



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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REFERENCE: CRPD/2020 elections/2

Subject: Extension of the deadline for the nomination of nine members of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 13th Conference of States parties

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Missions of States parties to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (hereinafter, the Convention) and has the honour to refer to the decision of the Bureau of the Conference of States parties (the Conference), made on 20 March 2020, to postpone the 13th session of the Conference and the election of the nine members of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee) until the second week of December 2020, tentatively.

In accordance with that decision, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has the honour to inform all Permanent Missions of States parties to the Convention that the deadline to nominate a candidate for membership in the Committee for the period 2021-2024, is **extended to 1 October 2020**, replacing the earlier deadline of 10 April 2020. Furthermore, no additional action is needed regarding nominations received so far.

For ease of reference, the information contained in Note Verbale of 10 February 2020 is reiterated:

Pursuant to article 34 paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Convention, the Secretary-General has the honour to invite your respective State to nominate a candidate for membership in the Committee. Each State party shall nominate one person from its own nationals, in accordance with article 34, paragraph 5 of the Convention.

In addition, according to article 34, paragraph 3, of the Convention: The members of the Committee shall serve in their personal capacity and shall be of high moral standing and recognized competence and experience in the field covered by the present Convention. When nominating their candidates, States parties are invited to give due consideration to the provision set out in article 4.3 of the present Convention according to which “in ... decision-making processes concerning issues relating to persons with disabilities, States parties shall closely consult with and actively involve persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organizations”.

According to article 34, paragraph 4, of the Convention: The members of the Committee shall be elected by States parties, consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution, representation of the different forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems, balanced gender representation and participation of experts with disabilities.

The current membership of the Committee consists of six women and 12 men. There are five members from the Asia-Pacific regional group, two from Latin America and the Caribbean, five from Africa, three from Eastern Europe and three from Western Europe and other States. Regarding the nine members whose term will end on 31 December 2020, three are from Asia-Pacific, three from Africa, two from Eastern Europe, and one from Western Europe and other States. Information on the current composition of the Committee is available at the following address: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/Membership.aspx>.

All the documents relating to the elections are available on the website of the Committee: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/Elections2020.aspx>.

The Secretary-General would also like to draw attention to General Assembly resolution A/RES/68/268 adopted on 9 April 2014 entitled “Strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system” and its paragraphs 10 and 13 on the nomination and election of treaty body experts, in which the General Assembly:

Encourages States parties to continue their efforts to nominate experts of high moral standing and recognized competence and experience in the field of human rights, in particular in the field covered by the relevant treaty, and, as appropriate, to consider adopting national policies or processes with respect to the nomination of experts as candidates for human rights treaty bodies; (para. 10)

Encourages States parties, in the election of treaty body experts, to give due consideration, as stipulated in the relevant human rights instruments, to equitable geographic distribution, the representation of different forms of civilisation and the principal legal systems, balanced gender representation and the participation of experts with disabilities in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies; (para. 13)

Nominations and biographical data should be submitted, using the attached form (Annex II), to the Secretary-General, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Secretariat of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, **in electronic Word format**, under cover of a Note verbale addressed to crpd@ohchr.org with copy to creyraud@ohchr.org, and registry@ohchr.org by **1 October 2020** at the latest.

In accordance with article 34 paragraph 6 of the Convention, the Secretary-General shall subsequently prepare a list, in alphabetical order, of all the persons nominated, with an indication of the States parties which have nominated them, and shall submit the list to the States parties.

7 April 2020



Attachments
Annex I
Annex II