

Selection of the OECD Secretary-General

Report from the Chair of the Selection Committee on the outcome of the third round of consultations

Meeting of the Heads of Delegation

10 February 2021

1. The process to select the OECD Secretary-General is established by the OECD Council under C(2016)70, which states that the Chair of the Selection Committee shall conduct confidential individual consultations with the Members, in order to narrow the field of candidates and ultimately identify the candidate around whom consensus can be built for appointment as Secretary-General.
2. On 4-5 February 2021, the Dean of the Ambassadors, and Chair of the Selection Committee, UK Ambassador Christopher Sharrock, conducted the third round of confidential individual consultations with the Heads of Delegations of all OECD Members.
3. In each round of consultations, the Chair is accompanied by a Member of the Selection Committee, who witnesses and validates the conclusions being drawn by the Chair. In the third round, Ambassador Okamura (Japan) played this role.
4. As with the previous two rounds, all Members were asked to rank all remaining candidates in order of preference. On the basis of this information, aggregate levels of support for each candidate were identified. Following discussion with the Selection Committee, the Chair's conclusions were finalised and these were communicated first to the nominating ambassador, and then to the Heads of Delegations in plenary.
5. Following these consultations, Ulrik V. Knudsen (Denmark) has withdrawn from the process.
6. The Chair would like to record the thanks of all OECD Members to Ulrik V. Knudsen for his willingness to be nominated for the position, and for the spirit with which they have engaged in the process.
7. Further consultations will take place in February, with a view to identifying collectively the candidate around whom consensus can be built.