Extension of the term of one Audit Committee member for one year

Draft decision*

The Board:

i) notes the recommendation of the Audit Committee to extend the term of Mr Suresh Kana (South Africa) beyond his second term as an Audit Committee member for the reasons detailed in document “Extension of the term of one Audit Committee member for one year” (WFP/EB.1/2021/11-B);

ii) further notes that paragraph 22 of the Audit Committee Terms of Reference places a maximum two-term limit for Audit Committee membership; and

iii) decides, on an exceptional basis, to approve the extension of Mr Suresh Kana's term for an additional year from 15 November 2021 to 14 November 2022.

* 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.
1. Under the Audit Committee terms of reference, each member of the committee is appointed for a term of three years, renewable for a second and final term of three years; the two terms need not be consecutive. In 2021 the second term of three of the current members of the committee will come to an end, and a selection process will be undertaken in early 2021 in order to fill the positions that will become vacant.

2. Given that only two current committee members would continue to serve, however, and given that one of the two was appointed only recently, it has been suggested that one of the three members whose second terms are expiring be extended for another year in order to ensure adequate succession planning, institutional memory and the continued effectiveness of the committee. The Audit Committee discussed this matter at its last meeting, which took place from 2 to 4 December 2020, and agreed to recommend that the Board extend the term of its current chair, Mr Suresh Kana.

3. That recommendation was discussed by the Bureau at its meeting on 11 December 2020 and the proposed way forward was endorsed.

4. The Board is now therefore invited to approve the extension of Mr Suresh Kana as a member of the Audit Committee for one additional year, ending on 14 November 2022. Once the extension is approved by the Board, Mr Kana would remain as chair of the Audit Committee, until another member is appointed as chair, as per the committee's terms of reference.

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1 See: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-000099367/download/.