



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ
WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION
ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA
ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

Head office:

UN City, Marmorvej 51,
DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark
Tel.: +45 45 33 70 00; Fax: +45 45 33 70 01
Email: eurocontact@who.int
Website: <http://www.euro.who.int>

Date: 20 March 2020

TO ALL MEMBER STATES IN THE WHO
EUROPEAN REGION

Our reference:
Notre référence:
Unser Zeichen:
См. наш номер:

Your reference:
Votre référence:
Ihr Zeichen:
На Ваш номер:

Dear Sir or Madam,

Acknowledging that all Member States are currently under great pressure in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak in our Region, I would like to recall the Secretariat's circular letter to the European Member States, dated 10 January 2020, seeking nominations for membership to WHO bodies and committees. The deadline for nominations was 13 March 2020.

As insufficient nominations were received by the indicated deadline, I would like to inform you that the deadline for submission of nominations has been extended until **Tuesday, 31 March 2020**. I have consulted with the President and Executive President of the 69th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, as well as with the members of the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee for Europe at the meeting in Copenhagen on 11–12 March, and this proposal was found justifiable under these extraordinary circumstances.

At its 70th session, to be convened from 14 to 17 September 2020, the Regional Committee will select or elect members for the bodies and committees listed below.

Executive Board

Four seats on the Executive Board will become vacant at the closing of the Seventy-fourth session of the World Health Assembly in May 2021, when the terms of office of the members designated by Finland, Germany, Israel and Romania will expire.

According to Annex 2.A of decision EUR/RC69(1), the following seats will be available:

- one vacant seat in Group A;
- two vacant seats in Group B, one of which is expected to be filled by France based on the periodicity of membership of the Executive Board for those Member States in the European Region that are permanent members of the United Nations Security Council;
- one vacant seat in Group C.

Standing Committee of the Regional Committee for Europe

Four seats on the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee for Europe (SCRC) will become vacant at the closing of the 70th session of the Regional Committee, when the terms of office of Denmark, Hungary, Lithuania and Uzbekistan will expire.

According to Annex 2.B of decision EUR/RC69(1), the following seats will be available:

- two vacant seats in Group A;
- one vacant seat in Group B;
- one vacant seat in Group C.

Nominations for membership of WHO bodies and committees

Curriculum vitae forms in standard format, to be completed for candidates for the above-mentioned bodies and committees, are attached. The forms are also accessible via <https://euro.sharefile.com>.

The website requires a user name and password. To log on to the website, please use the following:

URL: <https://euro.sharefile.com>

User name: enominations@who.int

Password: EURO nominations_2020 (*please note that the password is case sensitive*)

Additionally, I wish to draw your attention to Rules 14.2.2(a) and 14.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Regional Committee, which require Member States presenting their candidacy for the Executive Board or the SCRC to submit, together with the curriculum vitae of the representative they intend to appoint if elected, a letter of intent.

The letter of intent must be written in one of the four official languages of the WHO European Region and should not exceed 600 words in length.

Its content should include a short description of the following items:

- an overview of the key elements of the relations between WHO and the nominating Member State, including events or programmes of particular relevance to the Member State concerned;
- which WHO priorities the nominating Member State plans to represent during its three-year membership term;
- how the nominating Member State plans to achieve those priorities during the three-year term, and the reasons why the Member State is applying for membership of a governing body.

To facilitate a comparative consideration of the candidacies submitted by Member States, the letter of intent may include:

1. a record of Member States' engagement with WHO's governance and technical activities; for example, active participation in governing bodies meetings, or in special programmes such as TDR and HRP, active participation and involvement in intergovernmental negotiations launched under the aegis of WHO, compliance with reporting requirements to WHO at regional or global level, as well as other examples considered relevant by Member States to demonstrate a high level of engagement with WHO;
 2. details and evidence of their commitment to the implementation of global and regional WHO policies considered as a priority by them within the framework of their national health policies as well as their foreign policy;
 3. details of how they aim to engage and cooperate with WHO if elected, and the contributions they intend to make as members of the SCRC or the Executive Board.
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Before the opening of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly in May 2020, the Regional Director will notify all Member States of the WHO European Region of the nominations received by the deadline of 13 March 2020, together with the curricula vitae in standard format, and the letters of intent of the intended representatives. Only nominations so received will be presented to the Regional Committee at its 70th session in September 2020. Advance copies of nominations, curricula vitae and letters of intent should be submitted to the following email address: eugovernance@who.int.

At its fourth session in May 2020, the Twenty-seventh SCRC will review all nominations received, with the aim of agreeing on a list of candidates equal to the number of seats to be filled. The countries not recommended for short-listing may expect to be contacted by the Standing Committee before the 70th session of the Regional Committee.

I would also like to draw your attention to the provision of Rule 14.2.2(d) of the Rules of Procedure: “Member States having submitted nominations must be represented at the Regional Committee during the relevant agenda item otherwise their nomination will not be considered”.

Reiterating that WHO, and the WHO Regional Office for Europe in particular, will continue to provide all of you with its full support in these challenging times,

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. Kluge', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge
Regional Director

Encls:

Curriculum vitae form for nomination for membership of EB

Curriculum vitae form for nomination for membership of SCRC