Appointment of the Secretary-General
Selected Online Resources

Appointment Process

Ask DAG! (Dag Hammarskjöld Library - Frequently Asked Questions about the UN)
How is the Secretary-General of the United Nations appointed?
How is the Secretary-General of the United Nations chosen?
http://ask.un.org/faq/97048

Press Releases

- General Assembly adopts 5 Resolutions, 3 Decisions, including text urging states to consider need for Woman Secretary-General (GA/12523, 1 September 2023):

Official Documents

  https://undocs.org/A/77/942
  Submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/325.
  "Annex: Updated inventory chart of General Assembly resolutions on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, issued pursuant to resolution 75/325": p. 24-99.

Looking Back: Appointment Process 2021

President of the 75th Session of the General Assembly: Selection and Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

- Letter from the President of the General Assembly circulating a draft resolution regarding the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (15 June 2021):

- Letter from the President of the General Assembly conveying transmitting the recommendation by the UN Security Council in the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General (8 June 2021):

- Letter from the President of the General Assembly conveying written answers to additional questions posed to Mr Antonio Guterres during the informal interactive dialogue with Member States on 7 May 2021 (27 May 2021):
• Letter from the President of the General Assembly conveying the format for the informal interactive
dialogue with candidates for the position of Secretary-General (26 April 2021):
• Letter from the President of the General Assembly on the selection and appointment of the Secretary-
General, transmitting the vision statement from the incumbent and conveying the date for the informal
• Joint letter from the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council
regarding the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General (5 February 2021):
process.pdf
• Letter from the President of the General Assembly on the selection and appointment of the Secretary-
General, containing communications from the incumbent (11 January 2021):

Official Documents

• A/RES/75/286: Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations: Resolution
adopted by the General Assembly on 18 June 2021: http://undocs.org/A/RES/75/286
• A/75/912 (8 June 2021): Letter dated 8 June 2021 from the President of the Security
Council to the President of the General Assembly: http://undocs.org/A/75/912
Reports that the Security Council, at its 8789th meeting, held in private on 8 June 2021, adopted by acclamation
resolution 2580 (2021) which recommends to the General Assembly that António Guterres be appointed Secretary-
General of the UN for a 2nd term of office from 1 Jan. 2022 to 31 Dec. 2026.
• A/75/902 (1 June 2021): Request for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of
the 75th session: appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations: letter dated
1 June 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly:
http://undocs.org/A/75/902
• A/75/780-S/2021/179 (25 February 2021): Letter dated 5 February 2021 from the
President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council addressed to all
Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations:
http://undocs.org/A/75/780
Invites Member States to present candidates for the selection and appointment of the next Secretary-General of
the UN.
• S/2021/27 (11 January 2021): Letter dated 11 January 2021 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council: http://undocs.org/S/2021/27
Informs that António Guterres stands ready to serve a 2nd term as Secretary-General.
• A/RES/69/321 (22 September 2015): Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly:
resolution / adopted by the General Assembly: http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/321
para 32-44: Selection of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

Further documents – click here

UN News Centre

• António Guterres secures second term as UN Secretary-General, calls for new era of
• António Guterres nominated by Security Council for second term as UN chief (8 June 2021):
• Informal dialogue on UN chief selection process gets underway (7 May 2021):
• Guterres to seek second five-year term as UN Secretary-General (11 January 2021):
Non-UN Sources

- **1 for 7 Billion**
  2021 selection process underway with incumbent standing for a second term
  [http://www.1for7billion.org/](http://www.1for7billion.org/)


**President of the 70th Session of the General Assembly:**
**Procedure of Selecting and Appointing the next UN Secretary-General**
The letters submitted by Member States for presenting candidates for the position of the next United Nations Secretary-General are published here and videos on the selection progress can be viewed.

**UN Pulse** (Dag Hammarskjöld Library)
**United Nations Secretary-General: Did You Know?**
Did you know a new Secretary-General will be appointed in 2016?
[https://tmblr.co/ZE4p7x23rYYFD](https://tmblr.co/ZE4p7x23rYYFD)

**United Nations Blog - Selecting the United Nations Secretary-General**
(7 January 2016)
explains the appointment process by discussing the questions how the Secretary-General is selected, who were the previous Secretaries-General and who will be the next Secretary-General; also lists fun facts and links to further information

**UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS)**
**Civil society: Propose questions for UN Secretary-General Candidates**
The President of the General Assembly (PGA) is organizing informal dialogues between UN Member States and SG candidates starting in April 2016.
The Office of the PGA has requested UN-NGLS to facilitate a process with civil society to provide questions that can be asked to candidates during these dialogues.

Official Documents

- **A/71/531** (7 October 2016): Letter dated 6 October 2016 from the President of the Security Council to the President of the General Assembly: [http://undocs.org/A/71/531](http://undocs.org/A/71/531)
  Reports that the Security Council, at its 7782nd meeting, held in private on 6 Oct. 2016, adopted by acclamation resolution 2311 (2016) which recommends to the General Assembly that António Guterres be appointed Secretary-General of the UN for a term of office from 1 Jan. 2017 to 31 Dec. 2021.
on recommendation that António Guterres be appointed Secretary-General of the UN for a term of office from 1 Jan. 2017 to 31 Dec. 2021

Invites Member States to present candidates for the selection and appointment of the next Secretary-General of the United Nations.

**UN News Centre**


• António Guterres, the next United Nations Secretary-General (Photo Story): http://bit.ly/2ehFCK


• Portugal's António Guterres emerges as favourite for next UN Secretary-General (5 October 2016): https://news.un.org/en/story/2016/10/541942

• Selecting the next UN Secretary-General: Informal briefings reopen (3 October 2016): https://news.un.org/en/story/2016/10/541722

• INTERVIEW: Selection of next UN Secretary-General has been game-changing process, says outgoing General Assembly President (8 September 2016): https://news.un.org/en/story/2016/09/538582-interview-selection-next-un-secretary-general-has-been-game-changing-process


• Selecting the next Secretary-General: UN to hold townhall meeting with candidates (12 July 2016): https://news.un.org/en/story/2016/07/534272

• Selecting the next UN Secretary-General: informal briefings reopen (7 June 2016): https://news.un.org/en/story/2016/06/531442


• General Assembly President announces meeting dates for UN Secretary-General candidates (26 February 2016): https://news.un.org/en/story/2016/02/523172

• For first time in history, selection of next UN Secretary-General will include input from all Member States (15 December 2015): https://news.un.org/en/story/2015/12/518272
Non-UN Sources

- **Security Council Report: Appointment of the Secretary-General**
  "What's in Blue – Insights on the work of the Security Council" and special research reports

- **1 for 7 Billion: 2016 Candidates and Straw Polls**
  [http://www.1for7billion.org/2016-candidates](http://www.1for7billion.org/2016-candidates)
  A global campaign supported by organisations and individuals from all corners of the globe committed to getting the best UN Secretary-General.