

Governing Body

343rd Session, Geneva, November 2021

Programme, Financial and Administrative Section

PFA

Programme, Financial and Administrative Segment

Date: 1 October 2021

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Sixth item on the agenda

Other financial matters: Appointments to the Investments Committee of the International Labour Organization

1. The Investments Committee of the International Labour Organization was established in 1946 to provide guidance on the investments of the ILO Staff Pension Fund. This Fund, which was replaced by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, is now exhausted. The Committee also provides independent advice to the Office on the investment and management of its financial assets and on related banking matters. Consultation with the Investments Committee is also provided for in paragraph 4 of article VI of the Statute of the International Training Centre of the ILO, regarding the investment of the funds of the Centre.
2. The Investments Committee is an advisory body appointed by the Governing Body and its members serve on a pro bono basis. The members of the Committee are Mr René Zagolin, Mr Xavier Guillon and Mr Max Bärtsch, who have served on the Committee since March 2006, March 2009 and November 2011, respectively. All three members have indicated their willingness to continue serving the Organization and it is proposed that their mandate be renewed for a further period of four years. A brief summary of their updated profiles is shown in the appendix to this document.

▶ Draft decision

- 3. The Governing Body renewed the appointment of Mr René Zagolin, Mr Xavier Guillon and Mr Max Bärtsch as members of the Investments Committee for a further period of four years, expiring on 31 December 2025.**

▶ Appendix

Updated profiles of the Investments Committee members

René Zagolin (Swiss)

Holding a degree in Economic Sciences from the University of Neuchâtel and a federal certification in provident insurance management, René Zagolin has worked for more than 30 years in corporate financial management, provident insurance and institutional real estate.

He was Head of Finance and Administration for ten years at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), then Director of the ICRC's Pension Fund from 2006 to 2016. He previously served as Financial Controller for Carrefour, then as Treasurer at Philip Morris in Switzerland. He has also served as a board member of various foundations.

He is the Chairman of the ICRC's Investments Committee and currently sits on the Board of Directors of Climber Capital SA, of Edmond de Rothschild REIM (Suisse) SA and of the Edmond de Rothschild Real Estate SICAV.

Xavier Guillon (French)

Xavier Guillon is a Partner, Member of the Executive Committee and Head of DECALIA Funds & Business Development.

Xavier Guillon joined DECALIA SA in 2015 as Partner & Member of the Executive Committee. Established in Geneva, DECALIA SA is a private and institutional investment management company. He is also a board member of the Alliance of Swiss Wealth Managers (ASWM) since 2017 and a member of the Investments Committee of the International Labour Organization (ILO) since 2009. Prior to joining DECALIA, Xavier Guillon worked at Banque SYZ for eight years, where he held several functions, including CEO of OYSTER Funds and member of SYZ Group's Executive Committee. He also worked for 14 years at US private bank Brown Brothers Harriman, in London and New York, heading Institutional Sales. Xavier Guillon holds an MBA in International Marketing and BBA in International Business from George Washington University in Washington DC.

Max Bärtsch (Swiss)

Max Bärtsch is an independent financial consultant based in Switzerland, providing advice on wealth management and financial markets. Prior to his current role, Mr Bärtsch spent some 30 years working in international financial markets and banking with various financial institutions, including the Banque Cantonale de Genève, the Swiss Bank Corporation and Lloyds Bank Plc. Positions he held included Head of Financial Markets and Treasury and Managing Director for Short-term Interest Rates Activities. Max Bärtsch, a Swiss national, has diplomas from the Management Centre Europe in Brussels and the Swiss Mercantile Society London.