

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UN-REDD PROGRAMME POLICY BOARD

The UN-REDD Programme is seeking four CSO Representatives for its Policy Board

The UN Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme) seeks to identify four Civil Society Organization (CSO) Representatives to its Policy Board. Three positions are open to one CSO from each of the Programme's three regions (Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America-Caribbean) and one position is open to a CSO from a developed country.

The Rights and Resources Group, secretariat of the Rights and Resources Initiative, is conducting the self-selection process at the invitation of the UN-REDD Programme, after consultations with other organizations involved in the UN-REDD Programme.

This notice announces the start of a four-week nomination period for the self-selection process, which will end on 11 September, to be followed by a voting period from 14 – 28 September 2009. The election will be concluded in time for the new CSO representatives to travel to Washington, D.C. for the third meeting of the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board 30 & 31 October 2009.

Through a separate process than for the selection of CSO Representatives, the UN-REDD Programme has already identified four Indigenous Peoples' (IP) Representatives to the Policy Board: the Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is the full member, supported by one observer from each of the three regions.

[Download](#) *Nomination Form. Self-nominations are accepted.*

Role of CSO representatives

As defined in the UN-REDD Programme's Rules of Procedure and Operational Guidance:

- Three representatives shall be chosen from developing countries, one from each of the three regions: Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America-Caribbean.
- One representative shall be from an organization from a developed country.
- One representative shall be selected as a full member of the Policy Board; three others will be observers. The representatives will choose amongst themselves who will begin as a full member.
- Full-member status shall rotate amongst the representatives so that the observers subsequently become the full member. CSO representatives shall select the periodicity and order of this rotation.
- The Policy Board makes decisions by consensus. The CSO representative with full-member status will take part in consensus discussions and decisions.
- Travel to Policy Board meetings for the three developing country CSO representatives is sponsored by the UN-REDD Programme, including roundtrip air ticket, visa fees, airport transfer, accommodation and meals. The developed country CSO representative is self-funded.
- The representative will serve on the Policy Board for one year (renewable once), starting with the date of the first Policy Board meeting attended.

Criteria for nomination

Nominations are sought from candidate organizations meeting the following criteria:

- Knowledge of the relevant issues of climate change and forests.
- Familiarity with REDD processes.
- Demonstrated ability and willingness to represent the views of a range of civil society organizations from the appropriate region.
- Proven capacity to disseminate information gained from the Policy Board meetings back to their respective constituencies, organizations, and networks.
- Fluency in at least one of the three working languages of the UN-REDD Programme: English, Spanish and French. (Policy Board meetings are conducted in English, with simultaneous translation provided for Spanish and French speakers.)
- Registered as a non-profit organization in the country in which they are active.
- Self-nominations are accepted.

Expectations of the CSO representative:

CSO representatives must be committed to fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Attend and participate in UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meetings, which will be held at least twice a year, beginning with the next meeting on 30 & 31 October 2009.
- Provide input on meeting agendas and share and disseminate information among their networks, organizations, and constituencies on the UN-REDD Programme meetings and processes.
- In the interim between Policy Board meetings, solicit issues and concerns to be raised at the meetings on behalf of civil society organizations and their constituencies.
- Work together with the other CSO representatives to advise the full member, strategize and decide on interventions, recommend agenda items to be presented at Policy Board meetings and work with Indigenous Peoples representatives and observers to strategize on potential issues of mutual concern.

Voting rules for selection of the CSO representatives

- Votes will be received via emailed ballot to <mailto:csoselection@un-redd.org>.
- CSOs can cast one vote for each of the four representative slots (i.e. indicate their preferred candidates to represent each of the three regions and the developed world).
- An organization with offices in multiple countries is treated as a single entity, eligible for one vote per slot.
- The UN-REDD Programme reserves the right to disqualify fraudulent or ineligible nominations and votes.

Timeline

- ♦ Aug. 17 – Call for nominations opens
- ♦ Sept. 11 – Last day nominations are accepted

- ♦ Sept. 14 – All valid nominations will be posted online at www.un-redd.org/; voting period begins
- ♦ Sept. 28 – Last day to vote; ballots accepted until 5pm EST
- ♦ Oct. 1 – Election results announced, representatives contacted and logistics to attend Policy Board meeting set in motion
- ♦ Oct. 30-31 – Third meeting of UN-REDD Policy Board, 30 & 31 October 2009 in Washington D.C.

Background of the UN-REDD Programme and Policy Board

The UN-REDD Programme was launched as a collaborative initiative between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) in September 2008. The Programme's main aim is to contribute to the development of capacity for implementing REDD and to support the international dialogue regarding the inclusion of a REDD mechanism in a post-2012 climate regime.

The UN-REDD Programme recognizes that the success of REDD initiatives depends on the engagement and ownership of all stakeholders in forest landscapes, including indigenous peoples and other forest-dwelling communities, as well as local, national, regional, and international organizations that comprise civil society. Thus, it is a matter of priority to ensure that representatives of civil society are supported to engage in REDD initiatives in order to provide essential expertise and ensure transparency and accountability in all program activities.

The UN-REDD Programme Policy Board was established to ensure overall Programme success by providing leadership and strategic direction and by deciding on financial allocations.

The Policy Board is co-chaired by one of the three participating UN organizations and a national representative on behalf of one of the three regions, rotating each year. The Policy Board membership is as follows:

Members

- UN-REDD Programme countries (each of the three regions (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America-Caribbean) shall have one full member and two alternate members)
- Donors to the UN-REDD Programme
- Indigenous Peoples representative (Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues)
- Civil Society representative
- FAO
- UNDP
- UNEP

Observers

- UNFCCC Secretariat
- Forest Carbon Partnership Facility represented by The World Bank
- GEF Secretariat
- Indigenous Peoples' representatives, one from each of the three regions
- Three of the four civil society representatives, up to one from each of the three regions and/or one from a developed country, that are currently not serving as the full member

For more information:

- [UN-REDD Programme](#)
- [Proceedings of the most recent Policy Board meeting in Montreux, 14 -15 June 2009](#)

- [UN-REDD Rules of Procedure and Operational Guidance](#)