

Conference of NGOs
in Consultative
Relationship with
the United Nations



Conférence des ONG
ayant des Relations
Consultatives avec
les Nations Unies

GA27 UPDATE #2
(4 May 2021)

**First Notification from Chair of the Nominations Committee for the
2021 CoNGO General Assembly**

I herewith forward to all Full Members of CoNGO (Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations) the first notification from the Chair of the CoNGO Nominations Committee established in accordance with CoNGO Rules.

The Nominations Committee conducts the process leading towards the elections at the 2021 General Assembly of the CoNGO President and the CoNGO Board. The Assembly will be held virtually on November 14-15-16, 2021

As communicated in my Update #1, dated 27 April 2021, all communications about nominations are to be addressed solely to the Chair of the Nominations Committee, Natasha Despotovic.

In accordance with CoNGO Rules, any candidate, nominator or seconder must be in good financial standing with CoNGO, and this will be verified with CoNGO accounting services. The requirements are spelled out in the Nomination Committee Chair's notification found below.

Liberato C. Bautista
President of CoNGO

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CoNGO 2021 General Assembly CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

In accordance with the CoNGO Rules, the 2021 Nominations Committee has been constituted as follows: **Natasha Despotovic, Chair**, nominationsGA27@ngocongo.org, Robert Bateman, Victoria Edmonds, Michelle Mack Fiore, Lucia Goberna, Ilona Graenitz and Sibylle von Heydebrand. All members of the Committee represent organizations who are full members of CoNGO.

Pertinent provisions of the CoNGO Rules dealing with elections for the post of President and members of the CoNGO Board are Rules 66-72. These Rules are found at the end of this communication.

The Nominations Committee is now ready to accept nominations for the Office of President of CoNGO (elected by the Assembly as an individual), and for 20 seats on the CoNGO Board (elected as organizations). All posts are for the period from the 2021 General Assembly until the end of the following General Assembly, expected early in 2025. The Nominations Committee will make its first announcement of nominations received up until June 1, 2021. This will be the basis for the further steps prescribed in the Rules:

“Only members which have paid their annual membership fees until the end of the previous financial year (i.e. until December 31, 2020) may be nominated or may nominate or support candidates...”

“Nominations must be proposed by a member organization and seconded by at least two other member organizations. The written consent of the nominated organization (or person, in the case of the Presidency) must be received by the Nominations Committee no later than the deadline for nominations. No member organization may propose or second (for the Board) a total of more than 20 organizations. If an organization does propose or second a total of more than 20 organizations, all the proposed nominations or secondings shall be invalid.”

Board member organizations “shall be eligible for re-election, subject to the provision that their mandate shall be limited to two consecutive periods.”

When circulating the first list of nominations (i.e. those received by June 1) “the Nominations committee shall at the same time draw attention to the interests which appear to them to be under-represented or not represented at all among the nominations received.” “The Nominations Committee may accept further nominations made to rectify such imbalance.”

“If nominations for the Office of President have been received, the Nominations Committee shall also circulate them to Members. “ “Each nomination must be supported by (at least) two other Members.”

At the Assembly itself, “The elections shall be held by secret ballot”. Given the expected hybrid

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or virtual nature of this year's Assembly, arrangements are being made for a secure electronic virtual voting mechanism and information will be provided in due time.

“In order to be eligible to vote at the General Assembly, an organization in consultative status that is a member of the Conference must have paid annual dues for each year since the previous General Assembly” (i.e. the years 2018, 2019, 2020). “An organization newly admitted that has paid annual membership dues during the year of admission shall be eligible to vote.”

Please note that all references to CoNGO Members in the context of the elections refer to Full Members currently listed on the [CoNGO website](#). “Associate members shall not have the right to vote.”

The Nominations Committee will verify the eligibility of all candidates, nominators and seconders in the light of all the above-cited criteria. Member organizations are accordingly now invited to submit and/or second nominations. Nominations (and subsequently the written consent of the nominee) should be sent by email to Natasha Despotovic at nominationsGA27@ngocongo.org, and to arrive no later than June 1, 2021.



Natasha Despotovic

Outgoing Secretary of the CoNGO Board

Chair of the 2021 CoNGO GA27 Nominations Committee

THE CoNGO RULES ON ELECTIONS (Ver. 2018)

66. Not less than twelve (12) months before an ordinary session of the General Assembly, the Board shall appoint seven persons to serve as a Nominations Committee, of whom not more than three (3) shall be representatives of members of the Board. No member of the Nominations Committee shall be a candidate in the elections.

67. The Nominations Committee shall invite nominations, within a fixed deadline, for election to the Board from the Members of the Conference. Nominations must be proposed by a Member organization and seconded by at least two (2) other Member organizations. The written consent of the nominated organization must be received by the Nominations Committee not later than the deadline for nominations. No Member organization may propose or second a total of more than twenty (20) organizations. If an organization does propose or second a total of more than twenty (20) organizations, all its proposed nominations or secondings shall be invalid. The Nominations Committee shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of the organizations which have been validly nominated.

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68. The list of nominations, showing for each nominee the names of proposing and seconding Members, shall be circulated to all Members at least five (5) months prior to the General Assembly, and the Nominations Committee shall at the same time draw attention to the interests which appear to them to be under-represented or not represented at all among nominations received by the due date. The Nominations Committee may accept further nominations made to rectify such imbalance up to the day prior to the penultimate day of the General Assembly. If nominations for the office of President have been received, the Nominations Committee shall also circulate them to the Members.

69. Nominations for the post of President may be submitted by a Member to the Nominations Committee until noon on the second day of the General Assembly. Each nomination must be supported by at least two (2) other Members.

70. Only Members which have paid their annual membership fees until the end of the previous financial year may be nominated or may nominate or support candidatures.

71. At the General Assembly, upon expiry of the deadlines provided for in paragraphs 67 and 68, the Nominations Committee shall prepare two (2) separate lists: one list shall contain the names of candidates to the office of President and shall state, for each candidate, his or her names, the Member organization to which he or she belongs and the names of the Members which nominate or support him or her; the other list dealing with candidates to the Board shall state, for each candidate organization, its name and those of the Members which nominate or support it. These two lists shall be drawn up in alphabetical order, starting with a name drawn by lot.

72. The elections shall be held by secret ballot. For the Board, the twenty (20) Members which have received the highest number of votes shall be declared to have been elected.

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