

## [Implementation of General Assembly resolution 74/247, operative paragraph 3](#)

### [Frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#)

*Status: Wednesday, 24 June 2020*

The present document, prepared by the Secretariat, presents some frequently asked questions from Member States regarding the implementation of [General Assembly resolution 74/247](#), in particular its operative paragraph 3. It complements the [frequently asked questions \(status date 27 May 2020\)](#) already available on the ad hoc committee website.

#### **Election of officers of the ad hoc committee**

**1. Do nominations need to clearly indicate for which position a candidate is standing? Can all nominees for “officer” positions be considered for all positions, or do nominations have to specify the positions they are standing for?**

**The nominations should specify the position the person is standing for.** In this way, the nominees for “Chair” would stand for the position of Chair; nominees for “Vice-Chair” would stand for the positions of Vice-Chair; and the nominees for “Rapporteur” would stand for the position of Rapporteur. Consequently, a nominee for “Rapporteur”, for example, could not stand for “Vice-Chair”, and so on.

**2. Can an unsuccessful candidate for Chair then stand for election as Vice-Chair?**

Yes, as long as they are eligible based on the vacancies for that Regional Group.

Unsuccessful candidates retain the rights of any other member (i.e. to nominate themselves or be nominated for another seat in the Committee) but they have no special status.

**3. What is the sequence of election of officers at the start of the meeting?**

First, the Chair is elected and presides over the meeting. Then, the Vice-Chairs are elected. Lastly, the Rapporteur is elected.

**4. If the number of nominations for a position exceeds the number of seats available for that position, will secret balloting need to take place? For example, if Regional Group “A” nominated five candidates for Vice-Chair but can only have three Vice-Chair positions.**

Yes, unless Member States agree on the requisite number of nominations and approve them, dispensing with the need for secret balloting.

**4.1. If balloting takes place in such a scenario, how would it work?**

The balloting would only be for the Regional Group for which the number of candidates exceeds the number of seats, or if a secret ballot is requested by a Member State.

#### 4.2. Who can vote in such a case – all Member States or only Member States of that Regional Group?

All members of the Committee are eligible to vote.

#### 5. When the Vice-Chairs are elected by voting, will the voting proceed one Regional Group at a time? Namely, will the Vice-Chairs from the African Group be elected first, then the Asia-Pacific Group, and so on?

**The vote would be for all those for which a secret ballot has been requested and/or where the number of nominations for a position exceeds the number of seats available for that position.** In such a case, separate ballots would be distributed for each Regional Group, but the balloting takes place at the same time for all groups. **When no secret ballot is requested, the election can take place without balloting.**

#### 6. If any of the elected officers, i.e. the Chair, Vice-Chairs and Rapporteur, are unable to perform their functions, would a new officer be elected for the unexpired term from the same Regional Group where the officer comes from and/or from the same country?

The nomination would be from the same Regional Group (not necessarily from the same country).

#### 7. Can nominations for officers be made until the moment of the election? As Rule 103 is silent on this question, is there another procedure, decision, good practice or precedent that clarifies?

In its resolution 71/323 (para. 47), the General Assembly decided that “the names of candidates for election by the General Assembly or by the Main Committees shall be communicated to the Secretariat, where possible, **at least 48 hours prior to an election** unless otherwise required by specific rules governing the elections concerned, and that those names shall be printed on the ballot papers, while additional space shall be provided on the ballot paper for inscribing other names, where applicable.”

Delegations are therefore encouraged to provide the candidate nominations at least 48 hours in advance.

The deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 provided by the Secretariat for nominations for officers of the ad hoc committee was established in order to allow for the proper organization of the meeting and to provide for time for consultations among Member States.

#### 8. Who (a Member State or an expert) is eligible to nominate the officers? Can anyone also nominate themselves for Chair (or for any other position) until right before the elections? As Rule 103 reads that these officers shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, experience and personal competence, does it mean that the officers perform their duty in their individual capacity other than on behalf of their countries?

The officers of the ad hoc committee represent Member States and the nominations should come from the Member States. Since the organizational session will be the first meeting of the ad hoc committee, ideally an agreement would be reached on the Regional Group that will assume the position of Chair. Any Member State can nominate a representative to be Chair. The election of the Chair happens first, after which the committee would proceed to elect the other officers on the basis of equitable geographical distribution (i.e. the group whose representative was elected as Chair would have one less Vice-Chair position).