



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

GENERAL MEETING – APRIL 2024

REPORT OF NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The Nominations Committee is established under the constitution (Article 10 and By-Law 7) to oversee the election process, to ensure that all nominations have the correct documentation and to satisfy the constitutional requirements. The Committee considers and decides any issues of principle or which requires interpretation of the constitution. The constitution states that the Elections Officer's decision is final unless overturned by a 75% majority of the General Meeting (By-Law 7f).

The Elections Officer, appointed by the General Meeting or Executive is the Chair. The members are appointed by the IFSW Regions. The IFSW Secretariat supports the work of the Committee. It was helpful this year that the Parliamentarian, Nicolai Paulsen, is a member of the Committee representing Europe. It is helpful for the Parliamentarian to be involved in decisions about interpretation of the constitution.

The members for the 2024 General Meeting are David N Jones (Elections Officer), Anstance Fometu (Africa), Amran Jamil (Asia Pacific), Nicolai Paulsen (Europe), Esther De Souza Lemos (Latin America and Caribbean), Gary Bailey (North America).

The constitutional requirements for nomination are set out in the Constitution and Bye-Laws and guide the work of the Committee.

Nomination papers should be submitted to the Elections Officer and Secretariat. They are checked on receipt and if anything is missing or not correctly presented, the nominees are advised and helped to complete the process. When the documentation is in good order, it is sent to the Committee Members for scrutiny. They use a proforma to respond to ensure that all the constitutional requirements are demonstrated in the submitted papers.

There were no major issues requiring the exercise of judgement by the Committee for the General Meeting. Issues arising from individual nominations were resolved by communication with nominees.

An election for the position of Vice President Europe has been included following the resignation of John Brennan, the former postholder. This position is for two years (the remaining part of the original term of office.)

The member organisations making nominations must be in good standing and paid fees before the election. It is IFSW custom that the deadline for payment is the start of the

General Meeting. If fees have not been paid, the nominee does not go onto the ballot paper. The Elections Officer will provide this information to the General Meeting as advised by the Secretary General.

Nominations received after the deadline require a vote by the General Meeting. A 75% majority is required to enable the names to go on the ballot paper. It was announced on the website that it would not be possible to process nominations received after 22 March 2024; this is said to be reasonable given modern internet communications and the well publicised process.

NOMINATIONS PUBLISHED ON THE WEBSITE BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL DATE

HONORARY TREASURER

Sriganesh Maralawaday Venkatanarasiah	India	ELECTED*
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AFRICA PRESIDENT

Oluwatoni (Toni) Modupe <u>Adeleke</u>	Nigeria	
Abu (George) <u>Mansaray</u>	Sierra Leone	
John Mary <u>Ssekate</u>	Uganda	

ASIA PACIFIC VICE PRESIDENT

<u>Teoh</u> Ai Hua	Malaysia	ELECTED*
Il Kyu <u>Park</u>	South Korea	WITHDRAWN

EUROPE PRESIDENT

Ruth Allen	United Kingdom	ELECTED*
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EUROPE VICE PRESIDENT

Andreas P. <u>Kikvik</u>	Norway	
Alessandro <u>Monti</u>	Switzerland	
Tatevik <u>Karapetyan</u>	Armenia	
Filip <u>Nývlt</u>	Czech Republic	LATE NOMINATION

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN VICE PRESIDENT

Gabriela Rodriguez <u>Vázquez</u>	Mexico	ELECTED*
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NORTH AMERICA PRESIDENT

Yvonne <u>Chase</u>	USA	LATE NOMINATION**
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NORTH AMERICA VICE PRESIDENT

Joan Davis <u>Whelan</u>	Canada	LATE NOMINATION**
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* Elected provided that no additional late nominations are accepted.

** Elected provided the late nomination is accepted by the General Meeting and that no additional late nominations are accepted.

ISSUES WHICH REQUIRE REFLECTION

1 More attention should be given to briefing and preparing the committee members, in particular regarding the interpretation of the constitutional requirements and preparation for issues which might arise. The committee must therefore be appointed by regions immediately after the General Meeting to allow time for these processes and also to be available if there is a need for an election following a resignation between General Meetings.

2 More thought is needed about the interpretation of the requirement that nominees must have at least two years experience of IFSW. This became an issue in the 2024 process. Member organisations need to consider how to take this into account when deciding how to vote.

3 The constitution specifies that elections are decided on the 'first past the post' principle; i.e. there is one round of voting and the candidate who gets most votes, even if not a majority of votes, is elected. This can be difficult and produce perverse outcomes when there are several candidates and a small number of electors. A system which produces one candidate with a majority of votes seems preferable for a membership organisation like IFSW. The Executive is invited to consider the preferred election principle and whether a constitutional change is required.

David N Jones

Elections Officer

28 March 2024