

BFUG5 13
8 March 2005

PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

1. BACKGROUND

The Berlin Communiqué stated that the BFUG Board will be composed by:

- a) the EU Troika
- b) the Country hosting the next Ministerial Conference
- c) the European Commission
- d) four consultative Members (EUA, ESIB, EURASHE, CoE)
- e) three participating countries elected by the BFUG for one year.

The Bologna Follow-up Group, in its meeting of 17 September 2003 in Berlin, agreed on the following voting procedures concerning the point e):

- Countries eligible: all countries that expressed formally their candidature, with the exception of the EU troika and of the country hosting the next Ministerial Conference;
- Number of votes: two per country (altogether 80); if a country sends more than two votes, only the first two votes received in time order will be considered valid;
- It is not allowed to vote for themselves;
- The election will be by simple majority;
- In case of an equal number of votes, the BFUG will go to a second ballot;
- the three countries elected in the Board will not be re-eligible for a second time;

The first group of elected countries will be in charge from October 2003 up to June 2004, the second group of elected countries will be in charge from July 2004 up to May 2005.

2. EXPERIENCE

Elections in 2003 and 2004 were by e-mail, the first three countries represented were Austria, Belgium, Finland, to be followed by Latvia, Malta, Slovenia. Documents BFUGB3 9/9a (attached) show the procedure and the result of the second election.

By the deadline, only one country had volunteered to stand for election. A plea from the BFUG Chair was needed to bring forward additional candidates. At the same time, questions arose whether an outgoing EU troika member could continue as an elected member and whether an incoming EU troika member could stand for election just before joining the troika.

3. CONCLUSION

On the basis of this experience, the Secretariat proposes:

- a) The rules for electing Board members should be understood to mean that a country that joins the Board in the capacity of being EU troika member during the period up to the next Ministerial Conference, shall not be elected Board member in this period.
- b) Election of Board members shall be done in the BFUG meeting prior to each new period.
- c) Between Ministerial meetings in 2005 and 2007, the first period will be June 2005 - July 2006, the second period will be August 2006 – Min. Conf. 2007.



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26 May 2004

Dear Colleagues,

RE: ELECTION TO BOARD OF BOLOGNA FOLLOW-UP GROUP – 1st JULY 2004 TO MAY 2005

As you are no doubt aware, the term of office for Austria, Belgium and Finland, as elected members of the Board draws to a close on 30th June 2004. The purpose of this letter is to commence the election procedure for the second term – 1st July 2004 to May 2005.

I attach for reference a copy of the agreed procedures.

The following time schedule will be put in place:

STAGE	TIME & DATE	EVENT
1	Friday 4 th June 2004 1500hrs (GMT)	<i>Closing time and date for expression of interest of members to serve on the Board</i>
2	Monday 7 th June 2004	<i>BFUG members will be advised of the nominations and will be invited to vote (40 countries, 2 votes per country)</i>
3	Friday 11 th June 2004 1500hrs (GMT)	<i>Closing time and date for casting of votes</i>
4	Monday 14 th June 2004	<i>BFUG will be advised of the three elected members</i>

In the event of no more than 3 members expressing an interest at Stage 1, these members will be taken as duly elected to the Board, and members of the BFUG will be advised accordingly.

Members seeking election to the Board (*i.e.* Stage 1) should e-mail (Ian_McKenna@education.gov.ie) me in accordance with the above date.

I wish to acknowledge your co-operation in advance,

Kind regards,

IAN McKENNA
CHAIR, BFUG



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04 June 2004

Dear Colleagues,

RE: ELECTION TO BOARD OF BOLOGNA FOLLOW-UP GROUP – 1st JULY 2004 TO MAY 2005

Following my letter dated 26th May 2004, three members submitted nominations to serve on the Board of the Bologna Follow-Up Group for the second term – 1st July 2004 to May 2005.

These were:

1. Malta
2. Slovenia
3. Latvia

In response to my earlier email this morning, the United Kingdom nominated itself, conscious that only one nomination was received at that time, and that in any event, they would become members of the Board in January 2005, as a result of their membership of the EU Troika. However, as three other nominations have now been received, the Chair, with the agreement of the United Kingdom, recommends that the nominations of Malta, Slovenia and Latvia be considered as duly elected to the BFUG Board.

In these circumstances, no elections are necessary, and Malta, Slovenia and Latvia will duly take their place at the BFUG Board with effect from 1st July 2004.

Kind regards,

IAN McKENNA
CHAIR, BFUG