

## **Economic Commission for Europe**

### **Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes**

#### **Meeting of the Parties**

##### **Ninth session**

Geneva, 29 September–1 October 2021

### **Membership of the Implementation Committee**

#### **Note prepared by the secretariat**

##### *Summary*

The present note on the membership of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) was prepared pursuant to decision VI/1 (ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.2) of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, and further to the elections of the members of the Committee at the sixth (Rome, 28–30 November 2012), seventh (Budapest, 17–19 November 2015) and eighth (Nur-Sultan, 10–12 October 2018) sessions of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.WAT/37, ECE/MP.WAT/49 and ECE/MP.WAT/54, respectively). It was prepared by the secretariat for the information of the Parties to the Convention so as to facilitate the nomination and election of members of the Implementation Committee at the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties, which is scheduled to take place from 29 September to 1 October 2021.

## Introduction

1. At its ninth session, scheduled to take place in Geneva in a hybrid format from 29 September to 1 October 2021, the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) will have to consider the composition of its Implementation Committee. The procedure for this is set out in Decision VI/1 (ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.2).
2. Based on Decision VI/1, at its sixth session, the Meeting of the Parties elected five members of the Committee for a full term of office and four members for a half term of office. Subsequently, starting from the seventh session, the Meeting of the Parties elected for a full term of office new members to replace those whose term has expired or re-elected existing members for a full term.
3. A full term of office commences at the end of an ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties and runs until the second ordinary session thereafter. In accordance with Decision VI/1, members shall not serve for more than two consecutive terms, unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise.

### **I. Situation with the membership of the Implementation Committee at the time of the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties**

4. The following three members of the Implementation Committee – Mr. Kari Kinnunen, Mr. Stephen McCaffrey and Mr. Ivan Zavadsky – were re-elected at the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties.<sup>1</sup> Their second term of office runs until the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties. There is no need for substitution of these members at the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties.
5. Two members of the Committee – Mr. Martins Paparinskis and Mr. Pedro Cunha Serra – were elected for their first term of office at the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties.<sup>2</sup> Their first term of office runs until the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties. There is no need for substitution or re-election of these members at the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties.
6. Ms. Dinara Ziganshina was elected for her first term of office at the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties.<sup>3</sup> Her first term of office runs until the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties. There is a need for substitution or re-election of this member at the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties.
7. Three members of the Committee were elected for half term of office at the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties<sup>4</sup> and subsequently re-elected for a full term of office at the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties<sup>5</sup>: Mr. Johan Gerrit Lammers, Ms. Anne Schulte-Wülwer-Leidig and Mr. Attila Tanzi. By the time of the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties, these members would have served one and a half term of office. There is a need for substitution or re-election for half term of office of these members at the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

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<sup>1</sup> See ECE/MP.WAT/54, para. 57.

<sup>2</sup> See ECE/MP.WAT/54, para. 57.

<sup>3</sup> See ECE/MP.WAT/49, para. 36.

<sup>4</sup> See ECE/MP.WAT/37, para. 24(b).

<sup>5</sup> See ECE/MP.WAT/49, para 36.

## II. Nominations for the election of Committee members at the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties

8. In accordance with Decision VI/1, Committee members shall be elected by the Meeting of the Parties from among candidates nominated by the Parties. To that end, Parties may take into consideration any proposal for candidates made by Signatories or by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) qualified or having an interest in the fields to which the Convention relates.
9. Committee members shall be persons with experience and recognized expertise in the fields related to the Convention, including legal and/or scientific and technical expertise. Members shall serve in their personal capacity and objectively, in the best interest of the Convention.
10. Nominations shall be sent by Parties to the secretariat in at least one of the official languages of the Convention **not later than 7 July 2021**, i.e. 12 weeks before the opening of the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties. Each nomination shall include the curriculum vitae of the candidate (not exceeding 600 words) and may include supporting material. The secretariat will distribute the nominations and the curricula vitae with the supporting material, if any, as soon as they become available.
11. In accordance with Decision VI/1, in the election of the Committee members, consideration shall be given to the geographical distribution of membership and to the diversity of experience and expertise.
12. Parties are encouraged to take into account gender considerations when deciding on the composition of the Committee.
13. The elections will be governed by the rules of procedure for meetings of the Parties (ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.2).