

GB31 Voting rights and financial contributions

GBIF depends on the voluntary contributions of its Voting Participants to fund its operation and work programme. Therefore, lack of payment impacts and delays operations and has a negative impact on effectiveness of GBIF.

The current funding model runs 2023-2027. In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding, Paragraph 10, 2(B), a Voting Participant is to make its financial contribution in order to retain its voting status. If it is not possible for the Voting Participant to pay by the deadline, an application should be made to the Executive Committee asking for an extension.

Voting Participants countries which have not paid in full by the nomination deadline date, 2 August 2024, or have not received approval for extension of payment from the Executive Committee will have their voting rights suspended.

Nomination process

This year, six committee positions are open. Nominations for some of these positions are restricted and may only be submitted by Voting Participants in good financial standing. Nominations for the rest may be submitted by any Voting Participant or Associate Participant.

Positions open for nomination from all Voting Participants and Associate Participants

The positions open for nominations from any Participants for the elections are:

Position	Current officer	Eligible for re-election
Governing Board 2 nd Vice-chair	Andrew Young	No
Science Committee 2 nd Vice-chair	Enrique Martinez Meyer	No
Science Committee 3 rd Vice-chair	Philippe Grandcolas	Yes

The Governing Board 2nd Vice-chair and the Science Committee 2nd Vice-chair have served two terms and cannot run again for their current position. The Science Committee 3rd Vice-chair is eligible for re-election, subject to valid nomination.

Positions open for nomination only from Voting Participants in good financial standing

The positions open for nominations only from Voting Participants which have made their full financial contribution or agreed an extension for their contribution are:

Position	Current officer	Eligible for re-election
Governing Board Chair	Liam Lysaght	Yes
Budget Committee Chair	Monika Huber	Yes
Science Committee Chair	Birgit Gemeinholzer	Yes

All current officers for this category have served only one term and are eligible for re-election, subject to valid nomination.

Election process

For the elections for committee positions, only Voting Participants in good financial standing will be eligible to vote.

The [Rules of Procedure for the GBIF Governing Board](#) state:

4.2. In order to retain its voting rights, a Voting Participant is to make its financial contribution each year within the first three months of the GBIF financial year, unless the Executive Committee has approved a later payment arrangement for the financial year (See MOU Paragraph 10.2 (b)).

Voting Participants are considered to be in good financial standing if they have made their full financial contribution for 2024. Voting Participants will also be considered to be in good financial standing if they have reached an agreement with the Executive Committee regarding an extension date for making their contribution. Following such a date, if the Voting Participant has still not made their full financial contribution, they will no longer be considered to be in good financial standing. All Voting Participants are accordingly urged to ensure that they satisfy these criteria or to communicate with the Executive Committee if they wish to arrange an extension date.

Payment status

The list provided below shows the current payment status (as of 14 June 2024) for all current Voting Participants. Those listed as having paid in full are eligible to nominate and vote for all positions. Other Voting Participants are eligible only if they make their full payment or agree an extension prior to the meeting.

	Participant	Payment status
1	Andorra	Paid in full
2	Angola, Republic of	Not paid
3	Australia	Paid in full
4	Belgium	Extension agreed
5	Brazil	Extension agreed
6	Cameroon	Extension agreed
7	Canada	Paid in full
8	Chile	Paid in full
9	Colombia	Not paid
10	Costa Rica	Not paid
11	Croatia, Republic of	Paid in full
12	Denmark	Paid in full
13	Ecuador	Not paid
14	Estonia	Paid in full
15	Finland	Paid in full
16	France	Partial payment
17	Germany	Paid in full
18	Iceland	Not paid
19	Ireland	Paid in full
20	Korea, Rep. of	Paid in full
21	Luxembourg	Paid in full

22	Madagascar	Not paid
23	Mauritania	Paid in full
24	Netherlands	Paid in full
25	New Zealand	Paid in full
26	Nigeria, Federal Republic of	Not paid
27	Norway	Paid in full
28	Peru	Partial payment
29	Poland	Not paid
30	Portugal	Paid in full
31	Sierra Leone	Not paid
32	Slovakia	Paid in full
33	Slovenia	Not paid
34	South Africa	Paid in full
35	South Sudan	Not paid
36	Spain	Not paid
37	Sweden	Paid in full
38	Switzerland	Not paid
39	Timor-Leste, Democratic Republic of	Not paid
40	Togo	Paid in full
41	Tonga, Kingdom of	Not paid
42	United Kingdom	Partial payment
43	United States	Paid in full
44	Uzbekistan	Not paid
45	Zimbabwe	Paid in full