



CONFERENCE

Forty-third Session

Rome, 1-7 July 2023

Appointment of Representatives of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee

Executive Summary

Article 4(a) of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund ("UNJSPF") provides that *"the Fund shall be administered by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, the Chief Executive of Pension Administration, a staff pension committee for each member organization, and a secretariat to each such committee"*.

Under Article 6(c), the Staff Pension Committee of each member organization *"shall consist of members and alternate members chosen by the body of the organization corresponding to the General Assembly, its chief administrative officer, and its participants in service..."* The FAO/WFP Staff Pension Committee consists of: three members (with three alternates) appointed by the FAO Conference; three members (with three alternates) appointed by the Director-General; and three members (with three alternates) elected by the FAO and WFP Participants in the UNJSPF.

In view of the time factor and the coordination requirements in connection with attendance at Staff Pension Committee meetings, which are organised in Rome, the Conference has usually appointed representatives of its Members who are resident in Rome.

Suggested action by the Conference

The Conference is invited to appoint to the Staff Pension Committee:

- a) One Member to serve from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2026;
- b) One Alternate Member to serve from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2026;
- c) One Member to serve from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2027;
- d) One Alternate Member to serve from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2027; and
- e) One Member to replace and complete the term of Mr Hammad B. Hammad, Alternate Permanent Representative of the United States Mission to the United Nations Agencies, until 31 December 2025.

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

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1. Article 4(a) of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (“UNJSPF”) provides that *“the Fund shall be administered by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, the Chief Executive of Pension Administration, a staff pension committee for each member organization, and a secretariat to each such committee”*. In accordance with Article 6(c), the Staff Pension Committee of each member organization *“shall consist of members and alternate members chosen by the body of the organization corresponding to the General Assembly, its chief administrative officer, and its participants in service...”*

2. The FAO/WFP Staff Pension Committee (“the Committee”) plays an important role in the general effort to harmonize pension benefits and their administration with the requirements of organizations of the United Nations (UN) common system and of their staff, who may serve and retire in all countries of the world. The characteristics of the International Civil Service of the UN common system require particular care as well as in-depth consideration of the pension related issues that are brought to the attention of the UN General Assembly. The Committee’s responsibilities include:

a) to review the Pension Fund Regulations and Administrative rules with respect to possible amendments thereto in order to formulate the position of the Committee's delegation to the UN Joint Staff Pension Board, which in turn makes recommendations, as appropriate, to the UN General Assembly;

b) to interpret and apply the Regulations and Administrative rules of the Pension Fund in cases of contestation by FAO and WFP participants of the UNJSPF of a decision by the Secretary of the Staff Pension Committee concerning participants' entitlements and/or status; and

c) to grant disability benefits in payment (approximately 25-30 cases per year), in accordance with the Regulations and Rules of the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund.

3. The Committee meets as the need arises (normally six to eight times a year for meetings lasting half a day). It appoints three members and three alternates (one member and one alternate from among the members designated by the FAO Conference, the Director-General and FAO/WFP Participants respectively) to represent the Organization in the UN Joint Staff Pension Board, the higher administrative body of the Fund, reporting directly to the UN General Assembly. Regular sessions of the Board are held not less frequently than once every two years. However, since 2022, the Board has held meetings three times per year (two virtual sessions in February and April and one in-person session in July)

4. The FAO/WFP Staff Pension Committee consists of:

- three members (with three alternates) appointed by the Conference of FAO;
- three members (with three alternates) appointed by the Director-General; and
- three members (with three alternates) elected by the FAO and WFP Participants.

5. The Conference-appointed members and alternates at present are:

Term of Office	Members	Alternates
1 January 2023 - 31 December 2025	Mr Hammad B. Hammad Alternate Permanent Representative of the United States Mission to the United Nations Agencies	Mr Salah Abdul Razag M. Alkhoder Alternate Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to FAO

1 January 2022 - 31 December 2024	Mr Denis Cherednichenko Alternate Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to FAO and other UN Agencies in Rome	Mr Marios Georgiades Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the Holy See (Permanent Representation to FAO)
1 January 2021 - 31 December 2023	Mr Guillermo Valentín Rodolico Deputy Permanent Representative of the Argentine Republic to FAO/IFAD/WFP	Mr Kuraya Yoshihiro Deputy Permanent Representative Embassy of Japan

6. In view of the time factor and coordination requirements in connection with attendance at Staff Pension Committee meetings, which are organised in Rome, the Conference has usually appointed representatives who are resident in Rome.

7. The Conference *is invited to appoint* to the Staff Pension Committee the following:

- a) Mr Guillermo Valentín Rodolico, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Argentine Republic to FAO, to serve as Member from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2026;
- b) Mr Abdul Rahman Abdul Wahab, Alternate Permanent Representative, Embassy of Malaysia, to serve as Alternate Member from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2026;
- c) Ms Maria Buttigieg, Deputy Permanent Representative, Embassy of the Republic of Malta , to serve as Member from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2027;
- d) Mr Denis Cherednichenko, Alternate Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to FAO and other UN Agencies in Rome, to serve as Alternate Member from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2027;
- e) Mr Christopher Tatum, Alternate Permanent Representative of the United States Mission to the United Nations Agencies, to replace and complete the term of Mr Hammad B. Hammad, for the remainder of his term until 31 December 2025, due to Mr Hammad's departure from Rome in June 2023.