

WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH



NOMINATING COMMITTEE HANDBOOK 2025

World Federation for Mental Health

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WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH NOMINATING COMMITTEE HANDBOOK

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PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The principal guiding elements of the procedure are outlined as follows:

- The number of members of the WFMH Board of Directors will be a minimum of 18 and a maximum of 24 members elected by the Voting Member Organizations for a term of two years.
- The slate will consist of candidates that have been qualified by the Nominating Committee (e.g., eligible to be elected, recommended by a current Voting Member Organization, current Affiliate Member Organization, current Individual or Life member, or current Board member, and who have confirmed willingness to serve based on published guidelines and expectations, and have been duly vetted by members of the Nominating Committee etc.)
- Members of all categories, whose dues are in current standing prior to closure of nominations **at midnight GMT 19th June 2025**, are eligible to submit candidates for consideration by the Nominating Committee.
- Voting Member Organizations, Life Members and current members of the Board of Directors will be eligible to participate as Voting Members in balloting for election of the Board. Voting Members eligible to participate in the election are those whose membership dues are current at the time of the election.
- The Nominating Committee will present a slate of nominees to the Voting Members consisting of up to 36 qualified candidates from which the available number of Directors will be elected.
- Utilization of an official ballot that will allow for election through balloting of eligible Voting Members.
- Board Members are eligible for election to serve up to four consecutive two-year terms, after which they are ineligible for re-election for a period of two years.
- Each of the seven (7) WFMH regions will preferably have at least one (1) person on the Board.
- The election of Board Members will be conducted by electronic ballot only completed within approximately 120 days of the next Voting Member Assembly meeting.
- In the case of persons holding (or elected to) positions of President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past President, exemption to the term limits would apply until completion of those terms.

- Following the tabulation and certification of the ballots for the candidates of the Board, the Nominating Committee will meet for the purpose of choosing positions for the Officers [President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President Constituency Development, Vice-President Program Development and Vice President for Administration], Regional Vice-Presidents, Directors and the Board Lead for Lived Experience.
- The Nominating Committee's final slate of Officers, Directors and Regional Vice-Presidents will be a "single slate" with one candidate nominated for each office.
- The final slate of candidates will be submitted to the Board of Directors with a deadline for return to the election referee Nomination Committee Chair for validation 60 days prior to the convening of the Voting Member Assembly.
- The slate of newly elected Board Members will be announced to the full Membership prior to the meeting of the Voting Member Assembly and will be officially installed at that Meeting.

Identification and Qualification of Candidates

The following guidance is provided to the Nominating Committee for the process of identifying and recommending candidates for consideration as nomination to the Board of Directors:

- Voting Member Organizations of national scope, Affiliate Member Organizations, and Individual/Life Members are eligible to recommend candidates from their country to the Nominating Committee for consideration.
- Voting Member Organizations of global or international scope or membership are eligible to recommend candidates for consideration from any country.
- Current members of the Board of Directors are eligible to recommend candidates for consideration from any country.
- The Nominating Committee is authorized to seek, identify and consider additional candidates in order to balance the geographic, skills, influence, professional and regional needs of the slate of candidates.
- The Nominating Committee's proposed slate of nominations does not require approval or adjustment by the current Board of Directors prior to submission to the Voting Members.

Composition of the Nominating Committee

The WFMH Nominating Committee will be comprised as follows:

- The Immediate Past President will serve as the Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- The Secretary General shall be a non-voting member of the Nominating Committee.
- The members of the Nominating Committee will be elected by the Board of Directors at the first meeting following the biennial election from a single slate of nominees prepared by the outgoing Nominating Committee.
- The committee will normally be composed of eight [8] members, including the Chair and one (1) member from each of the other 6 WFMH regions (the Chair will represent the region in which he/she resides) and the Secretary General (non-voting member).
- Everything must be done to find an appropriate member for each region but if there are no further candidates for consideration the Chair working in collaboration with the Secretary General and Nominating Committee Members will either choose a person of the nationalities within that region or reduce the committee accordingly and alert the committee members of the need to pay special attention to the region/s without representation.
- Members of the Nominating Committee may be either past Board members who are not candidates for consideration for nomination or current members of the Board who are not eligible, or who have chosen not to be considered for re-election. The Immediate Past President is exempted from this requirement.
- Members of the Nominating Committee will serve for a term of two years and may be re-elected to one additional two-year term.
- The current sitting President and President-elect will serve as advisors to, but not as voting members, of the Nominating Committee. The final election results will be made available to the EC and Board if requested.



World Federation for Mental Health

8 May 2025

To: WFMH Voting Member Organizations
WFMH Affiliate Member Organizations
WFMH Board of Directors
WFMH Individual and Life Members

From: Dr Gabriel Ivbijaro, Secretary General WFMH on behalf of Dr Nasser Loza Chair and Members of the 2025-2027 Nominating Committee

To: The Membership of The World Federation for Mental Health

Re: **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2025-2027 WFMH BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

On behalf of the Chair of the WFMH 2025-2027 Nominating Committee, Nasser Loza and Nominating Committee Members it gives me great pleasure as Secretary General to call for candidates to be considered for nomination and election as Directors to the 2025 – 2027 WFMH Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee Process and Handbook 2025-2027 is available on the WFMH website.

We sincerely encourage your participation in the process of assisting the Committee to identify qualified and committed candidates for consideration.

This year's procedure to nominate and elect members to the WFMH Board of Directors continues the process of a more interactive and more inclusive approach to nominating and electing the WFMH Board of Directors that was begun with the 2007-2009 elections process.

By action taken at the October 14, 2006 WFMH Voting Member Assembly meeting in Oslo, Norway, the WFMH Board is elected through a ballot procedure in advance of the Voting Member Assembly.

The Nominating Committee places before the eligible Voting Members a ballot containing up to 36 qualified candidates from which all the Directors are elected with a standard that each nominee should complete a detailed Application Form.

Nominating persons/referees will be contacted to complete a standardised Reference Proforma and standardised screening interviews will take place with each nominee conducted by members of the Nominating Committee once nominations are closed.

The details and process for submitting qualified candidates for the Nominating Committee's consideration are contained in the accompanying "Call for Candidates" packet. I encourage you to review these materials carefully, and to nominate candidates for the 2025-2027 WFMH Board of Directors.

There has been a request regarding the need for a more structured variety of stakeholders on the Board of Directors. As a result, there will be a focus on, but not limited to, representation from the following groups:

- People with lived mental health experience /consumers.
- Family members/carers.
- Psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, family doctors and other professionals and providers with an interest in mental health advocacy.
- Administrators, researchers, lawyers, accountants and policy-makers with an interest in mental health advocacy.
- Appropriate skills and experience in management of International NGO's

The Nominating committee will ensure adequate regional and group representation. At least one (1) member of the Board of Directors must come from each of the WFMH Regions as described in Article IV, Section 1.

Please be aware that the **deadline** for completed Candidate Information Forms and all supporting materials to be received at the WFMH Secretariat is **Midnight GMT Thursday 19 June 2025**

The Nominating Committee will be unable to consider candidates for whom information arrives after that time and date.

Thank you for your consideration and participation in this important process through which the leaders of the World Federation for Mental Health will be selected.

Included in this document you will find several items needing your attention.

Review all documents carefully, make sure everything is signed and that you include all supplemental material.

Thank you for your continued interest and engagement in the work of the World Federation for Mental Health.

Best wishes,

Professor Gabriel Ivbijaro MBE JP
Secretary-General WFMH

**WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH
CALL FOR CANDIDATES FOR NOMINATION
2025 – 2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Nominating Committee of the World Federation for Mental Health invites eligible individual members, life members, affiliate member organizations and voting member organizations to submit the names and relevant background information of potential candidates for nomination for election to the WFMH Board of Directors for the 2025-2027 term.

All required information for candidates must be received by the WFMH Secretary General Office no later than **Midnight GMT Thursday 19 June 2025**.

Submissions received after that date and time will not be considered.

Who May Submit Candidates for Consideration:

Candidates for consideration by the Nominating Committee for election to the WFMH Board of Directors may be submitted by:

- An official representative of a WFMH Voting Member Organization whose membership in WFMH is current at the time of submission may submit candidates residing in any country in which it operates.
- An official representative of a WFMH Affiliate Member Organization whose membership in WFMH is current at the time of submission may submit candidates residing in the country in which it operates.
- An Individual, Life Member of WFMH whose membership in good standing at the time of submission or current members of the WFMH Board of Directors may submit candidates residing in any country.

Eligibility for Consideration:

To be considered eligible for nomination to the election ballot, individuals must:

- Be a dues-paying Individual or Life Member of WFMH, with their annual dues current as of the date of submission of their candidacy to the Nominating Committee.
- Be in full agreement with, and willing to promote, the vision, mission, goals, and strategic objectives of WFMH.
- Have their candidacy submitted by an Individual, Life, Affiliate Member Organization, Voting Member Organization whose membership in WFMH is current at the time of submission, or by a current member of the WFMH Board of Directors.
- Be agreeable to having their name submitted for consideration of inclusion on the ballot of qualified candidates for election as a Board Member.

- Have signed the attached agreement of understanding and expectations of WFMH Board membership.
- Have no known conflicts of interest (personally or professionally) that would prevent active service on the WFMH Board and representation of WFMH on matters of policy and procedure.
- You will need to confirm if you are subject to any of the following:
 - A professional who is under investigation for professional misconduct, or has been found to be in breach of appropriate professional standards by the relevant professional body.
 - A subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order.
 - Dismissed (except by redundancy) by any Board or NGO role.
 - Have had an earlier term of appointment terminated.
 - Have been removed from trusteeship of a charity/NGO.
- Submit a personal statement of a maximum 1,000 words outlining:
 - Your relevant experience in mental health advocacy, education and awareness and your personal experience and perspective that you would bring to the WFMH.
 - List other organization and boards you have represented and any with the WFMH.
 - Current type and length of WFMH membership.
 - Why you are interested in serving on the Board of the WFMH?
 - Areas where you intend to contribute to the functioning and betterment of the WFMH (if you are or have been a WFMH Board Member, you must indicate any fulfilled contributions in these areas).
 - The specific skills that you wish to bring to WFMH.
 - How would you identify yourself – such as: Consumer, Family Member, Psychiatrists, MH professional, Administrator/Director of a mental health NGO, etc. Please list all that you believe you would use in your role as a WFMH Board Member.
 - As our organization is spread around the world, we have few opportunities to meet in person and much of our communication is done via email and web-based conference calls. Are you willing and able to participate in Board Meetings held at specific meeting sites, on conference calls and/or with email communication? Are there any issues that would prevent you from being available for any of these meetings?
- Submit an optional statement of a maximum of 150 words if you wish to be considered for any of the WFMH Executive Roles or Board Lead for Lived Experience to highlight the skills and expertise that you would like the Nominating Committee to take into account during their considerations.

How to Submit Candidates for Consideration by the Nominating Committee:

Individuals and organizations eligible to submit candidates for consideration should:

- Obtain the necessary signed agreement from the potential candidate to be nominated and, if elected, serve as a member of the WFMH Board of Directors.
- Complete the attached WFMH Candidate Information Form.
- Submit WFMH Candidate Information Form, along with the Candidate's Personal Statement and signed Agreement of Understanding of the Expectations of WFMH Board Membership, to the WFMH Secretariat **to be received no later than midnight GMT Thursday 19 June 2025.**

Where To Submit:

All completed and signed documents should be sent by E-mail to the Nominating Committee using the e- mail address below:

- WFMHvote2025@wfmh.global

**WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH
2025 – 2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORM**

Please complete all the required information below.

DETAILS OF PROPOSED CANDIDATE

Name:	
Position or title:	
Employer or organization:	
E-mail:	
Phone (include country code)	
Preferred mailing address:	
Headshot photograph	

CANDIDATE PERSONAL STATEMENT:

Please submit a 1000 word (max) personal statement taking into account the following:

- Your relevant experience in mental health advocacy, education and awareness and your personal experience and perspective that you would bring to the WFMH.
- Why you are interested in serving on the Board of the WFMH?
- List other organization and boards you have represented and any with the WFMH.
- Current type and length of WFMH membership
- Areas where you intend to contribute to the functioning and betterment of the WFMH (if you are or have been a WFMH Board Member, you must indicate any fulfilled contributions in these areas).
- How would you identify yourself – such as: Consumer, Family Member, Psychiatrists, MH professional, Administrator/Director of a mental health NGO, etc? Please list all that you believe you would use in your role as a WFMH Board Member.
- The specific skills that you wish to bring to WFMH.
- Willingness to participate in Board Meetings held at specific meeting sites, on conference calls and/or with email communication and
- Are there any issues that would prevent you from being available for any of these meetings?

Max 1000 words (any part of the submission over 1000 words will be discounted)

**Additional Considerations for the Nominating Committee to take into account:
(This box is optional)**

- If you wish to be considered for any of the WFMH Executive Roles or Board Lead for Lived Experience, please read the WFMH By-laws and use the space below to highlight the skills and expertise that you would like the Nominating Committee to take into account during their considerations.
- Use a maximum of 150 words

Max 150 words (any part of the submission over 150 words will be discounted)

CANDIDATE DECLARATION**I confirm the following:**

(Please tick each box that applies to you)

1. <input type="checkbox"/>	I am not a professional who is under investigation for professional misconduct, or has been found to be in breach of appropriate professional standards by the relevant professional body
2. <input type="checkbox"/>	I am not the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order
3. <input type="checkbox"/>	I have not been dismissed (except by redundancy) by any Board or NGO role
4. <input type="checkbox"/>	I have not had an earlier term of appointment terminated
5. <input type="checkbox"/>	I have not been removed from trusteeship of a charity/NGO

Signature of candidate to confirm consent to nomination and to confirm their candidate declaration

Date submitted:

DETAILS OF WFMH ASSOCIATION OR INDIVIDUAL MEMBER NOMINATING THE CANDIDATE:

Nominators Name:	
Nominator Details (please tick the box that applies to you in the first column and complete your details in the second column)	
1. <input type="checkbox"/>	Official Representative of a WFMH Voting Organization Organisation name: Title/Position:
2. <input type="checkbox"/>	Official Representative of a WFMH Affiliate Organization Organisation name: Title/Position:
3. <input type="checkbox"/>	Current WFMH Board of Directors Member, Life Member or Individual Member Title/Position:
Nominator e-mail address:	

Please be sure you supply the following information to return with this completed form:

- 1) A Curriculum Vitae
- 2) A personal statement of not more than 1000 words
- 3) A signed agreement of understanding and expectations of WFMH Board membership.
- 4) A headshot photograph

Submit the completed Candidate Information Form including the Candidate Personal Statement, signed Agreement of Understanding and Expectations of WFMH Board Membership and curriculum vitae to the WFMH Nominating Committee by e-mail to: WFMHvote2025@wfmh.global

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE WFMH SECRETARIAT NO LATER THAN MIDNIGHT GMT THURSDAY 19 JUNE 2025 TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE.

Board Candidate Personal Statement and Agreement of Understanding and Expectations of WFMH

Individuals who are willing to be considered for nomination for election to the Board of Directors of the World Federation for Mental Health are required to:

- Be a dues-paying Individual or Life Member of WFMH, with their annual dues current as of the date of submission of their candidacy to the Nominating Committee.
- Be in full agreement with, and willing to promote, the vision, mission, goals, and strategic objectives of WFMH.
- Have their candidacy submitted by an Individual, Life, Affiliate Member Organization, or Voting Member Organization whose membership in WFMH is current at the time of submission.
- Be agreeable to having their name submitted for consideration of inclusion on the ballot of qualified candidates for election as a Board Member.
- Have signed and submitted the attached Agreement of Understanding and Expectations of Board Membership.
- Have no known conflicts of interest (personally or professionally) that would prevent active service on the WFMH Board and representation of WFMH on matters of policy and procedure.
- Submit a personal statement of not more than 1000 words.
- Submit an optional statement of a maximum of 150 words if they wish to be considered for any of the WFMH Executive Roles or Board Lead for Lived Experience.

EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE WFMH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Board members shall support and develop the WFMH global mission and goals of improving the mental health of people everywhere.
- Board members shall abide by the by-laws and policy and procedures of the organization.
- Board members are required to attend regular and special Board meetings and the WFMH World Mental Health Congress (WFMH typically does not provide reimbursement of expenses for attendance at Board meetings or Congresses). Board members must be prepared to provide their own support for attending Board meetings.

- Board members are expected to attend an orientation session.
- Board members are required to participate actively on at least one committee if requested by the President.
- Board members are expected to contribute to the financial stability of the organization, including being a paid Individual or Life Member.
- Board members are expected to share their expertise with the organization
- Board members are expected to read all materials that are distributed and respond in a timely fashion
- Board members are expected to hold in confidence any restricted information given to them in their capacity as a member of the Board
- Board members are expected to take initiatives and to provide leadership as needed. and will be expected to participate actively in the World Federation's programs
- Board members are expected to declare any possible conflicts of interest and ask that the minutes so state
- Board members are expected to promote and encourage mental health organizations in their country, or in which they are active, to become members of WFMH

AGREEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND EXPECTATIONS OF WFMH BOARD MEMBERSHIP

I have been approached to have my name submitted as a candidate for nomination for election to the Board of Directors of the World Federation for Mental Health. I have read and meet the criteria for nomination, am in agreement with and support the Vision, Mission, Goals and Strategic Objectives of WFMH, and accept the Expectations of a Member of the WFMH Board of Directors. To the best of my knowledge, I have no current or foreseen conflicts of interests that would prevent my active service on the WFMH Board and representation of WFMH on matters of policy, program, and procedure. I agree to be considered for nomination and agree to serve if elected, assuming all of the responsibilities of the position.

I have provided a Personal Statement (of not more than 1000 words) to be submitted along with the Candidate Information Form and Agreement of Understanding and Expectations of WFMH Board Membership and an optional statement (of not more than 150 words).

Signature	
Name (Type or Print)	
Date	

2023-2025 WFMH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT AFRICA
Tsuyoshi Akiyama	Toluse Francis
PRESIDENT ELECT	REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT ASIA PACIFIC
Sabine Bährer-Kohler	Roy Kallivayalil
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN
Nasser Loza	Nabila Makram
TREASURER	REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT EUROPE
Allan Tasman	Roberto Mezzina
CORPORATE SECRETARY	REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT LATIN AMERICA
Brigitte Khoury	Silvia Raggi
VICE PRESIDENT CONSTITUENCY DEVELOPMENT	REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT NORTH AMERICA/CARIBBEAN
Lucja Kolkiewicz	Allan Tasman
VICE PRESIDENT PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT	REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OCEANIA
Johannes John-Langba	Neeraj Gill

DIRECTORS AT LARGE	
Juan Carlos Fantin	Julie Millard
Nayla Grace	Ally Salama
Michael Kariuki	Viktor Vus
Elizabeth King	

2021-2023 WFMH LEADERSHIP

The following is a list of current officers, regional vice-presidents and directors-at-large comprising the 2021-2023 WFMH Board of Directors.

2021-2023 OFFICERS:		
President	Nasser Loza	Egypt
Immediate Past President	Ingrid Daniels	South Africa
President Elect	Tsuyoshi Akiyama	Japan
Treasurer	Andrew Mohanraj	Malaysia
Corporate Secretary	Silvia Raggi	Argentina
VP for Programme Development	Roberto Mezzina	Italy
VP for Constituency Development	Sunil Mittal	India
2021-2023 REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS		
Africa	Johannes John-Langba	South Africa
Asia Pacific	Roy Kallivayalil	India
Eastern Mediterranean	Brigitte Khoury	Lebanon
Europe	Jukka Karkkainen	Finland
Latin America	Fernando Lolas Stepke	Chile
North America/Caribbean	Allan Tasman	USA
Oceania	Julie Millard	Australia
2021-2023 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:		
Spyros Zorbas (Board Lead Lived Experience)	Greece	
Shu-Jen Lu	Taiwan	
Juan Carlos Fantin	Argentina	
Mehnaz Zafar	UAE	
Sabine Bahrer-Kohler	Switzerland	
Indira Sharma	India	
Unaiza Niaz	Pakistan	
Viktor Vus	Ukraine	
SECRETARY GENERAL /CEO:		
Gabriel Ivbijaro	UK	

2019 -2021 WFMH LEADERSHIP

The following is a list of previous officers, regional vice-presidents and directors-at-large comprising the 2019-2021 WFMH Board of Directors.

2019-2021 OFFICERS		
President	Ingrid Daniels	South Africa
Immediate Past President	Alberto Trimboli	Argentina
President Elect	Nasser Loza	Egypt
Treasurer	Henk Parmentier	UK
Corporate Secretary	Tracey Bone	Canada
VP for Programme Development	Michael Burge	Australia
VP for Constituency Development	Michael Kariuki	Kenya
2019-2021 REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS:		
Africa	Sarah Tushemereirewe	Uganda
Asia Pacific	Shu-Jen Lu	Taiwan
Europe	Roberto Mezzina	Italy
Latin America	Juan Carlos Fantin	Argentina
North America/Caribbean	Andrew Berry	USA
Oceania	Julie Millard	Australia
2019 – 2021 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE		
Porsche Poh	Singapore	
Silvia Raggi	Argentina	
L Patt Franciosi	USA	
Toluse Francis	Nigeria	
Spyros Zorbas	Greece	
Sunil Mittal	India	
Ana de Sousa Baptista	Portugal	
Yoram Cohen	Israel	
Anna Gray	USA	
Arushi Sethi	India	
Andrew Mohanraj	Malaysia	
SECRETARY GENERAL /CEO:		
Gabriel Ivbijaro	UK	

2017-2019 WFMH LEADERSHIP

The following is a list of previous officers, regional vice-presidents and directors-at-large comprising the 2017-2019 WFMH Board of Directors.

2017-2019 OFFICERS		
President	Alberto Trimboli	Argentina
Immediate Past President	Gabriel Ivbijaro	UK
President Elect	Ingrid Daniels	South Africa
Treasurer	Janet Paleo	USA
Corporate Secretary	Yoram Cohen	Israel
VP for Programme Development	Abd Malak	Australia
VP for Constituency Development	Tracey Bone	
2017-2019 REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS		
Africa	Joseph Atukunda	Uganda
Asia Pacific	Suchada Sakornsatian	Thailand
Eastern Mediterranean	Nasser Loza	Egypt
Europe	Henk Parmentier	UK
Latin America	Hugo Cohen	Argentina
North America/Caribbean	Jeffrey Geller	USA
Oceania	Michael Burge	Australia
2017 – 2019 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE		
Naseer Babkerkhail	Afghanistan	
Chueh Chang	Taiwan	
John Copeland	UK	
Ana de Souza Baptista	Portugal	
Patt Franciosi	USA	
Michael Kariuki Kamau	Kenya	
Julie Millard	Australia	
Filipa Palha	Portugal	
Robert van Voren	The Netherlands	
Spyros Zorbas	Greece	

2015-2017 WFMH LEADERSHIP

The following is a list of previous officers, regional vice-presidents and directors-at-large comprising the 2015-2017 WFMH Board of Directors.

2015-2017 OFFICERS		
President	Gabriel Ivbijaro	UK
Immediate Past President	George Christodoulou	Greece
President Elect	Larry Cimino	USA
Treasurer	Janet Paleo	USA
Corporate Secretary	Porsche Poh	Singapore
VP for Programme Development	Ingrid Daniels	South Africa
VP for Constituency Development	Robert van Voren	The Netherlands
VP for Government Affairs	Ellen Mercer	USA
2015-2017 REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS		
Africa	Shona Sturgeon	South Africa
Asia Pacific	Suchada Sakornsatian	Thailand
Europe	Filipa Paha	Portugal
Latin America	Hugo Cohen	Argentina
North America/Caribbean	Patt Franciosi	USA
Oceania	Abd Malak	Australia
2015 – 2017 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE		
Chueh Chang	Taiwan	
Yoram Cohen	Israel	
John Copeland	UK	
Mahesan Ganesan	Sri Lanka	
Jeffery Geller	USA	
Nasser Loza	Egypt	
Soumitra Pathare	India	
Henk Parmentier	UK	
Spyros Zorbas	Greece	

2013-2015 WFMH LEADERSHIP

The following is a list of previous officers, regional vice-presidents and directors-at-large comprising the 2013-2015 WFMH Board of Directors.

2013-2015 OFFICERS		
President	George Christodoulou	Greece
Immediate Past President	Deborah Wan	Hong Kong
President Elect	Gabriel Ivbijaro	UK
Treasurer	Helen Millar	UK
Corporate Secretary	Larry Cimino	USA
VP for Programme Development	Ellen Mercer	USA
VP for Constituency Development	Mohammed Abou-Saleh	UK
2013-2015 REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS		
Africa	Shona Sturgeon	South Africa
Asia Pacific	Porsche Poh	Singapore
Europe	Robert van Voren	The Netherlands
Latin America	Alberto Trimboli	Argentina
North America/Caribbean	Jeffery Geller	USA
Oceania	Abd Malak	Australia
2013 – 2015 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE		
Tsuyoshi Akiyama	Japan	
Suchada Sakornsatian	Thailand	
John Copeland	UK	
Marita Ruohonen	Finland	
Sonia Chehil	India	
Patt Franciosi	USA	
Janet Paleo	USA	
Kathy Pike	USA	

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2025-2027

Nasser Loza	Voting Member & Chair	Eastern Mediterranean
Ingrid Daniels	Voting Member	Africa
Deborah Wan	Voting Member	Asia Pacific
Henk Parmentier	Voting Member	Europe
Fernando Lolas	Voting Member	Latin America
Patt Franciosi	Voting Member	North America/Caribbean
Abd Malik	Voting Member	Oceania
Gabriel Ivbijaro	Secretary General / Member	
Advisers		
Tsuyoshi Akiyama	President	
Sabine Bährer-Kohler	President-Elect	

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2023-2025

Name	Role	Region
Ingrid Daniels	Voting Member & Chair	Africa
Alberto Trimboli	Voting Member	Latin America
Deborah Wan	Voting Member	Asia Pacific
Henk Parmentier	Voting Member	Europe
Ellen Mercer	Voting Member	North America/Caribbean
Abd Malik	Voting Member	Oceania
Gabriel Ivbijaro	Secretary General/ Member	
Advisers		
Nasser Loza	President (Eastern Mediterranean)	
Tsuyoshi Akiyama	President-Elect (Asia Pacific)	

WFMH NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2021-2023

Name	Role	Region
Alberto Trimboli	Voting Member & Chair	Latin America
Deborah Wan	Voting Member	Asia Pacific
Ahmed Gamal Abou El Azayam	Voting Member	Eastern Mediterranean
Felicien Enyime	Voting Member	Africa
Henk Parmentier	Voting Member	Europe
Ellen Mercer	Voting Member	North America & Caribbean
Abd Malik	Voting Member	Oceania
Gabriel Ivbijaro	Secretary General/ Member	Europe
Advisers		
Ingrid Daniels	President (Africa)	
Nasser Loza	President-Elect (Eastern Mediterranean)	

WFMH NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2015-2017

Name	Role	Region
Deborah Wan	Voting Member & Chair	
Pirkko Lahti	Voting Member	
Dick Studer	Voting Member	
Brian Robertson	Voting Member	
Gabriela Camara	Voting Member	
Chueh Chang	Voting Member	
Advisers		
	President	
	President-Elect	

AFRICA

Angola
Benin
Botswana
Burundi
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Congo
Equatorial Guinea
Ethiopia
Gabon
Gambia
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Ivory Coast
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Madagascar
Malawi
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mozambique
Namibia
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
South Africa
Swaziland
Tanzania
Togo
Republic of Cameroon
Republic of Tanzania
Zaire
Zambia
Zimbabwe

ASIA PACIFIC

Bangladesh
Cambodia
China
Hong Kong SAR
India
Indonesia
Japan
Lao Democratic
Malaysia
North Korea
Maldives
Mongolia
Nepal
Philippines
Singapore
South Korea
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Taiwan

Viet Nam

**EASTERN
MEDITERRANEAN**

Afghanistan
Algeria
Bahrain
Cyprus
Democratic Yemen
Djibouti
Egypt
Iran
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Morocco
Oman
Palestinian Territories
Pakistan
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Somalia
Sudan
Syrian Arab Republic
Tunisia
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

EUROPE

Albania
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia
Bulgaria
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Netherlands
Norway
Poland

Romania
Russian Federation
San Marino
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Tajikistan
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Ukraine
United Kingdom
Uzbekistan
Yugoslavia

LATIN AMERICA

Argentina
Belize
Bolivia
Brazil
Cayenne
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
El Salvador
Guatemala
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Paraguay
Peru
Puerto Rico
Suriname

**NORTH AMERICA &
ENGLISH CARIBBEAN**

Bahamas
Bermuda
Canada
Cayman Islands
Guam
Jamaica
Leeward Islands
Trinidad & Tobago
United States
Virgin Islands
Windward Islands

Oceania

Australia
New Zealand
Papua New Guinea
Fiji
Samoa
Tonga
Cook Islands
New Caledonia

WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH 2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Date	Activity
8 May 2025	Global call for candidates to submit their applications
21 May 2025	Nomination Committee Chairs Bulletin
Midnight GMT 19 June 2025	Nominations closed
20 June 2025	Application packs to be shared with Nomination Committee Members
23 June 2025	Applicant screening process initiated (may include video-conference call interviews)
7 July 2025	Applicant screening process complete
10 July 2025	Electronic ballot to Electoral College
Midnight GMT 7 August 2025	Ballot closed
8 August 2025	WFMH Nominating Committee Members informed of outcome of election
26 August 2025	WFMH Nominating Committee Meeting to agree 2025-2027 Slate
27 August 2025	Candidates to be informed of outcome
28 August 2025	Current WFMH Board Members informed of result
29 August 2025	Election outcome published on WFMH website
Date to be confirmed	Virtual/in-Person Assembly Meeting /AGM & installation of new officers