

World Food Programme Programme Alimentaire Mondial Programa Mundial de Alimentos برنامج الأغذية العالمي **Executive Board** Annual session Rome, 26–30 June 2023

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Executive Board documents are available on WFP's website (https://executiveboard.wfp.org).

# Appointment of one member to the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee

## Draft decision\*

The Board approves the appointment of the following candidate as member of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee:

Ms Margaret Dezse (Hungary).

Her three-year term will begin on 30 July 2023 and expire on 29 July 2026.

\* 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.

See selection panel membership in paragraph 7

**Focal points:** 

Mr P. Ward Secretary to the Executive Board Executive Board Secretariat Division email: philip.ward@wfp.org

## Background

- 1. Under the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee (IOAC) terms of reference,<sup>1</sup> the Board approves the appointment of Committee members on the recommendation of a selection panel consisting of five representatives, one from each of the electoral lists of the Executive Board, appointed by the Board.
- 2. The term of one member of the IOAC Ms Agnieszka Slomka-Golebiowska (Poland) expires on 29 July 2023. The Executive Board and the Executive Director recognize, with gratitude, her strong contribution and distinguished service to WFP as a member of the Committee.
- 3. The terms of reference of the IOAC specify that "to undertake their role effectively, members of the IOAC should collectively possess recent and relevant knowledge, skills and senior-level experience in the following areas:
  - a) finance and audit;
  - b) evaluation
  - c) organization governance and accountability structures, including risk management;
  - d) understanding of general legal concepts;
  - e) senior-level management experience; and
  - f) the organization, structure and functioning of the United Nations system and/or other intergovernmental organizations."
- 4. The terms of reference stipulate that due regard shall be paid to equitable geographic representation in the selection of IOAC members.
- 5. To identify suitable candidates, WFP sought applications by advertising the position on its recruitment website and through its usual vacancy publicizing channels from January to April 2023.
- 6. WFP's vacancy announcement and outreach yielded 215 external candidates 40 percent women and 60 percent men. The applications were narrowed down to a shortlist of the most highly qualified candidates. To pay due regard to equitable geographic representation, and given the nationalities of the four remaining members of the Committee,<sup>2</sup> particular attention was given to nationals of countries in List E.
- 7. To recommend candidates to be appointed or reappointed by the Board for any vacancies in the membership of the IOAC that may occur in 2023, the establishment of a selection panel was approved by the Board at its 2023 first regular session. The panel was composed of Her Excellency Jackline Yonga, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Kenya; Mr Md. Al Amin, Alternate Permanent Representative of Bangladesh; Mr Claudio Garón, Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil; Ms Elizabeth Petrovski, Alternate Permanent Representative of the United States of America; and H.E. Mr Zsolt Belánszky-Demkó, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Hungary. The selection panel narrowed down the shortlist to six candidates with the support of the Human Resources Division and the Chair of the IOAC in April 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See WFP/EB.2/2021/9-A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mr. Robert Samels (Canada), Ms Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas (Uruguay), Mr Darshak Shah (Kenya) and Mr Veerathai Santiprabhob (Thailand).

- 8. Following interviews of the short-listed candidates based on the above selection criteria, the selection panel concurred to recommend to the Executive Board that it approve the appointment of the following candidate:
  - Ms Margaret Dezse (Hungary).
- 9. The curriculum vitae of the candidate is contained in the annex to this document.
- 10. If her appointment is approved by the Board, the new member would, under the IOAC's terms of reference, serve a renewable term of three years.

## ANNEX

## **Curriculum Vitae**

## **Margaret Dezse**

Nationality: Hungary

### **Current Non-Executive Board Membership**

**CIB BANK –** 2022 April to present Independent Member of the Supervisory Board Member of the Audit Committee

**ECHO Investment -** 2020 August to present Independent Member of the Supervisory Board Chair of the Audit Committee

**Masterplast -** 2020 June to present Independent Member of the Board of Directors Chair of the Audit Committee

**Kometa 99 -** 2020 January to present Independent Member of the Board of Directors (since September 2021) Member of the Restricted Board (since January 2020)

**Civita Group -** 2021 March to present Independent Member of the Supervisory Board

**Impact Ventures -** 2019 November to present Independent Member of the Supervisory Board

**United Way Hungary (non-profit foundation) –** 2017 January to Present Member of the Supervisory Board

#### **Professional experience**

### June 2019 to June 2020 - EY (ERNST & YOUNG) - Hungary

Independent contractor supporting business development, relationships and networking. Continued to assist with the EY Entrepreneur of the Year program. Provided mentoring sessions to Managers and Senior Managers

#### June 2008 to June 2019 - EY (ERNST & YOUNG) - Hungary

Partner in charge of the Transaction Advisory Services (TAS) in Hungary

Leading a one-partner practice of around 35 professionals, including Transaction Services, Valuation and Business Services, Debt Advisory Services, and Merger and Acquisitions, doubling revenue over this period. Member of the Hungarian Leadership team / Markets Board

## 1984–2008 – PWC (PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS) 1999–2008 – Partner PwC Central Eastern Europe Budapest, Hungary

Admitted to the partnership following the merger of Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand

Led the Transactions Team of 45 professionals in Hungary CEE regional leader for Mergers and Acquisitions Member of the PwC Partnership Admission Committee

Built the Corporate Finance practice in Ukraine and was the CEE Human Capital regional leader for the Advisory practice in PwC CEE

## July 1996-Dec 1998 - Director in Charge of the Corporate Finance Department Budapest, Hungary

Lead a staff of 25 (including administration and HR, compensation, training, recruitment, motivation/ retention)

Developed strategy and marketing initiatives, prepared yearly budgets, monitored and reported results monthly to local and regional partners

Oversaw projects from perspective of quality and risk management; project managed and executed assignments

## July 1990–July 1996 – Director/Senior Manager/Manager/Supervisor Consultant Corporate Finance Department Budapest, Hungary

Consulted Fortune 500 and other multinational companies on various stages of investment process and post-acquisition, including general, organizational, and financial matters

Advised the Hungarian Government on privatization of Hungarian companies

Responsible for soliciting new clients and project managing the assignments

#### April 1989–June 1990 – Assistant Manager, Audit Department Budapest, Hungary

Set up the Audit Department and started a self-sufficient practice in the newly established office. Managed clients' requests, hired local staff, developed professional training for new hires, introduced quality and performance measurements and controls, and liaised with the London Head Office

## July 1984–March 1989 – Assistant/Senior, Audit Department Edmonton, Canada

Managed and performed various audit assignments for clients. Industries included insurance, manufacturing, printing, biochemical research, wholesale and retail, not-for-profit organizations, natural gas and oil distribution

## EDUCATION

## Since 1988 Chartered Accountant Chartered Professional Accountant Edmonton, Canada

#### 1984-1988 Institute of Canadian Chartered Accountants, Edmonton, Canada

Received Chartered Accountant designation after completion of the provincial prequalification examinations and the Canadian Uniform Final Examination

## 1980-1984 University of Alberta Edmonton, Canada

Earned a Bachelor of Business Administration and Commerce degree. Graduated with distinction following a general management curriculum with concentration in accounting and finance. Achieved Dean's List each year. Awarded Louise McKinney Scholarship for overall academic achievement

## LANGUAGES

English – Native Hungarian – Fluent French – Limited