

Criteria and Process for Election of CIPM Members



Bureau international des poids et mesures

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Preamble

The CIPM is composed of 18 individuals, each from a different State, elected by the CGPM and charged with providing direction and supervision of the BIPM and its activities along with all metrological work that the Member States decide to execute in common. In their capacity as members of the CIPM they therefore act within the framework decided by the CGPM and not on behalf of their own Governments. Whilst CIPM members are elected on the basis of personal merit, it is important that they have some connection to the national measurement systems in their respective States and the support of their governments to serve in this capacity.

Commencing with the 25th CGPM, CIPM Members will be elected to a term that begins 6 months following their election and ends 6 months after the following CGPM. For a Member filling a vacancy that arises between CGPMs, his/her term will terminate six months after the election of a new CIPM by the CGPM.

Existing members can be re-elected following the same nomination and selection process as new members.

This document includes four sections:

- **Section A** lists the issues that will be considered when selecting members for the CIPM in order to ensure that it can operate effectively as a body.
- **Section B** lists the personal attributes and qualifications required for members of the CIPM.
- **Section C** describes the operation and governance of the “Committee for Election of CIPM Members”.
- **Section D** describes the process used for election of members to the CIPM. It covers the process used to elect 18 members at a CGPM as well as the process used to fill vacancies that may arise in the period between CGPMs.

This document also includes flowcharts that illustrate the sequence of steps within the processes:

Figure 1: Process for nomination and election of CIPM members.

Figure 2: Process for filling of vacancy(s) arising between CGPMs.

Section A: General Considerations for establishing a “recommended List” of candidates

Only persons from Member States will be considered for CIPM Membership.

- **Global coverage** – in aggregate, the CIPM membership should include reasonable representation across:
 - Smaller, medium-sized, and larger Member States.
 - The scientific disciplines relevant to the metrological needs of contemporary society.
 - Geographical regions, such as those covered by the Regional Metrology Organizations (RMOs).

- **Contribution**
 - Special consideration should be given to Candidates from Member States that pay the maximum or near maximum contribution.
 - Candidates from Member States three or more years in financial arrears will not be considered for membership.

- **Host state**
 - One member of the CIPM should be from France. This recognizes the role of France as the depository of the Metre Convention and the host state.

- **Complementary skills and competencies**
 - In aggregate, the CIPM members should, as a group, cover the scientific disciplines that are relevant to the work of the Intergovernmental Organization of the Metre Convention and its organs/bodies, and have knowledge about the metrological needs of contemporary society.
 - In aggregate, the CIPM members should, as a group, have the management skills and experience to enable the CIPM to carry out its duties effectively and efficiently.
 - The “recommended List” should include a sufficient number of candidates with prior experience as a CIPM member to ensure continuity.

Section B: Personal Attributes and Qualifications for Membership

All nominees for membership of the CIPM are required to articulate their expertise and experience in the following major categories in no more than one page per major category¹. These same categories will be the basis for the review and appraisal of the application by the CIPM.

- **Deep Scientific Expertise** – demonstrated in an area congruent with the technical programs executed under the aegis of the CIPM (e.g., sufficient expertise to act as President of a CIPM Consultative Committee).
- **Demonstrated Ability to Understand General Scientific Concepts** and ability to discuss and present scientific programs and goals to general and scientific audiences.
- **Leadership Capabilities**
 - **Leading a Scientific Program** – demonstrated ability to provide authoritative direction and management for a scientific program of work. Members should have the leadership and scientific expertise that would allow chairmanship of a CIPM Consultative Committee.
 - **Leading and Working with People** – demonstrated ability to lead people toward meeting CIPM and Metre Convention goals. Also inherent to this requirement is the ability to serve as an effective member of a team of “leaders”.
 - **Leading Change** – demonstrated ability to bring about strategic change to meet organizational goals (both within and outside the organization), including the ability to link with stakeholder organizations and to understand and communicate their metrological needs and priorities for appropriate actions.
- **Teamwork and Communication** – demonstrated ability to communicate effectively in English and to build coalitions to achieve goals.
- **Demonstrated Ability to Manage and Discuss Budgetary Aspects** related to the Metre Convention and its organs/bodies.
- **Personal Commitment**
 - Each member should be able to make a significant commitment of time and energy in support of the activities of the CIPM and the Metre Convention.
 - Each member should have, in principle, the financial resources required to attend meetings of the CIPM.
 - Candidates should commit themselves to serve until the end of their term. (However, it is understood that unforeseeable reasons can result in their resignation prior to expiration of their terms).
- **Government Support and Relationship**
 - In accordance with the discussions at the 17th CGPM, each candidate should have at least tacit support from their government to serve on the CIPM. Each Member should maintain a good relationship with their government and the leadership of their national metrology system throughout their membership on the CIPM.

¹ As the CIPM in aggregate is responsible for directing and supervising scientific strategy and management of BIPM, the degree of expertise and experience in the major categories could and should vary between candidates.

Section C: The Committee for Election of CIPM Members

Commencing at the time of the 25th CGPM* and at each CGPM thereafter, a Committee for Election of CIPM Members will be established by the CIPM to provide the CGPM with recommendations regarding a slate of nominees for CIPM Membership.

Membership

The members of the committee will include:

- Representatives from six Member States chosen by the CGPM to represent all regions in the world. The Group should include representation from smaller, medium-sized, and larger Member States.
- The CIPM President
- The CIPM Secretary

The Chair will be one of the representatives from the Member States.

The term of each member of the Committee for Election of CIPM Members will last until the time of the next CGPM, following which a new set of members will be agreed.

**Note: As an interim measure, in order to fill vacancies arising before the 25th CGPM, the representatives of member states on the ad hoc group established by the 24th CGPM will form an interim Committee for Election of CIPM Members.*

Terms of Reference

The Committee for Election of CIPM Members will be active in two circumstances:

- In the period following the publication of a Convocation for the next CGPM, it will review and consider the package provided by the CIPM containing the list of all nominated candidates and their supporting documentation, the list of candidates for CIPM Membership assessed as qualified by the CIPM, and the CIPM's recommended List of 18 candidates. This Committee, congruent with the agreed-to criteria in this document, will submit a slate of 18 candidates for CIPM membership along with a list of all candidates assessed as qualified to the CGPM at least one month in advance of the CGPM.
- When a vacancy arises well ahead of the publication of a Convocation for an upcoming CGPM according to the timeline distributed by the CIPM President, it will review the list of qualified candidates from the previous election cycle and in the exceptional case in which additional nominations are needed to meet Section B requirements, appraise relative to section A criteria any new nomination packet(s) relayed to it by the CIPM. This Committee will provide input to the CIPM regarding the selection of provisional appointee(s) for decision by the CIPM at its next meeting.

Section D: Election Process for CIPM Members

I. Process for Election of the CIPM at a meeting of the CGPM

It is expected that the nomination and election processes and all pertaining documents will be kept confidential. Candidates are allowed to withdraw their nominations at any point in the process by notifying the President of the CIPM.

Step 1:

Nominations for membership of the CIPM will be sought (by the President of the CIPM) from all Member States through a call to government representatives, NMI Directors, and current members of the CIPM at the time of the Convocation preceding the CGPM. Nomination packages received are distributed to current CIPM members.

Step 2:

- The CIPM assesses the documentation provided by each nominee against the “General Considerations for Membership” and the “Personal Attributes and Qualifications” provided in Sections A and B of this document.
- The CIPM compiles a complete listing of qualified candidates, discusses, and then recommends a List of candidates that in aggregate would allow the CIPM to carry out its duties most effectively and efficiently. The CIPM’s function in this case is to ensure that the proposed candidates meet the Personal Attributes and Qualifications criteria provided in Section B of this document.
- The CIPM provides the Committee for Election of CIPM Members with a complete list of candidates assessed as qualified by the CIPM, the CIPM’s recommended List of candidates and a package with supporting documentation of all nominated candidates for their further consideration and discussion at least two months in advance of the CGPM meeting.

Step 3:

The Committee for Election of CIPM Members, considering the recommendations of the CIPM and congruent with the agreed-to criteria in this document, makes a recommendation for a slate of CIPM members and submits this to the CGPM along with a list of all candidates assessed as qualified at least one month in advance of the CGPM.

Note: The Election Committee should contact all qualified candidates that are not on the recommended slate to inquire if they wish to have their names appear on the ballot at the CGPM.

Step 4: Election at the CGPM

Each Member State representative entitled by his government to vote can elect 18 persons for CIPM membership out of the list of all nominated candidates.

The Ballot will contain the preferred Slate provided by the Committee for Election of CIPM Members plus the names of all other candidates that qualified for CIPM Membership.

Step 5: Seating of a newly elected CIPM*

The prior CIPM will meet immediately following the CGPM to complete its business and begin planning for the succession.

The newly-elected CIPM will begin its term six months following its election at the CGPM. A meeting of the CIPM will be arranged as soon as possible thereafter, to be Chaired by the most senior incumbent member of the previous CIPM. If no incumbent is reelected, the CGPM will appoint a person to Chair this meeting. New Officers (President, Secretary, First Vice President, Second Vice President) shall be elected prior to completion of this first meeting of the newly elected CIPM.

** Note: To initiate this new Election Process, current CIPM Members have collectively agreed to vacate their Appointments congruent with the first meeting of the newly elected CIPM if not re-elected.*

II. Process to fill vacancies arising between meetings of the CGPM

It is expected that the nomination and election processes and all pertaining documents will be kept confidential.

When a vacancy occurs between CGPMs, and no upcoming CGPM is planned for the next six months, it will be filled on a provisional basis by the CIPM using the “General Considerations for Membership” provided in Section A and the “Personal Attributes and Qualifications” provided in section B.

Step 1:

- The CIPM President will notify CIPM members and the Committee for Election of CIPM Members immediately following any CIPM resignation(s) and prepare and distribute a timeline for the provisional appointment for this vacancy(s).
- The CIPM will review the list of qualified candidates from the previous election cycle and determine if new nominations are required due to exceptional circumstances – e.g., as needed to meet the requirements of Section A and/or B of this document.
- If new nominations are needed, the CIPM will solicit nominations from Member States, NMI Directors and CIPM members as relevant for the specific need. Nomination packages received are distributed to current CIPM members and to the Committee for Election of CIPM Members.

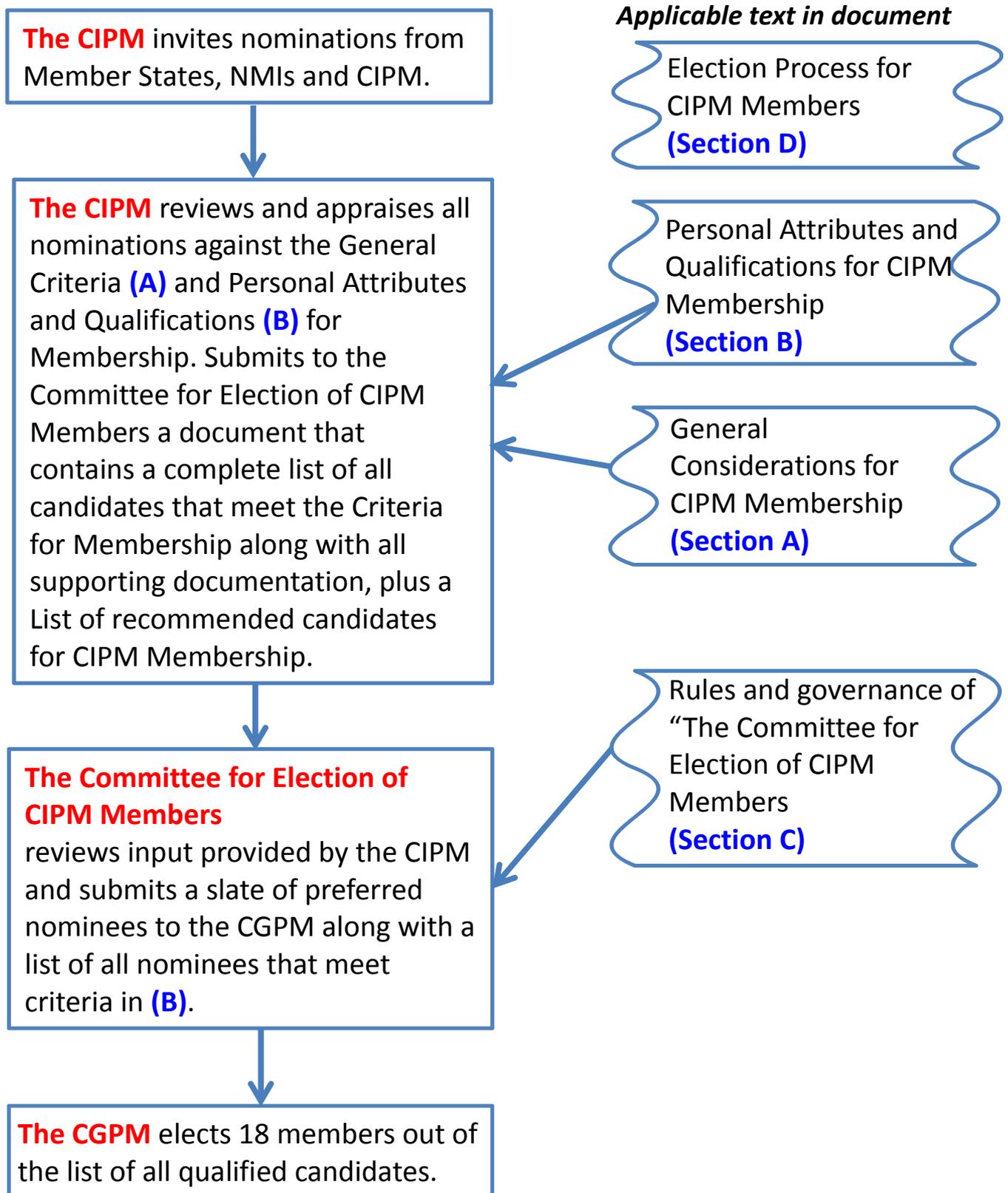
Step 2:

- Any new nomination(s) are assessed by the CIPM and the Committee for Election of CIPM Members against the “Personal Attributes and Qualifications” provided in Section B of this document.
- Candidates for the vacancy(s) will be taken from the “list of qualified candidates” forwarded for election and approved at the previous CGPM together with any new nominations that meet the criteria for CIPM membership.
- Provisional appointments will be discussed and agreed at the next meeting of the CIPM. Any input provided by the Committee for Election of CIPM Members will be considered in this discussion/agreement. The provisional members will be selected to best fill the vacancy such that, in aggregate, the CIPM continues to perform effectively and efficiently.

Step 3:

- The CIPM appoints Provisional CIPM Members following the process defined in the Metre Convention and its annexed Regulations.
- The CIPM immediately notifies representatives of Member States and NMI Directors of any such appointments.
- Such appointments will be valid until the next meeting of the CGPM.

Figure 1: Process for Nomination and Election of CIPM Members*



*See Figure 2 for process for filling vacancy(s) arising between CGPMs. Page 8 of 9

Figure 2: Process for Filling of Vacancy(s) that Arise Between CGPMs

