



29 September 2015

Dear IPBES Member States,

I would like to **invite you to submit to the secretariat, nominations of candidates for the Bureau of the Plenary of IPBES**. The new Bureau of IPBES will be elected during the fourth session of the IPBES Plenary in February 2016.

Nominations should be made in the form of a letter to the secretariat, sent by email to secretariat@ipbes.net, and accompanied by the curriculum vitae of the nominee.

As stipulated in rule 15 of the rules of procedure for the Plenary of the Platform, the Bureau of the Plenary, consisting of the Chair, four Vice-Chairs, and five other officers, is elected from among the members of the Platform. Each region is represented by two officers in the Bureau, taking into account the principle of geographical representation. The Chair and four Vice-Chairs, one of whom acts as Rapporteur, will be selected with due consideration to scientific and technical expertise and will be selected from each of the five United Nations regions. The five additional members of the Bureau will carry out relevant administrative functions. The officers of the Bureau remain in office until their replacement is elected

The secretariat will post the names of the nominees and their curricula vitae, as well as the identity of the region making the nomination, on the website of the Platform, as soon as they are received. Nominations will also be compiled by the secretariat in an information document for the Plenary.

According to rule 15, candidates for the Bureau will be proposed by Governments for nomination by regions and election by the Plenary. In order to allow discussions at the regional level to begin ahead of the Plenary, **we would like to ask you to send your nominations by 30 November 2015.**

Further details on the nomination, selection of the officers of the Bureau, as well as their role and required expertise are provided in the rules of procedure for the Plenary of the Platform (IPBES/1/12, annex I, section VII), and in the institutional arrangements for the Platform (UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9), and as [Annex 1](#) and [Annex 2](#) to this letter respectively. All nominees for election as the Chair and Vice-Chairs need to have relevant expertise from the

agreed guidelines (see Annex 2).

In addition, I would also like to bring to your attention the following paragraph from the section on the election of officers of the Bureau of the Plenary of the Platform (IPBES/1/12, II B, para 10) which states the following:

“Agreement on the selection of the Chair was reached on Saturday, 26 January 2013, when Mr. Zakri Abdul Hamid started his functions. It was the understanding of the meeting that the Vice-Chair of the Western Europe and Other Group would become the Chair of the Bureau for the next term.”

I thank you in advance for your support and cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Anne Larigauderie | Executive Secretary

Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Annex 1: Extract from IPBES/1/12: Report of the first session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. Can be accessed [here](#).

Annex 2: Extracts from the Functions, operating principles and institutional arrangements of the Platform (UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9). Can be accessed [here](#).