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**Executive Board
Annual Session**

Rome, 7–11 June 2010

RESOURCE, FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY MATTERS

Agenda item 6

For approval

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APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE



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NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

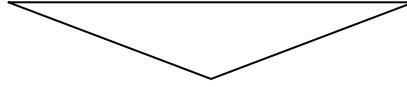
This document is submitted to the Executive Board for approval

The Secretariat invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document to contact the WFP staff focal point indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Chief of Staff and Director, Ms L. Landis tel.: 066513-2002
Office of the Executive Director:

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact Ms I. Carpitella, Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

DRAFT DECISION*



The Board approves the appointments of the following candidates as members of the Audit Committee:

- Ms Irena Petruškevičienė, whose term will run from to ; and
- Mr James A. Rose III, whose term will run from to

[Starting dates of each term to be determined by the Board at its Annual Session]

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the Decisions and Recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

BACKGROUND

1. The Audit Committee of WFP is an independent advisory body that reports to the Executive Director and the Executive Board. Under the Committee's terms of reference, the Executive Board approves the appointment of new members upon the recommendation of the Executive Director.
2. Ambassador Mirza Qamar Beg's term as a member of the Audit Committee and its Chair will expire on 29 July 2010, and Mr Libero Milone's term expired on 2 May 2010. The Executive Director wishes to recognize, with gratitude, their strong contribution and distinguished service to WFP.
3. To fill the resulting vacancies on the Audit Committee, the Executive Director is recommending to the Executive Board two new members for approval of appointment.
4. The Audit Committee terms of reference specify the following criteria for the selection of members:
 - Members shall possess recent and relevant financial experience.
 - One or more members shall have some senior-level audit experience.
 - All members shall be independent of the WFP Secretariat and Executive Board.
5. The terms of reference also stipulate that due regard shall be paid to equitable geographic representation in the selection of the Audit Committee members.
6. In order to identify suitable candidates, WFP sought applications by placing an advertisement in *The Economist* on 22 February 2010 and continued its *pro-bono* partnership with a leading recruiting firm. The Executive Director announced this process to WFP member states by letter on 19 February 2010, requesting that outstanding potential candidates be encouraged to apply.
7. WFP's outreach yielded 248 applications, which were narrowed down to a shortlist of the most highly-qualified candidates. In order to pay due regard to equitable geographical representation, and given the nationalities of current members of the Audit Committee¹, particular attention was given to nationals of countries in Lists D and E.
8. In order to consider the shortlisted candidates, the Executive Director established a Senior Panel composed of Messrs James Ingram (formerly Executive Director of WFP), Namanga Ngongi (formerly the Deputy Executive Director of WFP) and Ramiro Lopes da Silva (Deputy Executive Director for External Relations). The Senior Panel further narrowed down the shortlist to nine candidates. After having interviewed those candidates, the Senior Panel recommended three of them to the Executive Director. In doing so, the Senior Panel noted the high quality of the recommended candidates, as well as that of several other shortlisted candidates who, it indicated, should again be considered for future vacancies on the Audit Committee.

¹ Mr Antoine Antoun (Lebanon), Ms Elvira Lazzati (Argentina), Ms Kholeka Mzondeki (South Africa).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION

9. Based on the above selection criteria, the input received from the Senior Panel, the existing membership of the Committee, and her own interviews with candidates, the Executive Director wishes to recommend to the Executive Board that it approve appointment of:
- Ms Irena Petruškevičienė, a national of Lithuania. Since 2002, Ms Petruškevičienė has served as a member of the European Court of Auditors. In that capacity, she was elected Dean of one of the Court's five audit groups, and Chairperson of its Internal Audit Committee. Prior to that Ms Petruškevičienė was employed by PricewaterhouseCoopers in Vilnius, Lithuania for ten years. She is a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Accountants (United Kingdom), and is a member of the Lithuanian Association of Certified Auditors. Ms Petruškevičienė graduated with a Diploma in Economics from Vilnius University.
 - Mr James A. Rose III, a national of the United States of America. Mr Rose is currently the Chief Audit Executive and Corporate Director of Internal Audit for Humana, a publicly-traded Fortune 100 company. Prior to joining Humana he was employed as Director of Financial Audit, and subsequently Director of Performance Audit, with the Auditor of Public Accounts of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Mr Rose began his career as a Foreign Service Officer with the Office of the Inspector General of the United States. Agency for International Development. He is a member of the International Professional Issues Committee of the Institute of Internal Auditors as well as a member of the Conference Board's Strategic Risk Management Council. Mr. Rose holds a master's degree in diplomacy from the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce and a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from the University of Kentucky. He also holds several professional designations including those of Certified Public Accountant and Certified Internal Auditor.
10. The *curricula vitae* of the two candidates are contained in the Addendum to this document (WFP/EB.A/2010/6-C/1/Add.1).
11. If their appointment is approved by the Board, the new members would, under the Audit Committee's Terms of Reference, each serve a renewable term of three years, beginning on the dates specified by the Board at its Annual Session.