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Organización de las
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منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Hundred and Ninety-fourth Session

Rome, 7-11 November 2022

FAO Oversight Advisory Committee Membership

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

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The membership of the FAO Oversight Advisory 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 Oversight Advisory Committee endorsed by the Council at its 170th Session provide that members may be renewed up to a maximum of six years' service (two terms) on the committee.
- At the expiry of her initial term in June 2022, one member of the committee informed the Director-General that she would not seek renewal for a second term due to her taking up other new initiatives that required her time and commitment. This document proposes to fill the resulting vacancy 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 Oversight Advisory 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 a member of the Oversight Advisory Committee 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 the vacant position of Mr Honoré Ndoko, for an initial period of three years, renewable thereafter up to a maximum of six years in total.
- With the appointment of Mr Honoré Ndoko, the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee comprises three men and two women, with representation from four geographical regions.
- The profile of Mr Honoré Ndoko, 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.

¹ JIU/REP/2019/6

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 one member of the Oversight Advisory Committee following the selection process managed by the Director-General.

Draft Advice

The Committee:

- **considered the document in which the Director-General proposed that Mr Honoré Ndoko be appointed as member of the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee for an initial period of three years;**
- **noted that such appointment would be made by the Council effective from 12 December 2022;**
- **supported the Director-General's proposal and agreed to submit the recommendation to the Council.**

INTRODUCTION

1. The Oversight Advisory 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, ethics and ombuds functions of the Organization. The Oversight Advisory 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 Oversight Advisory 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 Oversight Advisory Committee consists of five external members, and the Director of the Office of Strategy, Programme and Budget (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 [Terms of Reference](#) provide that new members serve for an initial period of three years renewable up to six years. The Finance Committee at its 191st Session in May 2022 acknowledged that Ms Anjana Das had informed that she did not wish to seek renewal for a second term as member of the Oversight Advisory Committee and, consequently, the Organization had initiated a process for the recruitment of a new member.

Current Members of the Committee

4. Following Ms Das' communication that she would not seek renewal for a second term due to her taking up other new initiatives that required her time and commitment, the composition of the committee comprises:

- 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 not renewable, finishes in December 2023.
- Mr Fayezeul Choudhury (Bangladesh/United Kingdom/United States of America), 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 not renewable, finishes in June 2025.
- Ms Malika Ait-Mohamed Parent (Algeria/France/Switzerland), Independent Anti-Corruption Expert, International Speaker and Investigator. Her current term, which is renewable, ends in July 2023.
- Ms Hilary Wild (Ireland/United Kingdom), Independent Finance and Audit Committee Expert. Her current term, which is renewable, finishes in July 2023.

Actions on Appointments

5. In March 2022, the Organization advertised online for the appointment of members of the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee. The deadline for applications was set to 29 March 2022. In view of the limited number of applications received, in April 2022 the vacancy was circulated among the representatives of the UN System Oversight Committees to reach out to a wider audience. 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 nine candidates to be interviewed. A selection panel chaired by Deputy Director-General Thomas and comprised of Legal Counsel, Director OSP, Deputy Director CSH,² Deputy Director of Cabinet and, as external member of the panel, a former FAO Inspector General and with a Human Resources Officer serving as Secretary to the Panel, interviewed candidates on 28 October and 2 November 2022. Based on the panel's report, the Director-General, in consideration of the candidate's experience in oversight, is recommending the appointment of:

- Mr Honoré Ndoko - independent international management and oversight expert

6. Summary curriculum vitae of Mr Honoré Ndoko is provided in *Annex 1*.

² Designated to replace the Director of Human Resources Division, unable to participate in the panel due to conflicting engagements.

Annex 1**Mr Honoré Ndoko****THE WORLD BANK GROUP, Washington, DC**

2015-2021: Chief Administrative Officer for Europe, Central Asia and Middle East, North Africa and the International Offices in Europe, Japan and North America

Key responsibilities:

- Principal advisor to the Vice-Presidents of the regions with a consolidated annual lending program of USD 10 billion, active portfolio of USD 48 billion, and annual operating budget of over USD 500 million and USD 300 million of World Bank executed trust funds
- Responsible for managing the regions' financial performance and ensuring that they meet their fiduciary responsibilities
- Responsible for strategic planning and policy development issues including all resource management functions in the regions, business planning, work-programming and budgeting, monitoring and reporting, trust funds, risk management and internal controls
- Responsible for institutional coordination and decision-making *fora* on a broad range of issues, including modernization of field offices
- Responsible for managing the regions' 50 field offices and their budget management unit of 100 staff
- Responsible for leading and overseeing WB engagement and programs in high-intensity conflict zones in Yemen, Libya, Iraq, Lebanon and Syria

2009-2015: Chief Administrative Officer for East Asia and Pacific and Principal Adviser to the Regional Vice President

2002-2009: Chief Administrative Officer for South Asia and Principal Adviser to the Regional Vice President

INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION, Geneva, Switzerland

2001-2002: Senior Internal Auditor and Deputy Chief Internal Auditor

1993-2001: Chief of Regional Administrative Services for Africa, Regional Office for Africa in Abidjan, Ivory Coast

1991-1993: Principal Entrepreneurship and Management Development Officer

WORLD BANK/UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, Dakar, Senegal

1988-1991: Chief Technical Advisor of Projects and Director of Programs at the Centre Africain d'Études Supérieures en Gestion (CESAG)

CABINET BEAL (France) AND CABINET KHALIL (Guadeloupe)

1982-1987: Auditing Consultant

Professional Representation Activities

- **January 2020-present:** Switzerland, Member of the Independent Management Advisory Committee (IMAC) of the International Telecommunication Union of the United Nations
- **June 2018-present:** Member of the Independent Audit and Oversight Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in Geneva, Switzerland
- Lecturer at universities and colleges in France, Canada, the Caribbean and Africa

Nationality, Academic and Professional Qualifications

- Nationality: Cameroon
- Doctorate level, (Economics and Management), Agrégation Économie et Gestion, École Normale Supérieure, Ministry of Education, Paris, France
- Masters level, (Accounting and Auditing), Certificat Supérieur de Révision Comptable, Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers, Paris, France
- Masters level, (Macroeconomics), Diplôme d'Études Approfondis (DEA) en Économie, Université Lumière, Lyon II, France
- Bachelors level (Economics), License en Sciences Économiques, Université Jean Monnet, Saint-Étienne
- Languages: English, French, Bantu, Spanish