



Industrial Development Board

Forty-eighth session

Vienna, 23–25 November 2020

Item 15 of the provisional agenda

UNIDO Independent Audit Advisory Committee

Membership of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee

Note by the Secretariat

The present document seeks the approval of the extension of the mandate of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee from 29 June 2020 until the forty-eighth session of the Board, in line with the decision of the Enlarged Bureau of the Board communicated in information note no.7 of 20 February 2020. It also proposes the appointment of the members of the committee for the next term, in accordance with paragraph 8 of the revised terms of reference of the committee contained in document [IDB.48/21](#).

I. Overview

1. The Board established the Independent Audit Advisory Committee in November 2016 to advise the Board and the Director General on issues within the committee's mandate (decision IDB.44/Dec.4).
2. In keeping with paragraph 6 of the terms of reference of the committee, and the procedures for selection included in the report by the Director General in document IDB.45/15, the Director General issued an open call for nominations to the committee in February 2017. Following consultations with Member States, the Enlarged Bureau of the Board submitted to the Board a non-exhaustive list of possible candidates for membership of the committee, and the following five members were subsequently appointed by the Board at its forty-fourth session on 29 June 2017 (decision IDB.45/Dec.13):

Mr. Elmar Vinh-Thomas (South Africa)	Africa Group
Mr. S. Lakshman Athukorala (Sri Lanka)	Asia-Pacific Group
Mr. Fernando Nikitin (Uruguay)	GRULAC

For reasons of economy, this document has not been printed. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.



Mr. Nikolay V. Chulkov (Russian Federation) States in List D

Ms. Yuko Keicho (Japan) WEOG

3. Members of the selection panel, which interviewed the candidates, included the President of the Industrial Development Board, a representative from each regional group and representatives of the Director General. Further details regarding the process and the composition of the selection panel can be found in document IDB.45/15. As also reported in the same document, the following candidates, who were not selected at the time, were retained in a roster to be considered for future vacancies:

Mr. Tijani C, Bouraoui (Tunisia) Africa Group

Mr. Subhash K. Gupta (India) Asia-Pacific Group

Mr. Michael N. Parker (Jamaica) GRULAC

Mr. Gabor Amon (Hungary) States in List D

Mr. Carsten Meyer (Germany) WEOG

4. Under decision IDB.45/Dec.13, the current members of the committee were appointed on 29 June 2017 for a three-year term. The three-year term was due to expire on 28 June 2020, well before the forty-eighth session of the Board could take a new decision on the matter. The Enlarged Bureau of the Board therefore decided on 24 January 2020 “to provisionally extend the current mandate of the Audit Advisory Committee from 29 June 2020 until the forty-eighth session of the Board (23–25 November 2020), subject to the subsequent approval of the Board at its forty-eighth session,” (information note no.7, dated 20 February 2020). It is proposed that the Board approve the extension of the mandate of the committee from 29 June 2020 until the forty-eighth session of the Board, in line with the decision of the Enlarged Bureau.

5. In terms of paragraph 8 of the revised terms of reference of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee,¹ members of the committee shall serve for renewable terms of three years each with a maximum of six years. Rotation of membership shall be staggered to allow for continuity as outlined in Board decision IDB.45/Dec.13. Two members have expressed an interest in serving a second three-year term: Mr. Vinh-Thomas (South Africa) and Mr. Athukorala (Sri Lanka). Ms. Keicho (Japan) has opted for a further term of two years. Two members, Mr. Nikitin (Uruguay) and Mr. Chulkov (Russian Federation), have indicated that they are not available for re-appointment.

6. In accordance with Board decision IDB.45/Dec.13, “those members who leave the Audit Committee before the end of the second term would be replaced by a candidate from the same regional group, retained in the roster for future vacancies.”

7. Therefore, the following candidates have been approached to fill the two vacancies on the committee and both have confirmed their availability to serve a three-year term:

Mr. Michael N. Parker (Jamaica) GRULAC

Mr. Gabor Amon (Hungary) States in List D

8. Summary curricula vitae of the two candidates from the roster and the three members proposed for reappointment are provided in conference room paper CRP.9.

¹ Paragraph 8 of the revised terms of reference of the committee reads as follows:

“8. Members shall serve for renewable terms of three years each with a maximum of six years. Rotation of membership shall be staggered to allow for continuity as outlined in Board decision IDB.45/Dec.13, and details should be included in the Oversight Committee’s internal procedures (refer para. 25). The term of office will commence on the date of the Board’s appointment, and it will expire upon conclusion of the three-year term or upon the appointment (or reappointment) of a member at the regular Board session of the relevant year, whichever is later.”

9. Given the current lack of gender balance on the committee, the Board is strongly encouraged to consider appropriate measures to enhance gender parity during the next call for applications and selection process.

II. Action required of the Board

10. The Board may wish to consider adopting the following draft decision:

“The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Takes note of document IDB.48/22 on membership of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee;

(b) Approves the extension of the mandate of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee from 29 June 2020 until the forty-eighth session of the Board;

(c) In line with paragraph 8 of the revised terms of reference of the committee, appoints the following members to the committee:

(i) For a term of three years, from 26 November 2020 to 25 November 2023, or until the appointment (or reappointment) of members at the fifty-first regular session of the Board, whichever is later:

Mr. Elmar Vinh-Thomas (South Africa) Africa Group

Mr. S. Lakshman Athukorala (Sri Lanka) Asia-Pacific Group

Mr. Michael N. Parker (Jamaica) GRULAC

Mr. Gabor Amon (Hungary) States in List D

(ii) For a term of two years, from 26 November 2020 to 25 November 2022, or until the appointment of a new member at the fiftieth regular session of the Board, whichever is later:

Ms. Yuko Keicho (Japan) WEOG
