

**CHAIR OF THE WORLD LEISURE
ORGANIZATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2026 - 2028**

OPEN CALL

The World Leisure Organization seeks nominations from individuals to serve as its Chair for the period 2023-2025. In what is a voluntary position, the Chair is responsible for executing official meetings, ensuring that the activities of the organization are in accordance with its strategy, its policies and procedures and helping to raise the global profile of the organization and its programs.

The WLO promotes leisure as integral to social, cultural, economic and sustainable environmental development. We are committed to enlarging choice, affirming and enriching cultural identities, activating the human spirit and promoting sustainable and well distributed economic growth through leisure.

Duties and responsibilities

The Chair of the Board of Directors is the presiding officer of the organization. The Chair serves as primary general ambassador for WLO and will:

- chair all Board, Executive and General Meetings using Robert's Rule of Order as a guide
- provide leadership in achieving WLO's vision through prudent strategies and planning initiatives
- maintain the integrity of the organization
- represent the organization at international forums and meetings
- in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Secretariat, set the meeting agendas for each Board and Executive Committee meetings
- support negotiations with external partners, affiliates and other potential members of the WLO family
- create a collegial atmosphere for the conduct of meetings and with associations and affiliates
- oversee the evaluation of Board members, CEO, and organization's effectiveness in meeting its goals and objectives
- provide oversight and stewardship of the fiscal resources of the organization
- serve as a primary public facilitator through the initiation and networking of international partners
- report to the Board on important matters that arise in the execution of their responsibilities as a leader of WLO and gaining approval from the board
- serve as a primary spokesperson for the organization

Skills & Experience

Apart from Board Member characteristics criteria (see Annex), the position of Chair of the World Leisure Organization Board of Directors shall require:

- knowledge, skills, disposition, and enthusiasm to provide leadership for the organization and successfully to carry out duties and responsibilities
- membership in good standing in the World Leisure Organization at the time of nomination or within 30 days of being elected
- knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order
- commitment to the work of the organization
- time and energy to contribute fully to its work
- ability to promote positive relationships among Board Members
- forward thinking and proactive behavior to create an environment for future change
- inspiring and energetic in the application of leadership
- ability to build on the strengths and successes of the organization

Remuneration

The position carries no salary, but travel and lodging funds may be available for selected projects. No stipend is provided.

Appointment & Term

The Board Chair may be drawn from the Premium membership of WLO or beyond and, if not an existing member, must become a Premium member within 30 days of appointment.

The Board Chair will be elected by the WLO Board of Directors for a term of three (3) years (2026-2028) and is eligible to be nominated for re-election for up to two additional three (3) year terms.

Expressions of interest

Expressions of Interest should be sent to secretariat@worldleisure.org as e-mail attachments in PDF File, no later than **Friday, 14th November 2025**, and will include:

1. Completed and signed Nomination Form, by either the Nominee or a Nominator.
2. Cover letter drafted by either the Nominee or the Nominator, which gives support to the nomination, stating interest in the position and describing special qualifications.
3. Full CV or Resume of the Nominee.
4. The names of two persons familiar with the nominee's professional and/or voluntary work (please use the provided template).
5. Please state "2025_CALL FOR NOMINATIONS_CHAIR_NAME_SURNAME" in the email subject.

Deadline

All nominations must be received by the Secretariat no later than **Friday, 14th November 2025**. Incomplete applications or those received after the deadline date are considered to be INVALID and WILL NOT be accepted.

Annex: Board Member characteristics needed for the 2026-2028 term.

In accordance with the World Leisure Organization's By-Laws, it is determined that for the 2026–2028 term the organization needs a diverse board in terms of background, gender, and geography, as well as an influential board in terms of members' abilities, both individually and collectively, to influence international organizations responsible for developing and implementing policies in the leisure field and that may bring a wider range of ideas and insights, enhancing the organization effectiveness.

Thus, suitable candidates should have the following essential and desirable characteristics:

Essential characteristics

- is a Premium member of WLO
- has an expressed interest in thinking strategically and in contributing to the sustainability and growth of the WLO while maintaining the focus on the vision, mission, and values of the organization
- holds an undergraduate (BSc or BA) or a postgraduate (MSc, MA or PhD/EdD) degree in leisure studies or in a related field (e.g., sports, tourism, culture, recreation, hospitality, parks)
- reflects professional experience in the leisure field and/or industry, or academic experience in leisure studies (at least 5 years)
- has an expressed interest in improving professional standards in leisure and developing a career path for individuals in the field of leisure
- has a demonstrated understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures
- is in a position to help WLO increase its influence among national and international organizations in the leisure field as well as to enlarge WLO's network and strengthen relationship with relevant stakeholders
- proficient in English, both written and spoken
- demonstrates a deep understanding of the leisure industry, its trends, challenges, and opportunities
- demonstrates leadership role within organizations, particularly those related to leisure and recreation sectors. This includes proven ability to lead teams, make strategic decisions, and drive organizational goals forward.

Desirable characteristics

- participates in WLO events such as a WL Congress, WL Games, WL Forum, etc.
- has relevant academic or industry-based leisure-related publications
- is an active member in related professional organizations
- has knowledge of, or experience in, non-profit organizations
- has a professional background or experience in communication or in finance, especially with knowledge of fundraising processes or access to fundraising opportunities
- has an expressed interest in searching for innovative ideas/proposals in the field of leisure
- has served on a WLO committee or other past commitment to WLO within the past five years.
- has or is part of strong networks within the leisure and recreation industry, academia, government, or related sectors.

Reflecting upon the above characteristics, the organization will make every effort to achieve a balance of professional and occupational backgrounds and, therefore, each of the following constituencies will also be considered in the selection process:

- Academic (professors and researchers)
- Media/marketing professionals
- Officers of international governmental and non-governmental organizations
- Private sector leisure industry professionals
- Public sector leisure policy and management officers