



General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 December 2025

Original: English

International Law Commission Seventy-seventh session

Filling of casual vacancies in the Commission

Note by the Secretariat

1. By a letter dated 20 November 2025 addressed to the Chair of the International Law Commission, Phoebe Okowa submitted her resignation from the Commission, effective 23 November 2025. There is therefore one casual vacancy in the membership of the Commission.

2. In this case, article 11 of the Statute of the Commission is applicable. It prescribes that:

“In the case of a vacancy, the Commission itself shall fill the vacancy having due regard to the provisions contained in articles 2 and 8 above.”

Article 2 reads:

“1. The Commission shall consist of thirty-four members who shall be persons of recognized competence in international law.

2. No two members of the Commission shall be nationals of the same State.

3. In case of dual nationality a candidate shall be deemed to be a national of the State in which he ordinarily exercises civil and political rights.”

Article 8 reads:

“At the election the electors shall bear in mind that the persons to be elected to the Commission should individually possess the qualifications required and that in the Commission as a whole representation of the main forms of civilization and of the principle systems of the world should be assured.”

3. The General Assembly, in its resolution 75/325, of 10 September 2021, encouraged Member States to continue nominating “women candidates ... for the subsidiary organs of the General Assembly in seeking to promote gender balance”.

4. The term of the member to be elected by the Commission will expire at the end of 2027.

5. Nominations should be submitted to the Secretariat of the International Law Commission.

