



INTRODUCTION TO ELECTIONS

**An overview of elections in the General Assembly
and the Economic and Social Council, their rules of
procedure and the e-deleGATE portal**

Tomoko Iwata, Jori Joergensen, Wannes Lint and Rommel Maranan

4 April 2022



Overview of today's presentation

We will provide you an introduction of GA and ECOSOC elections in four segments.

- Economic and Social Council
*Jori Joergensen, Intergovernmental Affairs Officer,
ECOSOC Affairs Branch*
- e-deleGATE and Candiweb
*Rommel Maranan, Associate Intergovernmental
Affairs Officer, General Assembly Affairs Branch*
- General Assembly
*Wannes Lint, Intergovernmental Affairs Officer,
General Assembly Affairs Branch*
- Rules of procedure
*Tomoko Iwata, Senior Legal Officer,
Office of Legal Affairs*

Documentation

When we refer to a document, such as **A/76/251**, the document is available in the Official Document System.

<http://www.undocs.org/A/76/251>



Macro perspective on elections at the United Nations

- There are five principal organs of the United Nations: three Councils, the International Court of Justice and the Secretariat.
- The General Assembly, the only body composed of all the Members of the Organization, elects some members of the Security Council (SC), also elects all the Members of the ECOSOC, participates in the election of the Judges of the International Court of Justice, and appoints the Secretary-General upon the recommendation of the SC.
- In turn, the General Assembly, the ECOSOC and the SC elect or appoint members of their subsidiary bodies. Certain subsidiary bodies elect or appoint members of yet other bodies.

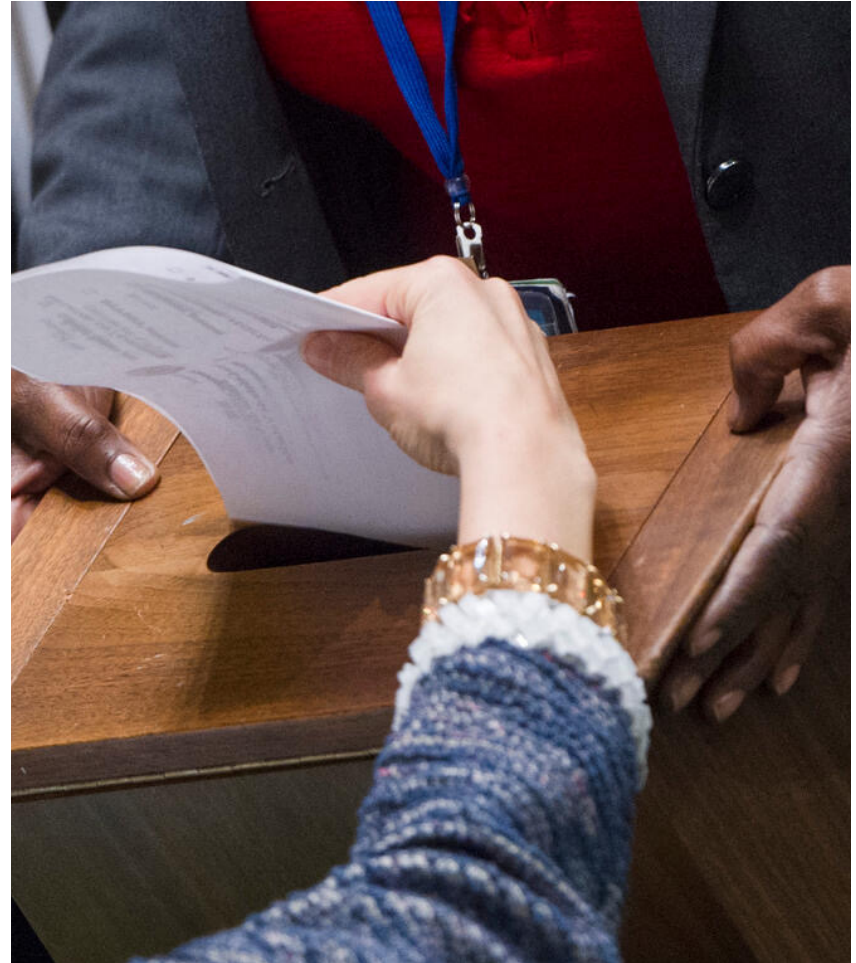




Elections and secret ballots

In principle, all elections are held by secret ballot. In practice, the ballot is dispensed with.

- “All elections shall be held by secret ballot.”
- “The practice of dispensing with the secret ballot for elections to subsidiary organs when the number of candidates corresponds to the number of seats to be filled should become standard.”
- Nevertheless, the right remains for a State member of the electing body to request for a secret ballot on a clean slate.





Different perspectives to keep in view

Each election is different but can be looked at from the following five perspectives.

Membership

Who are the members of a body: Member States, individuals, or a mix? How long is the term?

Decision-making

Which decision-making rule applies?
Simple majority, absolute majority,
two-thirds majority?

Presentation

Who can present the candidature:
Member State, regional group?

Seats and eligibility

How many seats are available?
Is there a regional distribution?
Are retiring members eligible?
Are certain seats dedicated to certain
categories of States?

Endorsement

Are the candidatures endorsed by the
regional group?



THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments

Jori Joergensen

ECOSOC elections: what?

- **Functional commissions**
- **Standing committees**
- **Ad hoc bodies**
- **Expert bodies composed of governmental experts**
- **Expert bodies composed of members serving in their personal capacity**
- **Related bodies**

- **Regular vacancies**
- **Outstanding vacancies**

- **Elections**
- **Nominations**
- **Confirmations**
- **Appointments**

ECOSOC elections: what?

ECOSOC agenda

E/2022/1:

- **E**: Economic and Social Council documentation
- **2022** reflects the session (July-to-July cycle)
- **1**: reflects the dedicated Council agenda symbol
- Standard item included annually on “Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments”.

2022 session

23 July 2021–22 July 2022

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments.
5. High-level segment on building back better from the coronavirus disease



ECOSOC elections: what?

Details on a specific regular elections

In order to obtain detail on a specific election, switch to the addendum to the annotated agenda for the Council dedicated solely to elections: E/2022/100/Add.1.

2022 reflects the session,
100 the annotated agenda
Add.1 the addendum number

2022 session

23 July 2021–22 July 2022

Agenda item 2

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Annotated agenda for the 2022 session of the Economic and Social Council

Addendum

II. Annotations

4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments

The Council is to take action with regard to the following bodies:

Commission on Population and Development (E/2022/9)

Eight members are to be elected according to the following pattern:

Two members from African States;

Two members from Asia-Pacific States;



ECOSOC elections: what?

Details on a specific bodies

In order to obtain detail on a specific bodies, mandates, current members, vacancies review the Secretary-General's notes on elections, issued as E/2022/9 and Addendums.

2022 reflects the session, 9 the Add.1; Add.2; Add.3 the addendum number

Ten members from Western European and other States

Australia (2025), Belgium (2025), Canada (2024), Denmark (2025), Israel* (2023), Netherlands (2026), Portugal (2026), Turkey (2024), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2025), United States of America (2026)

* * *

Eight members are to be elected according to the following pattern:

Two members from African States;

Two members from Asia-Pacific States;

One member from Eastern European States;

Two members from Latin American and Caribbean States;

One member from Western European and other States.

* Retiring member.

² In accordance with Council decisions 1995/320 and 2005/213, the Council will elect eight new members for a four-year term of office beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fifty-seventh session, in 2023, and expiring at the close of the Commission's sixtieth session, in 2027.

³ There is one vacancy in this group for a term of office beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-fifth session, in 2022 (see Council decision 2021/201 B).

⁴ There is one vacancy in this group for a four-year term of office beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fifty-sixth session, in 2022, and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-ninth session, in 2026 (see Council decision 2022/202).

⁵ There are three vacancies in this group for a four-year term of office beginning at the first



ECOSOC elections: what?

Details on ECOSOC subsidiaries and related bodies

E/2019/INF/3

2019: reflects the session

INF: reflects its an “information note” issued in English only

A/76/3

Report of the Economic and Social Council – extensive annex III on Composition of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary and related bodies

	Page
I. Introduction	4
II. Subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council	5
A. Functional commissions	5
1. Statistical Commission	5
2. Commission on Population and Development	7
3. Commission for Social Development	10
4. Commission on the Status of Women	14
5. Commission on Narcotic Drugs	18
6. Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice	23
7. Commission on Science and Technology for Development	26
8. Commission on Sustainable Development (discontinued)	30
9. United Nations Forum on Forests	30
B. Regional commissions	36
1. Economic Commission for Africa	36
2. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	38
3. Economic Commission for Europe	41



ECOSOC elections: when?

When is the election scheduled?

Mandated to hold annual election meetings (A/RES/72/305, as reconfirmed in A/RES/75/290 A)

E/RES/2022/1 'Working arrangements for the 2022 session of the Economic and Social Council'

RES: refers to a resolution
2022: reflects the session
1: assigned number to the resolution

26. Dedicated management meetings will also be held to conduct elections to fill regular and outstanding vacancies in subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and related bodies, normally in the first half and last quarter of the year. In preparing for elections by the Council, Member States should present candidates at least three working days in advance of elections. The provisions of paragraphs 47 and 48 of resolution 71/323 of 8 September 2017 should be followed, as applicable to the Council.

(d) Dedicated management meetings will be held on Wednesday, 13 April 2022, to conduct elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary bodies of the Council and related bodies;



ECOSOC elections: who?

Voters

- Members of the Economic and Social Council (54 States Members of the UN, elected by the General Assembly)
- ECOSOC Rules of Procedure: Rules 68-70

Candidates

- National capacity
- Personal capacity
- Mandates on terms and distribution of seats, specific requirements
- Memberships based on equitable geographical distribution



ECOSOC elections: who?

Candidates for 13 April 2022 elections

List of candidates for election

– Regularly updated and circulated through the e-delegate portal and posted in Candiweb.

- Candidates should be submitted by official communication to the ECOSOC Secretariat. Notes verbales that are circulated within regional groups only do not constitute a submission of candidature.

REGULAR VACANCIES

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: 8 members to be elected (4-year term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fifty-seventh session in 2023 and expiring at the close of the Commission's sixtieth session in 2027) [See E/2022/9]		
	ENDORSED	NON-ENDORSED
AFRICAN STATES (2 members to be elected)		
ASIA-PACIFIC STATES (2 members to be elected)	1. Iran (Islamic Republic of) 2. Tajikistan	
EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES (1 member to be elected)		
LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STATES (2 members to be elected)		Panama
WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER		



E-DELEGATE

Rommel Maranan



e-deleGATE

- The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management has centralized the digital services made available to delegates through the e-deleGATE portal

<https://edelegate.un.int/>

- This password-protected portal contains links to general information (e.g. official documents, the Journal) and houses specific delegate-facing services:
 - **e-Registration:** online registration of delegates participating in meetings
 - **e-Speakers:** inscription on the list of speakers
 - **e-Proposals:** sponsorship and submission of draft resolutions and decisions
 - **CandiWeb:** information on elections and candidatures



CandiWeb

- e-deleGATE service platform that allows for sharing of information on elections and candidatures within the bodies of the United Nations

The screenshot displays the e-deleGATE platform interface. At the top, the logo and text "e-deleGATE Secure Portal for Delegates" are visible. Below the header, navigation links for "What's New", "General Assembly", and "Security Council" are present. The "Candiweb" section is highlighted in blue. A dropdown menu for the "General Assembly" is open, showing a list of election bodies and other options. The "Candiweb" option is highlighted in blue. A list of election bodies is displayed, including "Election Bodies - General Assembly", "Election Bodies - Fifth Committee", "Election Bodies - ECOSOC", "Election Bodies - Assemblies of State Parties", "Regional Groups - African Group", "Regional Groups - Asia-Pacific Group", "Regional Groups - Eastern European States", "Regional Groups - Group of Latin American and Caribbean States", "Regional Groups - Western European and Others Group", "Election Officers Contact List", and "Table of Majority Vote". A "Rules and Procedures" link is also visible at the bottom of the list.

This screenshot shows a different view of the e-deleGATE platform. The header and navigation links are consistent with the previous screenshot. The "Candiweb" section is highlighted in blue. A dropdown menu for the "General Assembly" is open, showing a list of election bodies and other options. The "Candiweb" option is highlighted in blue. A list of election bodies is displayed, including "Election Bodies - General Assembly", "Election Bodies - Fifth Committee", "Election Bodies - ECOSOC", "Election Bodies - Assemblies of State Parties", "Regional Groups - African Group", "Regional Groups - Asia-Pacific Group", "Regional Groups - Eastern European States", "Regional Groups - Group of Latin American and Caribbean States", "Regional Groups - Western European and Others Group", "Election Officers Contact List", and "Table of Majority Vote". A "Rules and Procedures" link is also visible at the bottom of the list.



Candidature Charts

- The list of candidates which contains the latest information on candidates, updated upon submission and/or endorsement of candidature by Member States and regional groups

Election Bodies - General Assembly

GA Plenary Elections

File	Date
220323 Candidature charts.pdf	23/03/2022

Election Bodies - ECOSOC

ECOSOC 2022 session

File ↓	Date
List of Candidates for regular and outstanding vacancies for ECOSOC subsidiary bodies 30 March 2022.pdf	30/03/2022
E_2022_9_E Functional	21/01/2022

List of Candidates for the 76th session of the General Assembly

- Election of the President of the General Assembly
- Election of the officers of the Main Committees
- Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly
- Election of members of the Economic and Social Council
- Election of non-permanent members of the Security Council
- Election of Members of the Human Rights Council
- Election of Members of the Committee on Programme and Coordination
- Appointment of Members of the Committee on Conferences
- Appointment Members of the Joint Inspection Unit
- Election of Members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission
- Election of members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
- Election of the members of the International Law Commission
- Appointment of members of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns
- Election of Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme
- Approval of the appointment of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

INFORMAL WORKING COPY

LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND RELATED BODIES

MANAGEMENT MEETING (Wednesday, 13 April 2022)

In accordance with paragraph 26 of the annex to General Assembly resolution [72/305](#), Member States should present candidates no later than COB on Thursday, 7 April 2022.

Eligible Member States may present candidatures to ECOSOC subsidiary and related bodies irrespective of whether they have been endorsed by their regional group.

Candidates should be submitted by note verbale/official communication to the ECOSOC Secretariat. Notes verbales that are circulated within regional groups only do not constitute a submission of candidature.

All correspondence should be addressed to the ECOSOC Secretariat/Secretary of ECOSOC, Ms. Emer Herity and sent to the ECOSOC Affairs Branch: ecosocselections@un.org, herity@un.org and Jori Joergensen, e-mail: joergensenj@un.org, and Ms. Mary Constable, e-mail: constablem@un.org

Yellow highlight indicates candidatures received since the previous list of candidates (dated 25 March 2022) was circulated.

Grey highlight indicates elections to be decided by secret ballot either because the number of candidatures is greater than the number of vacancies to be filled or a request for a secret ballot has been received by the Secretariat.



Guidelines and references

- Detailed information and guidelines for submission and endorsements of candidatures for elections and appointments of the different bodies

Election of non-permanent members of the Security Council



Background

In accordance with Article 23 of the Charter, as amended³², the [Security Council](#) consists of five [permanent members](#) (China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America) and 10 [non-permanent members](#) elected by the General Assembly for a **term of two years**. In accordance with [rule 142 of the rules of procedure](#), the **General Assembly elects each year five non-permanent members of the Security Council**³³. At its eighteenth session, in 1963, the Assembly decided that the non-permanent members of the Council should be elected according to the following pattern (paragraph 3 of General Assembly [resolution 1991 A \(XVIII\)](#)):

- Five from the African and Asia-Pacific States
- One from Eastern European States
- Two from Latin American and Caribbean States
- Two from Western European and other States



Term of office: The five non-members of the Council shall serve for a **period of two years**.

Eligibility note: A **retiring member** of the Security Council shall **not be eligible** for immediate re-election³⁴;

Voting: The election shall be held by **secret ballot**. The non-permanent members of the Council are elected by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.



Submitting candidature for the election of non-permanent members of the Security Council

Candidature(s) should be communicated **directly** by the concerned delegation(s) or, if there is an endorsement, by the Chair of the Regional Group to the Secretariat (gaab@un.org) with a copy to the focal points for GA plenary elections at the UN Secretariat³⁵, in the form of a Note Verbale (a scanned PDF copy). The submission is accepted **after** the issuance of the **preliminary list of agenda items** in mid-February (A/XX [session number]/50) of the corresponding session, and if possible, **48 hours before** the election is expected to take place (resolution 71/323, para.47).



What is expected from the elected non-permanent members of the SC?

Please visit [the Security Council website](#).

Guidelines for submission and endorsements of candidatures for appointments that fall under the purview of the Fifth Committee

To officially inform the Secretary-General of the nomination of a candidate, delegations are asked to provide the following documents:

- Note verbale from the nominating mission informing the Secretariat of the nomination of candidate "XX" (name as spelled in passport) of "XX" (country) to serve as a member of "XX" (body/committee), for the period of "XX-XX" (or beginning on "XX").¹
- An up-to-date curriculum vitae of the candidate – in a word document – to be included in the note by the Secretary-General issued prior to the election.¹
- If applicable/available: a note verbale from the monthly chair of the relevant regional Group confirming the endorsement of the candidate by the Group (the note verbale should also contain the name of the candidate as spelled in their passport, their nationality and the term of office and the body/committee the candidate is nominated for).

Kindly address the letter or note verbale to Mr. Lionelito Berridge, Secretary of the Administrative and Budgetary (Fifth) Committee (berridge@un.org, with copy to fifthcommittee@un.org, muellers@un.org and velandria@un.org).

It is the practice of the Fifth Committee to set the regular date of elections on the first Friday in November. The deadline for submission of candidatures and endorsements as well as the actual date for appointments and elections during the main part of the seventy-seventh session will be determined at the Fifth Committee's first meeting at that session under the Organization of Work agenda item.

Ad-hoc elections may be transacted at any time during a session as the need arises.



Election Officers and Secretariat focal points

- Names and contact information of Election Officers and UN Secretariat election focal points.
- Changes to Election Officers should be communicated to the Secretariat focal points.

Election Officers Contact List	
File	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2021-11-19 List of Secretariat election focal points with list of elections and appointments.pdf 	19/11/2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2022-03-31 - Contact_List_ElectionOfficers.xlsx 	31/03/2022

Country	Department	Regional Group	Scope	Title	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
Lithuania		Eastern Europe		Ms. Kristina			Liutikaite (212) 983-
Luxembourg		WEOG		Mr. Jose			Quintus (212) 715-
North Macedonia		Eastern Europe		Ms. Katrina			Georgieva 212-308-8
Madagascar		Africa		Ms. Mangala			Rajona (212) 986-
Malawi	ECOSOC and GA	Africa		Ms. Renata			Chivundu 212-317-8
Malawi	Human Rights Treaty Body and 6th Committee	Africa		Mr. Mabvuto			Katemula 212-317-8
Malaysia		Asia-Pacific		Ms. Sarah			Ruhama (212) 986-
Maldives		Asia		Mr. Hassan			Adam (212) 599-
Mali		Africa		Mr. Mohamed			Traore (212) 737-
Malta		WEOG		Mr. Adam			Kuymizakis (212) 725-2
Marshall Islands		Asia-Pacific		Mr. Alfred Capelle			Lehibb (212) 983-
Mauritania		Africa		Mr. El Hadj			Raojee (212) 949-
Mauritius		Africa		Ms. Vreeshini			Gonzalez (212) 752-
Mexico		GRULAC		Mr. Christian Tonatiah			Zvachula (212) 697-
Micronesia		Asia-Pacific		Mr. Martin			Siman (212) 447-
Republic of Moldova		Eastern Europe		Ms. Augustina			Sangioglio (212) 832-
Monaco		WEOG		Ms. Alyson		C.	Battsengel (212) 861-
Mongolia		Asia-Pacific		Ms. Enkhtssetseg			Lekovic (212) 661-
Montenegro		Eastern Europe		Ms. Jelena			Lahmiri (212) 421-
Morocco		Africa		Ms. Aahde			Virgilio (212) 644-
Mozambique		Africa		Mr. Inacio			Zaw (212) 744-
Myanmar		Asia		Mr. Nyein			Amesdu (212) 685-
Namibia		Africa		Ms. Nekwaya			Aryal (646) 744-6
Nauru		Asia-Pacific		Mr. Kane			Dikkar (646) 519-
Nepal		Asia-Pacific		Mr. Krishna			Hardie (212) 317-
Netherlands		WEOG		Ms. Tessa			Sandoval (212) 490-
New Zealand		WEOG		Ms. Alexandra			Calder (212) 432-
Nicaragua		GRULAC		Ms. Juana			



Information from Regional Groups

- The regional group chair of the month may share with the Secretariat their respective chart for posting on CandiWeb
- Information is maintained by the regional groups

A screenshot of a web-based dropdown menu. The menu is open, showing a list of options. The first two options are "Election Bodies - General Assembly", "Election Bodies - Fifth Committee", "Election Bodies - ECOSOC", and "Election Bodies - Assemblies of State Parties". The next five options are "Regional Groups - African Group", "Regional Groups - Asia-Pacific Group", "Regional Groups - Eastern European States", "Regional Groups - Group of Latin American and Caribbean States", and "Regional Groups - Western European and Others Group". The last two options are "Election Officers Contact List" and "Table of Majority Vote". A red rectangular box highlights the five "Regional Groups" options. The menu is titled "(Please select)" at the top.

(Please select)

(Please select)

Election Bodies - General Assembly

Election Bodies - Fifth Committee

Election Bodies - ECOSOC

Election Bodies - Assemblies of State Parties

Regional Groups - African Group

Regional Groups - Asia-Pacific Group

Regional Groups - Eastern European States

Regional Groups - Group of Latin American and Caribbean States

Regional Groups - Western European and Others Group

Election Officers Contact List

Table of Majority Vote



Access to e-deleGATE

- Access to e-deleGATE is managed by **access administrators** in each permanent mission. They can grant access to various modules of the portal to delegates in their respective missions.
- New delegates should contact their access administrators to gain access.
- Technical questions can be directed to missions-support@un.int.



THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Wannes Lint



General Assembly elections: what?

List of elections taking place

In order to see all elections taking place at a certain session, start with the agenda of the General Assembly: A/76/251.

A reflects the Assembly,
76 reflects the session,
251 the agenda.

(Information is presented at the end of the agenda, after other agenda items)

115. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs:

- (a) Election of non-permanent members of the Security Council;
- (b) Election of members of the Economic and Social Council;
- (c) Election of a member of the International Court of Justice.

116. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections:

- (a) Election of members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;
- (b) Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;
- (c) Election of members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission;
- (d) Election of members of the Human Rights Council;
- (e) Election of members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;



General Assembly elections: what?

Details on a specific election

In order to obtain detail on a specific election, switch to the annotated preliminary list of agenda items: A/76/100.

76 reflects the session, 100 the annotated preliminary list for that session.

(b) Election of members of the Economic and Social Council

In accordance with Article 61 of the Charter, as amended,⁵ the Economic and Social Council consists of 54 members elected for a term of three years. Under rule 145 of the rules of procedure, the General Assembly shall elect each year 18 members of the Economic and Social Council. At its twenty-sixth session, in 1971, the Assembly decided that the members of the Council should be elected according to the following pattern (resolution 2847 (XXVI)):

- (a) Fourteen members from African States;
- (b) Eleven members from Asia-Pacific States;
- (c) Ten members from Latin American and Caribbean States;
- (d) Thirteen members from Western European and other States;
- (e) Six members from Eastern European States.

At its seventy-sixth session, the Assembly will need to fill the seats being vacated by the following States: Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, China, Colombia, Congo, Denmark, Gabon, Greece, Latvia, Montenegro, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and Thailand.

In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election is held by secret ballot. Under rule 83 of the rules of procedure, the members of the Economic and Social Council are elected by a two-thirds majority.



General Assembly elections: what?

Details on a specific election

Detailed information is also available on the Candiweb platform.

CANDIDATE CHART - ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (item 116 (b))

(rule 145; ECOSOC res.2008 LX 14 May 1976; GA decision 75/419)

Total Membership: **54**

Election Date: [...] **June 2022**

Term of office: **3 years**

- ✓ All data are in the English alphabetical order.
- ✓ A retiring member of ECOSOC is **eligible** for immediate **re-election**.
- ✓ Endorsed candidates are indicated **with a footnote**.
- ✓ **Important Note:** The date of the election is subject to further review, including in the light of any decisions that the Assembly may take in of the situation concerning the coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

CANDIDATES Term 2023-2025	CURRENT MEMBERS TERM OF OFFICE EXPIRES 31 DECEMBER (of the years below)		
	Members retiring in 2022	Members retiring in 2023	Members retiring in 2024
African States (total: 14 seats)	(4 seats)	(5 seats)	(5 seats)
	Benin	Liberia	Côte d'Ivoire
	Botswana	Libya	Eswatini
	Congo	Madagascar	Mauritius
	Gabon	Nigeria	Tunisia
		Zimbabwe	United Republic of Tanzania

Election of members of the Economic and Social Council

Background

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) consists of 54 members elected by the General Assembly (GA) for a term of three years. Under rule 145 of the rules of procedure, the GA elects each year 18 members of the ECOSOC²⁴. At its twenty-sixth session, in 1971, the Assembly decided that the members of the ECOSOC should be elected according to the following pattern²⁵:

- Fourteen from African States
- Eleven from Asia-Pacific States
- Six from Eastern European States
- Ten from Latin American and Caribbean States
- Thirteen from Western European and other States



Term of office: The members of the ECOSOC shall serve for a **period of three years**. The membership cycle begins on 1 January.

Eligibility note: A **retiring member** of the ECOSOC shall be **eligible** for immediate re-election²⁶.



General Assembly elections: when?

When is the election scheduled?

In order to find out when an election is scheduled, visit the schedule of the Assembly.

<https://www.un.org/en/ga/info/meetings/76schedule.shtml>

76th session	
Date	Topic
Thursday, 31 March 2022 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. – Trusteeship Council Chamber	Informal interactive dialogue of the Assembly on commodity markets [Letters from the President of the General Assembly, dated 7 March 2022 and 28 February were sent to all permanent representatives and permanent observers.]
Friday, 1 April 2022 10:00 a.m. - General Assembly Hall	65th Plenary meeting 1. Prevention of armed conflict [item 35 (a)]: Note by the Secretary-General (A/76/690) <div style="text-align: center;"> <i>Debate on the item</i></div> 2. Groups of countries in special situations: follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries [item 23 (a)]: draft resolution (A/76/L.47) <div style="text-align: center;"> <i>Action on the draft resolution</i></div>
	Informal briefing by the G20 Co-Sherpa of the Republic of Indonesia [A letter from the President of the General Assembly, dated 14 March 2022, was sent to all permanent representatives and permanent observers.]

United Nations

General Assembly of the United Nations

[President](#)
[About](#)
[Meetings](#)
[Main Committees](#)
[Newsroom](#)
[Documents](#)

[High-Level Meetings](#)
[Meetings schedule](#)
[Elections](#)
[Summaries](#)
[Webcast](#)
[UN Journal](#)
[Accessibility Centre](#)

Schedule

65th Plenary and Related Meetings

76th Session

LAST UPDATE: 31 March 2022



General Assembly elections: who?

Voters

- Members of the General Assembly, subject to Article 19:

A Member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The General Assembly may, nevertheless, permit such a member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member.

- Countries in arrears? See the UN website.

<https://www.un.org/en/ga/about/art19.shtml>

Candidates

- National capacity
- Personal capacity

- Resolution 71/323:

47. Further decides that the names of candidates for election by the General Assembly or by the Main Committees shall be communicated to the Secretariat, where possible, at least 48 hours prior to an election unless otherwise required by specific rules governing the elections concerned, and that those names shall be printed on the ballot papers, while additional space shall be provided on the ballot paper for inscribing other names, where applicable.

48. Decides that on the day of election in the General Assembly or in the Main Committees the campaign materials distributed in the General Assembly Hall or in the Committee meeting room shall be limited to a single page of information regarding the candidates, with a view to preserving the decorum of the Assembly.



General Assembly elections: how?

How to submit a candidature

Detailed information is provided on Candiweb for each election on how to submit a candidature:

- Can the candidature be communicated directly by the Member State or only through a regional group?
- Does the candidature require an endorsement by the regional group?
- When can the candidature be submitted?
- May additional documentation be submitted in support of a candidature?

Candidatures must be submitted to the Secretariat. Candidatures are not reflected if they are only submitted to the regional group.



Submitting candidature for the election of members of the ECOSOC

Candidature(s) should be communicated **directly** by the concerned delegation(s) or, if there is an endorsement, by the Chair of the Regional Group to the Secretariat (gaab@un.org) with a copy to the focal points for GA plenary elections at the UN Secretariat²⁸, in the form of a Note Verbale (a scanned PDF copy). The submission is accepted **after** the issuance of the **preliminary list of agenda items** in mid-February (A/XX [session number]/50) of the corresponding session, and if possible, **48 hours before** the election is expected to take place (resolution [71/323](#), para.47).



General Assembly elections: how?

Rule 94

“When two or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates obtaining in the first ballot the majority required shall be elected.

If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of persons or Members to be elected, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled;

provided that, after the third inconclusive ballot, votes may be cast for any eligible person or Member.

If three such unrestricted ballots are inconclusive, the next three ballots shall be restricted to the candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes in the third of the unrestricted ballots, to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled,

and the following three ballots thereafter shall be unrestricted, and so on until all the places have been filled.



It's election day in the General Assembly!

Members 193	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
Ballots 192	61	66	71	76	81	96	97	Round 1
Ballots 160			69	81	82	87		Round 2

Parameters

- Full membership
- Simple majority
 - No regional distribution
- No clean slate:
 - Three seats
- Seven candidates

Rule 94

"When two or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates obtaining in the first ballot the majority required shall be elected. If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of persons or Members to be elected, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled[.]



RULES OF PROCEDURE

Tomoko Iwata



How elections are conducted

- Quorum: the presence of a majority of members
 - Rule 67 of the General Assembly Rules of Procedure
 - Rule 41 of the ECOSOC Rules of Procedure
- Conduct of elections
 - Rules 92 to 94 of the General Assembly Rules of Procedure
 - Rules 68 to 70 of the ECOSOC Rules of Procedure
- Tellers are there to oversee the overall election process, in particular the counting.



What is a clean slate?

- Clean Slate
 - Rule 68 of ECOSOC Rules of Procedure
 - Paragraph 16 of Annex V of the General Assembly Rules of Procedure
- For certain elections, even if there is a clean slate, there is still a need to conduct the elections by secret ballot. Examples.
 - Security Council
 - ECOSOC
 - Human Rights Council
- If there is an objection or a request for a vote, even if there is a clean slate, proceed to elections by secret ballot on the slate.



The telling process

Members present and voting

For the purposes of these rules, the phrase "members present and voting" means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

- Rule 86 of the General Assembly Rules of Procedure
- Rule 60 of the ECOSOC Rules of Procedure

Invalid ballots

- Examples:
 - More votes than the number of seats
 - Voting only for non-eligible candidates (where write-in is possible)

Abstentions

- When the ballot is empty
- (Notations will be disregarded.)



Who gets elected?

- Candidates who obtain the highest number votes and the required majority are elected
 - How do you calculate the required majority?
 - What about a tie vote?
- If vacancies remain after the first round:



- If further rounds are required: 3 unrestricted (including fourth round); 3 restricted (until all seats are filled).



Elections in the GA

ECOSOC

(A/75/PV.73 (by-elections and regular elections) and A/76/PV.52(by-election))

International Law Commission

(A/76/PV.32)





Elections in ECOSOC

Only members can vote

Recent Summary Record of Elections in ECOSOC see: E/2021/SR.6 and SR.7



1.
Source: UN Photo