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REFERENCE:

29 October 2020

SUBJECT: Fifth Committee meeting: appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (Friday, 6 November, 10 a.m.)

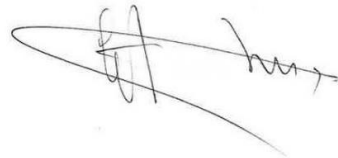
Excellency,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Fifth Committee will take action on agenda item 120. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments on Friday, 6 November 2020, at 10 a.m., in the General Assembly Hall, United Nations Headquarters, New York.

The programme for the meeting, including information on the relevant background documentation, will be published in the Journal of the United Nations.

I have the honour to provide details concerning the conduct of the election set out in Annex I of this letter. Please note that, as ballot papers must be picked up by delegates prior to taking their seats, delegates are kindly requested to arrive at the General Assembly Hall at least 30 minutes before the start time of the meeting.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Carlos Amorín
Chairman of the Administrative and Budgetary (Fifth)
Committee
Seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



Annex I Details concerning the conduct of the election

Before Election Day

Campaign material

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 71/323, decided that on the day of election in the General Assembly the campaign materials distributed in the General Assembly Hall shall be limited to a single page of information regarding the candidates, with a view to preserving the decorum of the Assembly.
2. Any such materials, in a sufficient number of copies, should be submitted to the secretariat of the Fifth Committee between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, 5 November 2020, in the suite of offices (CB-0143) behind Conference Room 3 (aka “Bureau meeting room”), accessible through the North-West corner of the Qatar lounge. No late submissions will be accepted.
3. The secretariat of the Fifth Committee will distribute them desk-to-desk in the General Assembly Hall prior to the start of the meeting on 6 November 2020.

Election Day

Arrival

4. Delegates should arrive at the General Assembly Hall at least 30 minutes before the start time of the meeting. Please note that only one representative of each delegation will be allowed in the room.

Ballot papers pick-up desk

5. After showing their regular delegate’s pass and the secondary colour-coded access card to the Security Officer at the entrance of the General Assembly Hall, delegates will proceed through the East doors of the General Assembly Hall to the East Documents Counter located toward the back of the Hall to receive two colour-coded ballot papers from the Secretariat staff (see Annex II, marked “(B) EAST DOCUMENTS COUNTER BALLOT PICK UP”).
6. Delegates will be required to present their delegate’s pass before receiving the ballot papers.

Appointments by acclamation and filling in the ballot papers

7. Delegates will then proceed to their respective national seats in the General Assembly Hall to be seated and wait for the meeting to begin at 10:00 a.m. The name plates will be displayed according to the seating chart for the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly. In line with existing guidance on the conduct of meetings at the United Nations Headquarters, delegations should maintain social distancing and refrain from gathering or moving about the General Assembly Hall.
8. In accordance with its decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly, the Committee will first appoint, by acclamation, those candidates where the number of candidates corresponds to the number of seats to be filled.



9. Thereafter, the Committee will proceed to elect simultaneously, by secret ballot, those candidates where the number of candidates exceeds the number of seats, namely the candidates from the Asia-Pacific States and Western European and Other States nominated for the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The Chair will explain the procedure and then allow time for the delegates to fill out the ballot papers.

10. Delegates will be asked to fill in the ballot papers at their national seats (see Annex II, marked “(C) FILLING IN THE BALLOT PAPERS AT THE DELEGATION SEATS”).

11. If a delegate makes a mistake with filling in the ballot papers, they will have to return to the East Documents Counter to receive a new set of ballot papers. The delegate will be requested to place the ballot papers on the counter and present a valid delegate’s pass to the Secretariat staff. The ballot papers to be discarded will be destroyed and disposed of by the Secretariat staff. A new set of ballot papers will be placed on the counter for the delegate, who will then return to their delegation’s seat before filling in the new ballot papers.

Ballot papers drop-off

12. Two colour-coded ballot boxes will be placed at the front of the Hall at the base of the podium where tellers will be able to observe it from a distance (see Annex II, marked “(D) BALLOT BOXES”).

13. Once the ballot papers have been filled, the Secretariat will call upon delegates one-by-one to cast (place) the two colour-coded ballot papers in the respective colour-coded ballot boxes. Delegates will be called upon based on the seating chart in the Hall, starting from Iceland. Tellers will observe the process.

14. After casting the ballot papers, delegates will leave the Assembly Hall and exit the building (see Annex II, marked “(E) EXIT”). Delegates will not return to the Hall for the results.

15. Once all the delegates have cast their vote and left the Assembly Hall, the Chair will declare that the voting has closed and suspend the meeting.

Announcement of results

16. Upon receipt of the results certified by the tellers, the Chair will resume the meeting to announce the results and to declare elected those Member States that may have received the greatest number of votes and a required majority.

17. The meeting, including the resumed meeting, will be webcast.

Possible additional balloting

18. If there shall be additional balloting necessary to fill any remaining seats, the next round of secret balloting will take place on Monday, 9 November, in the combined conference room 2+1+3, at 3 p.m. Additional information on the voting process in that conference room would be provided to delegations at that time through the circulation of a note on Fifth Committee Place and Candiweb on e-deleGATE.

Annex II General Assembly Layout for the casting of ballots

