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
The Executive Board

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

Security Council

Economic and Social Council

Secretariat

International Court of Justice

Trusteeship Council

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
- UNEF United Nations Environment Programme
- UNFPA United Nations Population Fund
- UNHABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme
- UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund
- WFP World Food Programme (UN/FAO)

Research and Training

- UNDIS United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
- UNITAR United Nations Institute for Training and Research
- UNICRI Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- UNSSC United Nations System Staff College
- UNESCO United Nations University
- UNDP United Nations Office for Project Services
- UNRWA 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

Other Entities

- ITC International Trade Centre (UN/CTD)
- INTELSAT United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- ICRC International Committee of the Red Cross
- IOM International Organization for Migration
- IFA International Seabed Authority
- ITLOS International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
- OPCW Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
- WTO World Trade Organization

Related Organizations

- CTBTO Preparatory Commission Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
- IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency
- ICC International Criminal Court
- IWC International Whaling Commission
- LRA International Seabed Authority

Security Council

- Counter-Terrorism Committee
- International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY)

Functional Commissions

- Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
- Narcotic Drugs
- Population and Development
- Science and Technology for Development
- Social Development
- Statistics
- Status of Women

Regional Commissions

- ECA Economic Commission for Africa
- ECE Economic Commission for Europe
- ECLAC Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
- ESCWA Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

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
- UNESCO United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

Research and Training

- UNCRIM United Nations International Crime and Justice Research Institute
- UNRISD United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
- UNISDR United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
- UNOCD United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- UNHCR United Nations Office at Geneva
- UNHCHR United Nations Office for Human Rights
- UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- UNHOL United Nations Office on Human Rights
- UNRISD United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

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
- UNOSCO United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
- UNRRA United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration
- UNRISD United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Economic and Social Council

- DFS 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
- DPKO Department of Peacekeeping Operations
- DSG Department of Safety and Security
- OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
- ODA Office for Development Affairs
- OMCU Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- OHRQ Office of the High Representative for Human Rights
- OSAA Office of the Special Adviser on Africa
- PSO Peacebuilding Support Office
- SRSG/CAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
- SRSG/VPDN 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

International Court of Justice

- ILC Department of Legal Affairs
- OSAA Office of the Special Adviser on Africa
- PSO Peacebuilding Support Office
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- SRSG/VAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children

Secretary-General

- Executive Office of the Secretary-General
- Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- Department of Field Support
- Department for General Assembly and Conference Management
- Department of Management
- Department of Political Affairs
- Department of Public Information
- Department of Peacekeeping Operations
- Department of Safety and Security
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Notes:
1. Members of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)
2. UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) is the lead agency for the United Nations (UN) Coordinating Mechanism on Disaster Risk Reduction (Mega-Implementing Entity of the UNDRR)
3. The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) Coordinating Mechanism on Disaster Risk Reduction (Mega-Implementing Entity of the UNDRR)
4. WTD has no reporting obligation to the UN, but contributes an ad hoc basis to ILO and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and works on, inter alia, finance and investment issues.
5. Specified agencies are autonomous organizations whose work is coordinated through UNCCD (environmental livelihood) and ICRM (international level).
6. The Trusts are managed under the title of United Nations Trust Funds (as amended), which are administered by the Trusts Secretariat.
7. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) are not specialized agencies in accordance with Articles 57 and 61 of the Charter but are part of the World Bank Group.
8. The Secretariat of these organs are part of the UN Secretariat.
9. The Secretariat also includes the following offices: The Africa Office, United Nations Counter Terrorism and Multilateral Services, Office of Administration of Justice and the Office of the Ombuds for Development and Human Rights.
Seven Governance Facts

- 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 convened
- 1999-2005: WFP Governance Project led by the Executive Board
Governance group formulated to improve three 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
# Quick Rome-based Agency Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAO</th>
<th>IFAD</th>
<th>WFP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>197 members</strong>: 194 members + 2 associate members + 1 member organization (EU)</td>
<td><strong>166 members</strong> represented by Governors (hybrid UN IFI)</td>
<td><strong>Out of 193 UN &amp; 197 FAO members</strong>: 36 Executive Board Members + 1 Special and Permanent Observer (EU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 vote per member</strong></td>
<td><strong>Weighted voting</strong> (based on membership and contribution)</td>
<td><strong>1 vote per member</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **2 governing bodies**:  
  - Council (chaired by elected independent representative)  
  - Conference (highest body) | **2 governing bodies**:  
  - Executive Board (chaired by IFAD President as Chairperson)  
  - Governing Council (highest body) | Reports to 2 governing bodies:  
  - ECOSOC  
  - FAO Council |
| **Various committees**: (comprised of Member States)  
  - Programme  
  - Finance  
  - CCLM  
  - [...] | **2 main committees**: (comprised of Member States)  
  - Audit  
  - Evaluation | **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) |
How the Executive Board is Constituted

**States Members of the UN General Assembly**

- ECOSOC

  Elects 18 Members

**Member Nations of the FAO Conference**

- FAO Council

  Elects 18 Members

**WFP Executive Board**

- (36 Members)
How Governance at WFP Works

WFP Governance

Executive Board
(36 Members)

- Intergovernmental oversight
- Specific policy direction
- Approves programme projects and WFP activities

WFP Secretariat
(WFP Management)

- Administers WFP
- Implements projects and programmes
- Provides accountability
### Electoral make-up of the Executive Board Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List A</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List B</td>
<td>Asia &amp; Middle East</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List C</td>
<td>Latin America &amp; the Caribbean</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>North America, Western Europe,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Japan, Australia and New Zealand</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List D</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List E</td>
<td>Central and Eastern Europe</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+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 such as the Management Plan and the Annual Performance Report 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)
  • **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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Country strategic plan details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Algeria       | • Concept note for Algeria interim country strategic plan (2019–2022)  
• Revision of Algeria transitional interim country strategic plan (January–December 2018) - approved by correspondence on 8 November 2018 |
| Afghanistan   | • Country strategic plan (2018–2022) - approved at EBA/2018       |
| Armenia       | • Concept note for Armenia country strategic plan (July 2019–June 2024)  
• Revision of Armenia transitional interim country strategic plan - approved by correspondence on 19 October 2018 |
| Bangladesh    | • Country Strategic Plan (2017–2020) - approved at E8.1/2017       |
| Benin         | • Concept note for Benin country strategic plan (2019-2023)         |

### 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.

- Notes for the Record
- Transcripts
- Special Reports
- ED Circulators
- WFP Shuttle Bus Timetable