



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
21 November 2022

Original: English

---

## Commission for Social Development

### Sixty-first session

6–15 February 2023

Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Programme questions and other matters: United Nations**

**Research Institute for Social Development**

## Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

### Note by the Secretary-General

1. The functions of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, which are set out in paragraph 3 of document [ST/SGB/126](#) of 1 August 1963 and in its addenda, are:

(a) To lay down general rules governing the action of the Institute in matters entrusted to it;

(b) To review and approve work programmes and the relevant budgets of the Institute;

(c) To submit regularly to the Commission for Social Development a progress report on the work of the Institute.

2. At present, the Board is composed of:

(a) A Chair, appointed by the Secretary-General;

(b) Six members nominated by the Commission for Social Development and confirmed by the Economic and Social Council (with four seats left vacant);

(c) A representative of the Secretary-General;

(d) Representatives of selected United Nations specialized agencies, departments and regional entities who participate as observers;

(e) The Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, ex officio.

3. The term of office of the members of the Board referred to in paragraph 2 (b) above is four years, renewable once for a further period of two years.

4. In July 2021, the Secretary-General signalled his approval of the appointment of Azita Berar-Awad (Iran (Islamic Republic of)/Switzerland) as Chair of the Board.

---

\* [E/CN.5/2023/1](#).



The appointment was for an initial period of four years, from July 2021 through June 2025.

5. The nominated members currently serving on the Board are:

Hanif Hassan Ali Al Qassim (United Arab Emirates), Chairman, Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue (2019–2023)

Ha-Joon Chang (Republic of Korea), Reader in the Political Economy of Development, Faculty of Economics, and Director, Centre of Development Studies, University of Cambridge (2019–2023)

Godwin Murunga (Kenya), Executive Secretary, Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (2020–2024)

Imraan Valodia (South Africa), Dean, Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management, Professor of Economics, University of Witwatersrand (2019–2023)

Olivier de Schutter (Belgium), Professor, UCLouvain and SciencesPo (2021–2025)

Graziella Moraes Silva (Brazil), Associate Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Department of Anthropology and Sociology (2021–2025)

6. Shalini Randeria (India) stood down from her position on the Board in September 2021, after assuming the position of Rector of the Central European University.

7. The term of office of the following three members will expire on 30 June 2023, and they are eligible to be nominated for a further period of two years:

Hanif Hassan Ali Al Qassim, Ha-Joon Chang, Imraan Valodia

8. At its sixty-first session, the Commission will be called upon to extend the term of office of the three members referred to in paragraph 7 above for an additional two-year term expiring on 30 June 2025.

9. The Commission will also be called upon to nominate one new Board member to replace the member referred to in paragraph 6 for a four-year term, expiring on 30 June 2027.<sup>1</sup>

10. The biographical information of the new candidate is contained in the annex to the present note.

---

<sup>1</sup> The term of office of the members of the Board is four years, renewable once for a further period of two years. In its resolution 10 (XXV), the Commission decided that the term of office of each nominated member of the Board should not exceed a total of six years.

---

## Annex

### **Biographical information\***

#### **Naila Kabeer (India)**

##### **Present position**

Joint Professor, Departments of International Development and Gender Studies,  
London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom (2013–present)

Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom (2014–present)

##### **Experience**

Professor, Development Studies, SOAS, United Kingdom (2009–2013)

Professorial Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom (2001–2009)

Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom (1986–2009)

Senior Research Fellow seconded (part time) to the Department for International  
Development, United Kingdom (2008–2009)

##### **Education**

Ph.D., Economics, London School of Economics, United Kingdom (1985)

M.Sc., Economics, University College, United Kingdom (1976)

B.Sc., Economics, London School of Economics, United Kingdom (1974)

---

\* Curriculum vitae are issued without formal editing.