adviser

Marine Midland Bank, N.A., London, UK and Athens, Greece

- 1985 Vice President and Unit Head, London
- 1983-1984 Vice-President and Representative, Greece
- 1981-1983 Assistant Vice-President and Representative, Greece
- 1978-1980 Assistant Vice-President/International Banking Officer, London

EBS Investments Limited (subsidiary of the Bank of England) London, UK

- 1977-1978 Executive

Edward Bates & Sons Ltd London, UK.

- 1973-1977 Manager, Shipping Administration Department

Ernst & Whinney London, UK

- 1971-1973 Audit Senior

Wenn Townsend & Co Oxford, UK

- 1967-1971 Articled Clerk (trainee Chartered Accountant)

Languages

English, French, Italian, Modern Greek