

## Call for nominations for elections of GBIF officials at GB33

15 June 2026

Dear GBIF Head of Delegation,

This is the official call for nominations for six positions up for election in connection with the 33<sup>rd</sup> GBIF Governing Board meeting (GB33), in accordance with the GBIF [Rules of Procedure](#) paragraph 1.9.

All nominations must come from a GBIF Head of Delegation and include the following information:

- a statement from the candidate – up to one page,
- a letter of willingness to serve from the candidate,
- a CV.

These requirements cover both new candidates and candidates being re-nominated for a second term. Please see more details for nominees in the next pages.

For information on nomination and voting rights please see the document 'GB33 Voting rights and financial contributions' which is submitted together with this call.

**Nominations should be sent to [nominations@gbif.org](mailto:nominations@gbif.org)**

**Deadline for nominations: 2 August 2026**

With kind regards,



Liam Lysaght  
Chair of Governing Board

*cc: Additional delegates and node managers*

## Positions for election at GB33

Six positions are up for election at GB33. Eligibility criteria for positions are outlined in the GBIF [Rules of Procedure](#) (paragraphs 1.7 and 7.4).

For more details on each of the position roles and responsibilities, please see the [handbooks](#) for each of the GBIF committees. Voting Participants must be in good financial standing for the year. If a Voting Participant is not in good financial standing, they can nominate candidates similarly to an Associate Participant.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Candidates must be from</b>	<b>Eligibility of incumbent for re-election</b>
Governing Board Chair	Voting Participants	The current Governing Board Chair, Liam Lysaght, has served two terms and cannot run again for this position.
Governing Board 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-chair	Voting or Associate Participants	The current Governing Board 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-chair, André Heughebaert, has served one term and is entitled to run for a second term but has informed the Secretariat that he will not run for a second term.
Budget Committee Chair	Voting Participants	The current Budget Committee Chair, Pierre Rafou Radji, has served one term and is entitled to run for a second term.
Science Committee Chair	Voting Participants	The current Science Committee Chair, Birgit Gemeinholzer, has served two terms and cannot run again for this position
Science Committee 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-chair	Voting or Associate Participants	The position is currently vacant.
Science Committee 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice-chair	Voting or Associate Participants	The current Science Committee 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice-chair, Soledad Ceccarelli, has served one term and is entitled to run for a second term.

## Requirements for nominees

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### Expertise

To ensure that the work for GBIF is recognized and given the sufficient time allocation and funding, all positions should be filled with candidates with a high level of expertise in subject areas relevant to GBIF and be able to provide advice to the Board, the Executive Committee and the Secretariat.

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### Time commitment

Heads of Delegation should ensure that the nominees are well informed about the post they are nominated for and that they are prepared to *set aside the required time to serve*, if elected. The nominees should secure support from their Head of the Institution/Department/Agency. It is essential that elected members of committees are able to attend the annual Governing Board meeting and the mid-term meetings normally held in late April in Copenhagen. They are also expected to be available for bi-monthly telephone conferences.

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### Member of Participant

Candidates should be part of a delegation. If not already on the list for GB33, the Head of Delegation should confirm in the nomination that the candidate will be part of the delegation.

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### Funding

The nominating Participant or the nominee is responsible for funding the nominee's attendance at the face-to-face GB meetings as well as the committee meetings held back-to-back with the GB meeting. These costs will not be covered by the Secretariat. However, committee members from Voting Participant developing countries in good standing, may apply for partial travel support to attend the relevant committee meeting and Governing Board meeting. Participation at other meetings such as the mid-term meetings is usually met by the Secretariat.

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### Further information

If you wish to nominate a candidate from another GBIF Participant, please contact the Head of Delegation of that Participant first who will have to consider a) the candidate being added to their delegation b) the financial implication for the Delegation if the nominated candidate is elected.

To assist in discussions with potential candidates please see the current Terms of Reference for the standing committees ([Budget](#), [Executive](#), [Nodes](#) and [Science](#) committees), the [committee handbooks](#) and the GBIF website at [www.gbif.org](http://www.gbif.org).

*Please also note that Heads of Delegation cannot nominate themselves (see paragraph 1.9.2. of the [Rules of Procedure](#)) but can be nominated by another Head of Delegation.*