

The Executive Board

**Organs
of WFP**

```
graph LR; A[Organs of WFP] --> B[Executive Board]; A --> C[Secretariat];
```

The diagram features a central box on the left labeled 'Organs of WFP'. Two arrows point from this box to two other boxes on the right: 'Executive Board' at the top and 'Secretariat' at the bottom. All boxes are 3D-style gold with blue text. The background is a dark blue grid.

**Executive
Board**

Secretariat

The Executive Board

- **Jointly established by Resolutions of the UN and FAO in 1961**
- **36 States Members of the UN and FAO (18 Members each)**

Who is an eligible member of WFP?

- **Any State Member of the United Nations or Member Nation of FAO**

Composition of the Board

- **Eight members from List A**
- **Seven members from List B**
- **Five members from List C**
- **Twelve members from List D**
- **Three members from List E**
- **One rotating seat for a member from List A, B and C at FAO**

Special Observer: EC

Members in 2008 Elected by ECOSOC

List A

BURUNDI
CAPE VERDE
SUDAN
ZIMBABWE

List B

INDIA
INDONESIA
IRAN
THAILAND

List C

CUBA
MEXICO

List D

AUSTRALIA
BELGIUM
JAPAN
NORWAY
SWEDEN
UNITED KINGDOM

List E

RUSSIAN FEDERATION
UKRAINE

Members in 2008 Elected by FAO Council

List A

ALGERIA
CONGO, REP. OF
GUINEA
TANZANIA
ZAMBIA

List B

KUWAIT
PAKISTAN
PHILIPPINES

List C

COLOMBIA
HAITI
PERU

List D

CANADA
FINLAND
GERMANY
ITALY
NETHERLANDS
USA

List E

SLOVENIA

Elections determining the membership in 2009

- **In April 2008 ECOSOC will elect members to replace:**
 - *Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Zimbabwe*
- **In November 2008 FAO COUNCIL will elect members to replace:**
 - *Algeria, Colombia, Finland, Italy, Slovenia, Tanzania*

Elections of the Bureau of the Executive Board

At its first session of each year, the Board shall elect one member from each electoral list of States: A, B, C, D and E and an alternate

The Bureau is composed by:

- ❖ A President
- ❖ A Vice-President
- ❖ Three other members



Bureau's functions

1. **Facilitate the effective and efficient functioning of the Board; in particular:**
 - the strategic planning of the work of the Board
 - the preparation and organization of Board meetings
 - the communication during the inter-session periods
 - the promotion of dialogue with the electoral Lists
2. **Give guidance to the Secretariat and other functions as directed by the Board**

Board Sessions

- **at WFP Headquarters**
- **one annual session in May/June**
- **two regular sessions:**
 - **January/February**
 - **October/November**

Powers and Functions of the Board

- **Evolve and coordinate short-term and long term food aid policies**
- **Provide intergovernmental supervision and direction to WFP**
- **Review, modify and approve programmes, projects and activities**

Powers and Functions of the Board

- **Decide on how to conduct its business**
- **Plan its work strategically on a biennial basis**
- **Report to ECOSOC and the FAO Council**
- **Adopt own rules of procedure and develop its own methods of work**

Governing WFP: General Rules and Regulations

1. General Rules

- Adopted by the Board
- Amended by approval of the Board upon submission for information to the ECOSOC and the FAO Council

2. General Regulations

- Adopted and amended by the UN General Assembly and the FAO Conference upon recommendation of ECOSOC and FAO Council
- The Board may recommend amendments to General Regulations through ECOSOC and FAO Council

Governing WFP: Methods

Three major objectives of the Board:

- Information sharing
- Consensus building
- Decision making

These three objectives are constantly pursued through regular organization of:

- briefings
- informal consultations
- Executive Board Bureau meetings

Governing WFP: Tools

- **Strategy framework**

(WFP Mission Statement, Strategic Plan)

- **Policy framework**

(Consolidated Framework of WFP Policies, Biennial Programme of Work of the Executive Board)

- **Accountability framework**

(Annual Performance Report)

- **Oversight framework**

(Biennial Management Plan, Country Programme Approval)

- **Evolving issues on governance and oversight**

(External Auditor, Inspector General, Evaluation Function and others)

BEST PRACTICES IN OVERSIGHT MECHANISMS

Paper presented to EB in 2003. It recommended:

- **Code of conduct**
- **Risk Management**
- **Audit Committee**
- **Statement on Internal Control**

WFP Action

- **Initiated Staff Regulation change to enable Financial disclosures**
- **EB approved a WFP policy on Enterprise Risk Management**
- **Strengthened the Internal Audit Committee**
- **Issued a ‘Whistleblower’ protection Policy**

Some Developments

- **Oil For Food Investigation (Volcker Report)**
- **Oversight Lacunae in the UN System (JIU Report)**
- **Comprehensive Review of Governance and Oversight (PWC Report)**

Consultation with EB and the Bureau

- **EB to undertake a facilitated evaluation of its own process**
- **TORs of an Audit Committee**
- **Term and appointment of the External Auditor**
- **Sharing of Internal Audit Reports with EB members**
- **Approval of the budget of internal oversight functions by the EB**
- **Appointment and term limits of heads of oversight services**
- **Restriction on employment of External Audit staff**
- **System for Financial and Conflict of Interest disclosures**