



World Food Programme
Programme Alimentaire Mondial
Programa Mundial de Alimentos
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

Executive Board
Second regular session
Rome, 18–21 November 2024

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Agenda item 9

Date: 21 October 2024

WFP/EB.2/2024/9-A

Original: English

Administrative and managerial matters

For approval

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 Laura Born (United States of America).

Her three-year term will begin on 1 March 2025 and expire on 29 February 2028.

* 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.

Focal points:

See selection panel membership in paragraph 7

Mr P. Ward
Secretary to the Executive Board
Executive Board Secretariat Division
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Background

1. Under the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee terms of reference,¹ 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 Independent Oversight Advisory Committee – Mr Robert Samels (Canada) – expires on 28 February 2025. The Executive Board and the Executive Director recognize, with gratitude, his strong contribution and distinguished service to WFP as the chairperson of the Committee.
3. The terms of reference of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee (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 Independent Oversight Advisory Committee 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 June to August 2024.
6. WFP’s vacancy announcement and outreach yielded 1188 external candidates – 33 percent women and 67 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,² particular attention was given to nationals of countries in List D.

¹ See [WFP/EB.2/2021/9-A](#).

² Mr. Robert Samels (Canada), Ms Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas (Uruguay), Ms Margaret Dezse (Hungary), Mr Darshak Shah (Kenya) and Mr Veerathai Santiprabhob (Thailand).

7. To recommend candidates to be appointed or reappointed by the Board for any vacancies in the membership of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee that may occur in 2024 and 2025, the establishment of a selection panel was approved by the Board at its 2024 first regular session. The panel was composed of H.E. Ms Consolata Nkatha Maina, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Kenya, as representative of List A; Mr Md. Al Amin, Alternate Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, as representative of List B; Ms Alicia Silvana Barone, Deputy Permanent Representative of Argentina, as representative of List C; Mr Peter Natiello, Alternate Permanent Representative of the United States of America, as representative of List D; and H.E. Mr Zsolt Belánszky-Demkó, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Hungary, as representative of List E. The appointment of H.E Mr Fredrick Matwang'a, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Kenya as representative of List A, in replacement of H.E. Ms Consolata Nkatha Maina was approved by the Board at its 2024 annual session. 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 September 2024.
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 Laura Born (United States of America).
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 Independent Oversight Advisory Committee's terms of reference, serve a renewable term of three years.

ANNEX**Curriculum Vitae****Laura Born**

Nationality: United States of America

Current Board Roles

ezCater, Inc – 2023 to present
Member of the Board of Directors
Chair of the Audit Committee

Carlson Inc - 2015 to present
Member of the Board of Directors
Chair of the Audit Committee

Prior Board Roles

Carlson Travel Inc. - 2020 to 2021
Member of the Board of Directors
Chair of the Audit Committee

Columbia Acorn Trust and Wanger Advisors Trust, Trustee – 2007 to 2021
Chair of the Board – 2011 to 2020
Chair, Contract (15-c) and It/Data Security Committees

Driehaus Capital Management, LLC – 2018 to 2020
Advisory Board Member

Carlson Wagonlit Travel B.V. 2013 to 2014
Member of the Board of Directors

Infant Welfare Society of Evanston – 2007 to 2022
Board Member

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**2008 to present – University of Chicago Booth School of Business – Chicago, IL (USA)**

Adjunct Professor of Finance

- Top ranked by students
- Teach case format classes in capital raising, M&A, capital structure, other corporate finance topics
- Utilize current capital market conditions and trends for teaching material

1991 to 2007 – J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. Incorporated – Chicago, IL (USA)

Investment banker

2002 to 2007 – Managing Director – Investment banking coverage –

1995 to 2001 – Vice President – Investment banking coverage –

Served as Client Executive (senior relationship head) for portfolio of Midwest-based corporations in the consumer, industrial, financial services industries.

1991 to 1995 – Leveraged Finance, High Yield and Equity Capital Markets – New York (USA)

Vice President and Associate in nascent and growing businesses

EDUCATION

University of Chicago Booth School of Business, Chicago, IL (USA)

MBA in Finance and Accounting with Honors

Duke University, Durham, NC (USA)

BA in Economics and Political Science with Honors