



Fisheries
Transparency
Initiative

FiTI Board Circular

Board Circular No. 10

ID: BC-10_2022

Requested by: FiTI Chair
Submitted by: FiTI International Secretariat
Submitted on: 28.04.2022
Decided on: 11.05.2022

Preamble

In accordance with article 15 of the constitution of the association of the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (as of 13 May 2021), *'the FiTI International Board shall make urgent decisions between Board Meetings, based on Board Circulars.'*

Purpose of this Circular

The purpose of this Circular is fourfold:

- 1) Electing Dr. Annika Mackensen as a member of the FiTI association;
- 2) Shortlisting Mr. Alfredo Sfeir as a candidate for membership in the FiTI association;
- 3) Adopting the procedure for the 2021 membership election to the FiTI association for future and permanent use; and
- 4) Concluding the 2021 election and initiating the 2022 election process.

1) Electing Dr. Annika Mackensen as a member of the FiTI association

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) submitted Dr. Annika Mackensen's nomination. The FiTI Election Committee (comprising of Ylva Mattsson, Valeria Merino, Alfred Schumm) determined that Dr. Mackensen fulfilled all the requisites established in the procedure for the 2021 membership election to the FiTI association.¹ The Committee also requested the FiTI International Board to shortlist and authorize an interview with the nominee. This was approved by the Board through Board Circular No. 9 (Decision-ID: BC-09_2022_D-01) on 15 March 2022.

Afterwards, members of the Election Committee participated in a one hour and a half conversation with Annika and were pursued that she would bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the FiTI International Board.

She is a small-scale fisheries specialist with over ten years of experience in international fisheries contexts, with governmental agencies as well as non-governmental organizations, experiences on the ground, and working in research. She is currently working at the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in Germany, as their Advisor on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture.

¹ The sole responsibility of members is to serve in the FiTI International Board.

Annika has an excellent professional and personal reputation, regarded as results-oriented, serious, and dependable. She is recognized as a deep listener, capable of finding common ground and securing support across the government for the improvement and sustainability of the fisheries sector. She is also a member of several international bodies and committees on marine fisheries. Furthermore, Annika is deemed a person with a deep understanding of systemic issues and with a holistic view of sustainable development.

Annika holds a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) from the Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT) and a Master of Science (M.Sc.). She speaks English, German, Spanish, and French.

Decision required_#1: Does the FiTI International Board approve the election of Dr. Annika Mackensen as a member of the FiTI association (stakeholder group: Government sector) for a first term from 12th of May 2022 to 11th of May 2025?

It is noted that before formally taking office, any new member of the FiTI association will be asked to provide up to three references, some of which will be contacted by the FiTI Chair. If the feedback from the referees does not dispute a candidate's suitability, the election process will be considered complete, and the results will be publicly announced.

2) Shortlisting Mr. Alfredo Sfeir as a candidate for membership in the FiTI association

Shellcatch Inc. submitted Mr. Alfredo Sfeir's nomination to become a member of the FiTI association as part of the Business sector stakeholder group (Large-scale fisheries). The Election Committee determined that Mr. Sfeir fulfilled all the requisites established in the [Procedure for the 2021 membership election to the FiTI association](#).

With this Board Circular, the Election Committee is submitting to the FiTI International Board several documents supporting this nomination. Among them is his complete nomination packet, including his CV, cover and nomination letters, and profile form. Furthermore, the **Form for Shortlisting Evaluation** of this nominee and the **Tracking Document for Candidate Applications**, which consists of a summary of the main areas of this nomination that have been assessed, are attached as well.

Alfredo's entire professional career and business have been devoted to establishing sustainable fisheries' human, institutional, economic, and social foundations. His experience and goals have included:

- i. the establishment of collaborative partnerships and regional transparency ocean initiatives with key actors (fishers, government, NGOs, universities, and business corporations);

- ii. the identification, design, and implementation of sustainable development activities, policy-related data for the entire fisheries sector lifecycle, including technological development, certification implementation, marketing, and performance indicators; and
- iii. the design and implementation of institutional and social structures conducive to attaining the objectives and goals of marine fisheries sustainability, to increase the transparency and participation in governance, and to enhance the fisheries' contribution to human welfare in over 14 countries.

Alfredo holds a Master's in Economics from the University of Essex. He speaks English and Spanish.

Additional information about this nominee not included in the above-mentioned documentation:

Shellcatch Inc. created the world's first artisanal fishing and seafood electronic monitoring system, now also connected to an online seafood marketplace that monitors the entire fishing and processing cycle (Frescapesca.com). Alfredo's primary focus has been to address the fundamental mismatch between how organisations monitor fishing activity, how fishers sell their product, and how consumers actually want to shop and buy these products, which hinders sustainability. This platform is currently being used by over 3,000 vessels in 16 countries. Alfredo was personally responsible for raising funding from foundations and institutional investors. To that end, he developed a support network of multilateral organisations, NGOs, and government partners; among them the governments of Chile, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Ecuador, and Belize, IDB Labs, The Nature Conservancy, David and Lucile Packard Foundation, The World Wildlife Fund, Rockefeller Foundation, Technical University of Denmark, Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación, The Walton Foundation, Niparaja Mexico, Prodelphinus Perú, Conservación Conciencia Caribbean, Advanced Conservation Strategies, Fondo de Fomento para la Pesca Artisanal, among others. Alfredo has been recognized internationally for his contributions and innovations in improving transparency and management of fisheries to ensure sustainability. Also, he has been a scholar fellow with the Aspen Institute and has been invited to address over one hundred audiences in fourteen countries over the past eight years. He has talked about social entrepreneurship, supply chain development, and the oceans' future on those occasions. His work is expanding to new fisheries in Chile, Mexico, Ecuador, Belize, and Peru, with new prospects in Central America, the Caribbean, and Southeast Asia. Alfredo and his team have implemented workshops for hundreds of fisherfolks and currently ramping out partnerships in the countries Shellcatch already operates.

Decision required_#2: Does the FiTI International Board approve the shortlisting of Mr. Alfredo Sfeir (nominated by Shellcatch Inc.) as a candidate for membership in the FiTI association, as part of the Business Sector stakeholder group (large-scale fisheries)?

With the decision, the Election Committee is also authorised to conduct an interview and decide, if it is appropriate to submit this candidate to the FiTI International Board for a final decision on his designation.

3) Adopting the procedure for the 2021 membership election to the FiTI association for future and permanent use

The FiTI International Board approved the [Procedure for the 2021 membership election to the FiTI association](#) on 15 July 2021 (further updated on 10 September 2021). The FiTI International Board approved that any new Board Member nominations received until May 31, 2022, to fill any vacant seats should follow the procedure already agreed for 2021.

As the approved procedure for the membership election to the FiTI association has worked quite well so far, it is proposed that the general procedures will be used for future elections of members to the FiTI association and only time-bound parameters, such as the number of vacant membership seats or milestones of the election process, will be adjusted.

Decision required_#3: Does the FiTI International Board adopt the procedure for the 2021 membership election to the FiTI association as the general procedure for future elections of members until the FiTI International Board deems it appropriate to amend such procedure?²

4) Concluding the 2021 election and initiating the 2022 election process

At the end of May 2022, the 2021 election process will be officially closed. Afterwards, it is planned that the Election Committee will conduct the procedures for the 2022 election process. The process will follow the procedure approved in 2021 (see above).

Decision required_#4: Does the FiTI International Board approve that the Board's Election Committee conducts the 2022 membership election process for the FiTI association, starting 1st of June 2022?

The FiTI Chair – under the current rules – can request additional Board Members to join this Election Committee, which is in charge of facilitating the selection process. It is planned that the FiTI Chair will expand the Election Committee to five members, including herself.

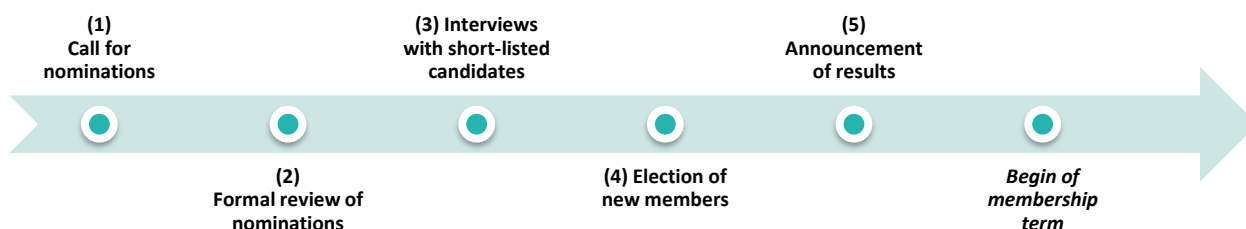
² The document title and any other sections would be amended to reflect this decision accordingly.

Furthermore, it is noted that the key parameters and milestones for the upcoming 2022 election will be as follows:

A total of *12-14 membership seats*³ should be filled, distributed as follows:

Stakeholder Group	Vacant membership seats
Government sector	4-5 membership seats
Business sector	2-3 membership seats for individuals from large-scale/industrial organisations along the marine fisheries value chain
	1 membership seat for individuals from small-scale/artisanal organisations along the marine fisheries value chain
Social sector	5 membership seats

The term for the newly elected members will be *three years*, from 1 January 2023 until 31 December 2025.



Process step	Date
(1) Call for nominations	15 June – 31 August 2022
(2) Formal review of nominations	1 September – 30 September 2022
(3) Interviews with short-listed candidates	1 October – 31 October 2022
(4) Election of new members	1 November – 15 November 2022
(5) Announcement of results	16 November – 30 November 2022
Begin of membership term (2023 – 2025)	1 January 2023

³ The exact number of vacant membership seats depends on the FiTI International Board's decisions regarding the nominations of Dr. Annika Mackensen and Mr. Alfredo Sfeir.

Due date for this Board Circular

Eligible Board Members must reply to this Board Circular no later than **Wednesday, 11 May 2022** in writing (via email) and cannot assign a proxy.

Decision making procedures for this Board Circular

In accordance with the constitution of the FiTI, Article 15 (5), *“Decisions requested through Board Circulars are adopted by qualified majority requiring the support of three quarter of the total number of members and must include the support of at least two members from each stakeholder group.”*

The provisions of Article 14 (13-16) apply to the decision-making procedures through Board Circulars. As the current total number of members is not equally distributed among the stakeholder groups stated in Article 8 of the constitution, not every member has one vote. Instead, the voting power is determined on a pro-rated system, ensuring that all stakeholder groups have equal voting power.

As there is no apparent conflict of interest for this Board Circular, the pro-rated voting powers for this 10th Board Circular of the FiTI International Board is as follows:

Stakeholder group	Number of voting members	Voting power per member
Government sector	4	1.5
Business sector	5	1.2
Social sector	5	1.2

This Board Circular is adopted if at least 13.5 votes support this decision, including 2 members from each stakeholder group.

Results protocol: Approval / Denial of Circular

The Board Circular was sent on 28 April 2022 to all eligible Board Members. The following results were recorded:

Name:	Stakeholder Group:	Sent on:	Responded on:	Decision 1 - Approval?	Voting power:	Decision 2 - Approval?	Voting power:	Decision 3 - Approval?	Voting power:	Decision 4 - Approval?	Voting power:
Andriamahefazafy, Mialy	Government sector	28.04.2022	06.05.2022	Yes	1.5	Yes	1.5	Yes	1.5	Yes	1.5
Mattson, Ylva	Government sector	28.04.2022	04.05.2022	Yes	1.5	Yes	1.5	Yes	1.5	Yes	1.5
Michaud, Philippe	Government sector	28.04.2022	02.05.2022	Yes	1.5	Yes	1.5	Yes	1.5	Yes	1.5
Nany, Mohamed Salem	Government sector	28.04.2022									
Andre, Keith	Business sector	08.03.2022	09.05.2022	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2
Biryukov, Alexander	Business sector	28.04.2022									
Govan, Hugh	Business sector	08.03.2022	06.05.2022	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2
Leotte, Francisco	Business sector	28.04.2022	10.05.2022	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2
Gueye, Gaoussou	Business sector	28.04.2022	10.05.2022	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2
Mari, Francisco	Social sector	28.04.2022	11.05.2022	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2
Nech, Nedwa Moctar	Social sector	28.04.2022	06.05.2022	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2
Schumm, Alfred	Social sector	28.04.2022	02.05.2022	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2
Rolon, Eduardo	Social sector	28.04.2022	06.05.2022	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2
Senhoury, Ahmed	Social sector	28.04.2022	08.05.2022	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2	Yes	1.2

Approval of Circular - Rule I: At least 13.5 votes in favour of supporting the decision:

15.3
3
4
5

15.3
3
4
5

15.3
3
4
5

15.3
3
4
5

Approval of Circular - Rule II: At least 2x 'Yes' from stakeholder group 'Government':

At least 2x 'Yes' from stakeholder group 'Business':

At least 2x 'Yes' from stakeholder group 'Social':

Based on these responses, the following decisions have been determined:

Decision [BC-10_2022_D-01]:

The FiTI International Board approved the election of Dr. Annika Mackensen (nominated by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)) as a member of the FiTI association (Stakeholder group: Government sector) for a first term from 23rd of May 2022 to 22th of May 2025.

Decision [BC-10_2022_D-02]:

The FiTI International Board approved the shortlisting of Mr. Alfredo Sfeir (nominated by Shellcatch Inc.) as a candidate for membership in the FiTI association, as part of the Business Sector stakeholder group (large-scale fisheries).

Decision [BC-10_2022_D-03]:

The FiTI International Board approved the adoption of the procedure for the 2021 membership election to the FiTI association as the general procedure for future elections of members until the FiTI International Board deems it appropriate to amend such procedures.

Decision [BC-10_2022_D-04]:

The FiTI International Board approved that the Board's Election Committee conducts the 2022 membership election process for the FiTI association, starting 1st of June 2022.

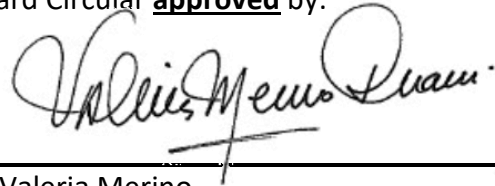
Board Circular **provided** by:



Mr Sven Biermann

Secretary of the Board Circular; Executive Director
of the FiTI International Secretariat

Board Circular **approved** by:



Dr Valeria Merino

Chair of the FiTI International Board.