

June 2013

	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国 粮食及 农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture	Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura
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Global Soil Partnership Plenary Assembly

First session

Rome, 11-12 June 2013

Nominations for, and Establishment of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils

Executive Summary

- 1) This document submits, for endorsement by the Assembly, a list of experts selected according to established criteria, so that the first ITPS can start to operate in line with expectations set out in the GSP Terms of Reference.
- 2) Section 5.2 of the Terms of Reference (CL 145/REP/F1) stipulates the establishment of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) with the aim of providing scientific and technical advice and guidance on global soil issues primarily to the GSP, and in relation to specific requests submitted by global or regional institutions. Document GSPPA/I/2013/1 (Rule VI of the Rules of Procedure) describes in more detail the expected functions and composition of the ITPS (including desirable regional and gender balance and mix of disciplines and experience), as well as the requisites to become members of this panel.
- 3) It is recalled that the ITPS should have the following regional distribution:
 - five from Africa
 - five from Asia
 - five from Europe
 - five from Latin America and the Caribbean
 - three from the Near East
 - two from North America
 - two from the South West Pacific
- 4) Potential members should be assessed against the following qualifications:
 - a recognized academic profile (postgraduate level);
 - demonstrated experience at international level in different soil-related activities, ranging from research to field experience;

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- a record of sound publications subjected to peer reviews;
- a position that should not preclude the provision of advice independently from employment status and nationality.

Suggested action by the GSP Plenary Assembly

- The Plenary Assembly may wish to:
 - endorse the list of 27 experts and approve accordingly the establishment of the first Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils;
 - ask the Secretariat to support and facilitate the activities of the ITPS, including the organization of its first meeting, and assisting with its internal organization.

1. In anticipation of approval of the GSP Rules of Procedure by the Assembly, a call for experts was sent out on 25th April 2013 - together with the Invitations to the Plenary Assembly - requesting GSP partners to nominate experts. A total of 113 nominations were received by the Secretariat.

2. After a rigorous assessment against the required criteria, a short list was communicated to FAO Member Countries through Regional Chairs, for final selection of experts in respective regions, noting that - apart from suitable qualifications - the ITPS should reflect proper regional coverage and gender balance.

3. The final list of experts for all regions were given to the Secretariat so that the Assembly could proceed with the formal appointment of members and establishment of the first ITPS.

4. The results from this process are presented below:

Africa

- Dr. Isaurinda Dos Santos Baptista Costa -Cape Verde
- Dr. Martin Yemefack - Cameroon
- Prof. Dr. Victor Chude - Nigeria
- Dr. Mohamed Badraoui - Morocco
- Prof. Dr. Tekalign Mamo - Ethiopia

Asia

- Prof. Dr. Gan Lin Zhang – China
- Prof. Dr. Milkha Singh Aulakh – India
- Dr. Kazuyuki Yagi – Japan
- Dr. Suk Young Hong – Republic of Korea
- Dr. Pisoot Vijarnsorn – Thailand

Europe

- Dr. Helaina Black - United Kingdom
- Dr. Sobocká Jaroslava - Slovakia
- Dr. Dominique Arrouays - France
- Dr. Luca Montanarella - Italy
- Dr. Pavel Krasilnikov - Russia

Latin America and the Caribbean

- Dr. Maria de Lourdes Mendonca Santos -Brazil
- Dr. Miguel Taboada - Argentina
- Dr. Carlos Roberto Henríquez - Costa Rica
- Dr. David Espinosa Victoria - Mexico
- Dr. Julio Alegre - Peru
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Near East

- Prof. Dr. Seyed Kazem Alavi Panah – Iran
- Prof. Dr. Elsidig Ahmed ElMustafa ElSheikh – Sudan
- Dr. Abdullah AlShankiti – Saudi Arabia

North America

- Dr. Cheryl Palm – United States
- Prof. Dr. John Daniel Pennock – Canada

South West Pacific

- Dr. Marta Camps Arbestain - New Zealand
- Dr. Neil McKenzie - Australia