

AFRICAN UNION

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UNION AFRICAINE

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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**REPORT ON THE ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS OF THE
COMMISSION: COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES,
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND COMMISSIONER
FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

**REPORT ON THE ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION:
COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
COMMISSIONER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The information contained in this Report is based on the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the Union, the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, the Statutes of the Commission as well as the Modalities for Election of the Members of the Commission adopted by the Executive Council in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2016 under decision EX.CL/Dec. 906(XXVIII).

2. In accordance with the above Rules of Procedure and Modalities, the Commission is composed of ten (10) members, namely, the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson and eight (8) Commissioners.¹ All the other regions shall be entitled to two (2) Commissioners.² Further, the Chairperson of the Commission and his/her Deputy shall not be from the same region.³

3. During the Twenty-Eight Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in January 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Assembly elected the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson and appointed six (6) Commissioners elected by the Executive Council vide decision Assembly/AU/Dec.638 (XXVIII). In the same decision, the Assembly decided *inter alia* as follows:

DECIDES that the remaining two (2) Commissioners will be elected at the Thirty-First Ordinary Session of the Executive Council and appointed during the Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2017 as follows:

- (i) one (1) male from the Eastern Region; and*
- (ii) one (1) female from the Central Region.*

4. The current elections, therefore, relate to only two (2) Commissioners, namely the Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology and the Commissioner for Economic Affairs to be elected from the Eastern and Central Regions in accordance with the above Assembly Decision.

II. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATURES FOR THE POST OF COMMISSIONER

5. The Commission in implementing the above decision informed all Member States and requested the Deans of the Central and Eastern Regions through its Note Verbal under reference BC/OLC/217/361.17 and dated 23 February 2017 to determine their own modalities for shortlisting of candidates received from their respective Member

¹ Article 2 of the Statutes of the Commission.

² Articles 37 (1) and 6 (2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and Statutes of the Commission respectively.

³ Article 38 (4) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

States from the region, conduct a pre-selection process at the regional level and submit the region's preferred candidates to the Commission on or before 31 March 2017.

6. However, it should be noted that the challenge for the Commission in facilitating the process has been non-compliance by Member States with the modalities and rules on submission of candidatures. Article 13 of the Statutes of the Commission provides as follows:

"There shall be a pre-selection process at the regional level. Each region shall nominate two (2) candidates, including a woman for each portfolio. The nomination process shall be based on modalities to be determined by the region. The candidates selected at the regional level shall form part of the continental pool without prejudice to the scrupulous respect of the provisions of Article 6(2) of these Statutes".

7. In view of the above, the Commission was not in a position to process those candidatures submitted directly by the Member States rather than through their respective Regional Deans.

8. Upon expiry of the deadline on 31 March 2017, the Commission circulated the final list of candidatures submitted by the Regional Deans in accordance with Article 16 (1) of the Statutes of the Commission, three (3) months before the election through Note Verbal under reference BC/OLC/217/637.17 and dated 12 April 2017. The final list of candidates for the posts of Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology and Commissioner for Economic Affairs is attached hereto as an Annex.

III. REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT AS COMMISSIONER

9. The requisite qualifications and relevant experience for appointment as Commissioner are outlined in Article 15 of the Statutes of the Commission, which requires such a candidate to:

"...possess minimal education qualification not below the first degree, or equivalent from a recognised university. They shall also possess a significant and wide ranging work experience with a good track record in government, parliament, international organizations, a recognised university, multinational or private sector organizations."

IV. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION

10. The voting procedure will follow the established practice and according to the order of posts as listed in Article 12 of the Statutes of the Commission. In this regard, the voting shall commence with the position of Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology followed by the Commissioner for Economic Affairs.

11. Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, the election will be conducted as stipulated below:

“1. In any election of the Commissioners, the balloting for each portfolio shall continue until one of the candidates obtains the two-thirds majority required. Provided that, if the third ballot remains inconclusive, the next ballot shall be restricted to the two (2) candidates who obtain the highest number of votes in the third ballot.

2. If after three (3) further ballots neither of the two (2) candidates obtains the majority required, the candidate with fewer votes shall withdraw.

3. Where there are only two (2) candidates initially and neither candidate obtains the majority required after the third ballot, the candidate with fewer votes shall withdraw and the remaining candidate shall proceed to the next round.

4. If the remaining candidate fails to obtain the two-thirds majority required in that round, the Chairperson shall suspend the election.

5. Where there is only one (1) candidate initially and he or she fails to obtain the two-thirds majority required after the third ballot the Chairperson shall suspend the election.

6. This voting procedure shall be applicable to all elections conducted by the Executive Council in respect of other Organs of the Union.”

12. As indicated in paragraph 8 above, the final list of candidatures for Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology and Commissioner for Economic Affairs is attached hereto as an Annex.

ANNEX

**FINAL LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITION OF COMMISSIONERS:
COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
COMMISSIONER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

A. CANDIDATES FOR THE POST OF COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

No	Name	Country	Gender	Region
1.	Sarah Mbi Enow ANYANG AGBOR	Cameroon	Female	Central
2.	Dr. John Patrick KABAYO	Uganda	Male	East

B. CANDIDATES FOR THE POST OF COMMISSIONER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

No	Name	Country	Gender	Region
1.	Hon. Yacin Elmi BOUH	Djibouti	Male	East
2.	Newaye Christos GEBRE-AB	Ethiopia	Male	East
3.	Victor HARISON	Madagascar	Male	East
4.	Marthe Chantal Ndjepang MBAJON	Cameroon	Female	Central

2017

Rapport sur l'Élection de Deux Membres de la Commission: Commissaire aux Ressources Humaines, à la Science et à la Technologie et Commissaire aux Affaires Économiques

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