WFP Governance - A brief introduction
What to expect...

- How governance is conducted
- How the WFP Executive Board is constituted
- Who are the other main actors and facilitators in the governance process
Board Members oversee the organization’s activities
The Executive Board - Impressions of a formal session
Where WFP fits in the United Nations System

The United Nations System

UN PRINCIPAL ORGANS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SUBSIDIARY ORGANS
- Main Committees
- Disarmament Commission
- Human Rights Council
- International Law Commission
- Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)
- Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES
- UNDP United Nations Development Programme
- UNCDF United Nations Capital Development Fund
- UNV United Nations Volunteers
- UNRWA United Nations Relief and Works Agency
- UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- UNICEF United Nations Children’s Fund
- WFP World Food Programme (UN/FAO)

RESEARCH AND TRAINING
- UNIDIR United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
- UNITAR United Nations Institute for Training and Research
- IIPCMognito Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNSSC United Nations System Staff College
- UNU United Nations University

OTHER ENTITIES
- ITTO International Trade Centre (UN/ITTO)
- UNCED United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- ICMC Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNDP United Nations Office for Project Services
- UNWRA United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
- UN Women United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Related Organizations
- CERTE Preliminary Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
- IAEA United Nations Atomic Energy Agency
- ICC International Criminal Court
- IOM International Organization for Migration
- ISNA International Seabed Authority
- ILFS International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
- OPCW Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
- WTO World Trade Organization

SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBSIDIARY ORGANS
- Counter-Terrorism Committee
- Counter Terrorism Advisory Team for the former Yugoslavia (CTTY)
- International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals
- Military Staff Committee
- Peacekeeping operations and political missions
- Sanctions committees (ad hoc)
- Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

ECOMOND AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS
- Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
- Narcotic Drugs
- Population and Development
- Science and Technology for Development
- Social Development
- Statistics
- Status of Women
- United Nations Forum on Forestry

REGIONAL COMMISSIONS
- ECA Economic Commission for Africa
- ECE Economic Commission for Europe
- ESCAP Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific
- ESCWA Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

SECRETARIAT

SUBSIDIARY ORGANS
- Counter-Terrorism Committee
- International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals
- Military Staff Committee
- Peacekeeping operations and political missions
- Sanctions committees (ad hoc)
- Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES
- OSG Executive Office of the Secretary-General
- DSG Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- DPI Department of Field Support
- DGACM Department for General Assembly and Conference Management
- DMI Department of Management
- DPA Department of Political Affairs
- DPI Department of Public Information
- DPGA Department of Peacekeeping Operations
- DSS Department of Safety and Security
- OHCHR Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- ODA Office for Development Affairs
- OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- OGB Office of Global Counterterrorism
- OLA Office of Legal Affairs
- OSAA Office of the Special Adviser on Africa
- PSSO Peacebuilding Support Office
- SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
- SRSG/VRC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
- SRSG/VAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children

THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

OTHER BODIES
- Committee for Development Policy
- Committee of Experts on Public Administration
- Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
- Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- UNAIDS Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
- UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNHabitat United Nations Human Settlements Programme
- UNISDR United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
- UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- UNHCR United Nations Office at Geneva
- UN-GRILLS Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
- UNHCR United Nations Office at Nairobi
- UNDP United Nations Office for Partnerships
- UNOV United Nations Office at Vienna

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES
- FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization
- IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development
- ILO International Labour Organization
- IMF International Monetary Fund
- IMO International Maritime Organization
- ITU International Telecommunication Union
- UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- UNWTO World Tourism Organization
- UNUWIUP UN Universal Patent Union
- WHO World Health Organization
- WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization
- WTO World Meteorological Organization

WORLD BANK GROUP
- IBRD International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- IDA International Development Association
- IFC International Finance Corporation

Notes:
1. Members of the United Nations Secretariat Executive Board for Corporations (CEB).
2. UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) is the UN’s arm for project and service delivery.
3. UNAIDS is a special agency of the United Nations and its work is coordinated through UN/UNAIDS (multigovernmental level) and UNAIDS (international level).
4. WTO has no reporting obligation to the ILO, but contributes an ad hoc basis to ILO and Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) work, and, in particular, development issues.
5. Specialized agencies are autonomous organizations whose work is coordinated through UN/UNO (multigovernmental level) and UN (international level).
6. The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994, as on 1 October 1994 Parau, the last United Nations Trust Territory, became independent.
7. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Inter-American Institute of Cooperation for Culture (IICA) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) are not specialized agencies in accordance with Articles 57 and 58 of the Charter of the United Nations but are part of the World Bank Group.
8. The secretariat of these organs is part of the UN Secretariat.
9. The secretariat also includes the following offices: the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, and the Office of the High Commissioner for Counterterrorism.
Seven Governance Facts about WFP

- 1961: Established jointly by UN General Assembly and FAO as a 3-year pilot
- 1961-1975: governed by an Intergovernmental Committee
- 1976-1995: governed by 42-member Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA)
- 1993: General Assembly Resolution 48/162 transforms CFA into 36-member Executive Board to govern WFP alone, effective 1 January 1996
- 1994: WFP Mission Statement adopted (first for a UN agency)
- 22-23 January 1996: the first First Regular Session of the Executive Board convenes
- 1999-2005: WFP Governance Project led by the Executive Board
Governance group formulated to improve 3 major Board functions:

- Information-sharing
- Consensus-building
- Decision-making

Objectives

- Strengthen governance
- Make the Board more strategic, efficient and effective

Outcomes

- Strategy framework
- Policy framework codification and regular review
- Oversight framework
- Accountability framework

Final Report

- November 2005: Final Report on the Governance Project approved by Executive Board at the second regular session of the Executive Board
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Memberships</th>
<th>Voting</th>
<th>Governing Bodies</th>
<th>Committees</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FAO</strong></td>
<td>197 members</td>
<td>1 vote per member</td>
<td>2 governing bodies: Council (chaired by elected independent representative), Conference (highest body)</td>
<td>Various committees: Programme, Finance, CCLM, [...],</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IFAD</strong></td>
<td>166 members represented by Governors (hybrid UN IFI)</td>
<td>Weighted voting (based on membership and contribution)</td>
<td>2 governing bodies: Executive Board (chaired by IFAD President as Chairperson), Governing Council (highest body)</td>
<td>2 main committees: Audit, Evaluation,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WFP</strong></td>
<td>Out of 193 UN &amp; 197 FAO members: 36 Executive Board Members + 1 Special and Permanent Observer (EU)</td>
<td>1 vote per member</td>
<td>Reports to 2 governing bodies: ECOSOC, FAO Council</td>
<td>3 advisory committees: Audit (external experts), FAO Finance Committee (comprised of Member States), Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) (comprised of Member States)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How the Executive Board is Constituted

States Members of the UN General Assembly
- ECOSOC
  - Elects 18 Members

WFP Executive Board (36 Members)

Member Nations of the FAO Conference
- FAO Council
  - Elects 18 Members
## WFP Governance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Executive Board</th>
<th>WFP Secretariat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(36 Members)</td>
<td>(WFP Management)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Intergovernmental oversight</td>
<td>▪ Administers WFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Specific policy direction</td>
<td>▪ Implements projects and programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Approves programme projects and WFP activities</td>
<td>▪ Provides accountability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
List A  Africa  8 members
List B  Asia & Middle East  7 members
List C  Latin America & the Caribbean  5 members
List D  North America, Western Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand  12 members
List E  Central and Eastern Europe  3 members

+1 rotational seat from Lists A, B and C (elected via FAO Council)
Quick facts about Executive Board sessions

Three **formal sessions** annually:

- **First** Regular Session February
- **Annual** Session June
- **Second** Regular Session November

**Documents** tabled can be:
- For Approval
- For Consideration
- For Information

**Official Board Languages***:

- English
- Français
- Español
- العربية

*For informal sessions only.

*For formal sessions, interpretation is also in Chinese and Russian and documents going to the FAO Finance Committee are also translated into Chinese and Russian.*
Role of the Executive Board Bureau

- Plans the work of the Board
- Shares information and promotes dialogue between List members and the Secretariat
- Facilitates consensus among and between Lists outside of formal sessions

2019 WFP Executive Board Bureau*

**President:** H.E. Hisham Mohamed Badr  
_Egypt_ | _List A_

**Vice-President:** H.E. Ulrich Seidenberger  
_Germany_ | _List D_

**Member:** Mr. Yousef Juhail  
_Kuwait_ | _List B_

**Member:** Vacant from 3 September - _previously:_ H.E. Karla Samayoa Recari, Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
_Guatemala_ | _List C_

**Member:** H.E. Victor Vasiliev  
_Russian Federation_ | _List E_

*Elected on ad personam basis at First Regular Session for one year, with succession planning expected for Vice-President/President.
Quick Facts of the Audit Committee

- Serves in an expert advisory capacity to assist the Executive Board and the Executive Director in exercising their governance responsibilities for financial reporting, internal control arrangements, risk management processes and other audit related matters
- Members are selected and appointed by the Executive Board for three-year terms, renewable once
- Wholly independent and external to the WFP Executive Board Secretariat and the Executive Board
Quick Facts about the External Auditor

- Performs **audits of WFP accounts and other tasks requested by the Executive Board**
- Full scope of work and Terms of Reference defined by **Chapter XIV** of [WFP Financial Regulations](#)
- **Selected and appointed by the Executive Board** through a Bureau-led competitive process for a non-renewable six-year term*; another appointment is possible after a break of one term:
  - Must be the Auditor-General (or equivalent) of a State member
  - The **Cour des comptes of France** was appointed in November 2015 for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2022 ([Decisions and Recommendations of the Second Regular Session of the Executive Board, 2015](#))
- Previous External Auditors:
  - **Comptroller and Auditor General of India** (1 July 2010 to 30 June 2016);
  - **National Audit Office of the United Kingdom** (1 July 2002 to 30 June 2006 and 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2010); and
  - **Cour des comptes of France** (1 July 1994 to 30 June 1998 and 1 July 1998 to 30 June 2002)

* Before mid-2010, it was a four-year term
Board Activities

Joint United Nations Activities:
- Annual Joint Meeting of the Executive Boards (JMB) of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP in New York (May/June)
- Annual Joint Field Visit of the Executive Boards (JFV) of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP (April/May)

Board Field Visit
- Annual field visit to view WFP operations (September/October/November)
  - First-hand exposure to operations brings context to Board dialogue
  - Opportunity to meet with people WFP serves

United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) visit
- Twice-annual (pending calendar availability) to visit UNHRD in Brindisi
  - First-hand understanding of emergency preparedness work
  - Ad hoc tour of facility — first established hub in WFP UNHRD network
  - Co-located with UN Logistics Base/UN Global Service Centre for United Nations coherence

*October 2018*: first Board visit to the Munich Innovation Accelerator – will become annual occurrence
What does the Executive Board Secretariat do?

- Interface/Facilitator between Board and WFP Management
- Services provider to Board and Bureau
- Liaison with Permanent Representations
- Secretariat support to WFP Audit Committee
Where the Executive Board Secretariat fits in WFP
The WFP Library & Research Centre helps WFP staff worldwide and external users, including the Executive Board Membership, to access information from WFP internal and external sources:

- **Desk Research**
- **Loans**
- **Electronic Services**
- **Acquisitions of Publications**
- **Briefings**
- **Collection:**
  - **Periodicals**
  - **Reference Material**
  - **Online News Services**
  - **Research Databases**
  - **Catalogue**
How you can connect with us

Executive Board Website: executiveboard.wfp.org

Contact us by E-mail: WFPSecretarytotheEB@wfp.org
Get Registered Today?
Please contact your mission’s designated WFP Membership Area Focal Point for instructions in how to register.
Welcome to the Executive Board Membership Area

This area will become a one-stop-shop for all information that the Membership requires for their decision-making processes. Registered users can access content only available to Permanent Representations and embassies accredited to WFP.

Country Strategic Plans (CSPs)

This forum contains active virtual consultations

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<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>CSPs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>• Concept note for Algeria interim country strategic plan (2019–2022)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Revision of Algeria transitional interim country strategic plan (January–December 2018) - approved by correspondence on 8 November 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>• Country strategic plan (2018–2022) - approved at EBA/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>• Concept note for Armenia country strategic plan (July 2019–June 2024)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Revision of Armenia transitional interim country strategic plan - approved by correspondence on 19 October 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>• Country Strategic Plan (2017–2020) - approved at EB.1/2017</td>
</tr>
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<td>Benin</td>
<td>• Concept note for Benin country strategic plan (2019–2023)</td>
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</table>

Documents at Glance

In this section you will find a series of documents that the EB Secretariat is pleased to share with the Membership so that Permanent Representatives can easily access complements to meetings such as Notes for the Record and transcripts and other WFP restricted documents. These information is usually sent to you by email and we will keep doing so.
The Executive Board multi-language website has been developed to support the work being carried out by WFP Membership.

The use of digital solutions and services facilitate access to useful data, information and digital tools to support decision-making processes.
Key information and main features

• Executive Board meetings and documents from 1996;
• Info on Members of the Board, Executive Board Bureau and Advisory Committees and Bodies (WFP Audit Committee, FAO Finance Committee, ACABQ, WFP External Auditor);
• Activities on United Nations collaboration (RBAs; Joint meeting of the Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP; and field visits);
• News section (key events, field visits, HQ tours, high-level visits, etc.)
Second Regular Session of the Executive Board 2019
18 November 2019 - 21 November 2019

Impressions from the side events, exhibitions and demos of the Second Regular Session of the Executive Board 2019
18 November 2019 - 22 November 2019

What to look out for at the 2019 Second Regular Session
14 November 2019
Search

- Search among 40,200 Executive Board documents and 1,080 meetings.
- Search results of the documents returned within the discussion meeting.
- Fast and accurate results.
**Multiple-documents download**

Download documents in more languages in a few clicks and in a single compressed file.

**Content tabs**

Meeting Agenda and relevant documents, but also supplementary information, side events and exhibitions, photo galleries and videos. Each tab covers a thematic information section.

**Documents search support**

Unable to find what you are looking for? Fill-in the online search support system form to get assistance.
Membership Area

What is it?

One-stop-shop for all information that the Membership requires for their decision-making processes.

How to register?

Registration requires a code which is issued by the Executive Board Secretariat to the focal point of the Permanent Representation accredited to WFP.
Virtual consultations available for online comments used during Country Strategic Plans (CSPs) review process;
Documents at a Glance is a dedicated area with restricted documents and other complementary material to WFP's work.

Each box covers a thematic information section.
Direct access to other resources

Registration for the Membership Area and have **granted access** to:

- **CSP Data website**, with programme, financial and performance-related information for countries under the Integrated Road Map framework;
- **Annual Country Reports**.
How to connect with us

Visit the FAQ page

Contact
WFPSecretarytotheEB@wfp.org

Follow the activities of the WFP Executive Board Secretary on Twitter