ESTABLISHMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION INFORMATION - VOLUNTEERS REPRESENTATIVE

Background

Following a Special General Meeting (SGM) of UN Youth on 2 July 2019, the members of the organisation passed a resolution to adopt a new constitution. This new constitution reforms the governance structure of UN Youth, with a Board set to assume the governance responsibilities previously held by National Council on 1 January 2020. Until this date, the current constitution and governance structure remains in place.

As well as delaying the implementation of the new constitution, in order to transition the organisation into this new governance structure the SGM adopted a series of transitory measures designed to facilitate a smooth transition. One of these measures is the creation of an Establishment Board of Directors.

Purpose

The Establishment Board of Directors (EBD) will be made up of three to five Ordinary Directors, a Volunteer's Representative (VR) and the National President of UN Youth for the time being. The EBD will work to review the draft Board Operations Manual, draft National Policy Manual and the current National Protocols and Regional Constitutions to ensure that they are fit for purpose under the new governance structure. In doing so, the EBD will work with the current National Executive and other National Council blocs to update all of these Governing Documents in light of current organisational practices and to ensure a smooth transition on 1 January 2020. The EBD will also complete the appointments process for the 2020 National Executive as per the new constitution. These are crucial tasks, and it is likely that significant time commitment will be required.

Through this work, the EBD will produce fit-for-purpose Governing Documents for the new governance structure. This will help to prevent uncertainty and ambiguity when the new constitution comes into effect on 1 January. Please see Schedule Three of the SGM Motion for the full powers and mandate of the EBD.

On 1 January, the Ordinary Directors and VR shall be automatically installed as Directors of the Board. Through this, the members of the EBD will become the inaugural Board, allowing for a smooth transition. The VR will then serve a one-year term on the Board from 1 January-31 December 2020.

The Board is required to hold a meeting at a minimum of every six weeks, and the ability to attend online meetings is expected of Directors. The Board may also hold strategic retreats, and this and any other travel for events or meetings in your role as a Director will be covered by UN Youth, to the extent that is possible under our Protocols. It is not envisioned that the Establishment Board will hold any in-person meetings.

Please note that UN Youth is a charity and does not provide any remuneration to members. This will extend to Directors. All positions are entirely voluntary, however, reasonable expenses may be claimed, as provided for in our Protocols.

Process

Schedule Two of the SGM Motion outlines the process for the appointment of the EBD.

The members of the EBD, with the exception of the National President, will be elected by the Voting Members of UN Youth at an SGM held in conjunction with August National Council (currently scheduled for August 22). Nominations are therefore being sought for the VR position.



The VR will hold a seat on the Board, and will be crucial for ensuring that the voice of one of our most important stakeholder groups is heard at the governance level in 2020.

As a Director, the VR will have the same rights and responsibilities as the other Directors. The VR must be a current member of UN Youth, and may concurrently hold an Officeholder role within the organisation. However, the VR cannot be an Executive Officer of UN Youth (a member of the National Executive).

In order to be considered, a nomination must include:

- The name and age (at the time of nomination) of the nominee; and
- Whether the nominee is currently enrolled at a tertiary institution; and
- Any current UN Youth positions currently held by the nominee; and
- The names of two Voting Members of UN Youth who nominate the individual and second the nomination (a nominee cannot nominate themselves or second their own nomination); and
- A professional head and shoulders photograph; and
- A short candidate blurb of no more than 500 words, to be released to the Voting Members of UN Youth.

Nominations for the Volunteers Representative will close 7pm Wednesday 7 August.

Nominations must be emailed to the National Operations Officer, Seraphina Koo at operations@unyouth.org.nz by the deadline. All materials must be included in order for a nomination to be considered. Late nominations will not be considered.

Any questions can be directed to either Seraphina, or the National President, Jayden van Leeuwen at president@unvouth.org.nz.