

REFERENCE: EOSG/SLA/2022/1

High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)

The Secretariat of the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations and has the honour to request the nomination of candidates for the position of High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS). This position is at the Under-Secretary-General level and is based in New York, USA.

The High Representative is a member of the United Nations Secretary-General's [Senior Management Group](#), and as such, serves as a role model for the Organization's core values (Integrity, Professionalism and Respect for Diversity) and the desired behaviours of the [United Nations System Leadership Framework](#).

The Secretariat welcomes nominations to supplement the Secretary-General's search and consultations and would especially welcome the nomination of women candidates.

Background

UN-OHRLLS works with Member States, development partners, other UN organizations as well as various stakeholders ranging from: civil society, private sector, academia and foundations to coordinate and advocate for the implementation of programmes of action for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in the economic, social and environmental spheres and meeting the targets laid out by the Sustainable Development Goals.

Nominations must be submitted through the following website:
<https://www.un.org/sg/en/vacancies/index.shtml> by Tuesday, 22 February 2022.

The nominating Government is also requested to certify that it is not aware of any allegations against its nominated candidate, that they have been involved, by act or omission, in the commission of any acts that amount to violations of international human rights law or international humanitarian law.

All nominations will be treated with the strictest confidence and short-listed candidates will be contacted directly to undergo an assessment process, reference and background checks, including human rights and conflicts of interest screening.

Duties and Responsibilities

The High Representative is accountable to the Secretary-General and is a member of the Senior Management Group. The High Representative is responsible for:

- The overall direction, supervision and management of the UN-OHRLLS in the implementation of its mandates and approved programme of work;
- Engaging in high-level consultations with Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, multilateral financial institutions and civil society groups, and assists the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in their reviews and assessments of progress achieved in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) for the Decade 2011–2020 (“Istanbul Programme of Action”), the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;
- Supporting preparations for and follow up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the LDCs - LDC5 at which leaders from all UN Member States will undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the Istanbul Programme of Action implementation by the LDCs and their development partners; mobilize additional international support measures and action in favour of the LDCs and, agree on a renewed partnership between the LDCs and their development partners, including the private sector, civil society and governments at all levels; and serving as Secretary-General of the Conference.

Further information is available in the Secretary-General’s Bulletin ST/SGB/2020/2 of 12 August 2020 on the Organization of the UN-OHRLLS.

Skills and Expertise

The Secretary-General is seeking an individual with the following attributes:

- Recognized leader with extensive knowledge and experience in advocating, shaping policy and demonstrating thought leadership on sustainable development in countries under special situations;
- Demonstrated leadership experience with strategic vision and proven skills to manage a complex organization with staff of diverse cultural backgrounds in multiple locations, as well as the ability to mobilise various forms of support from multi-stakeholders and partners;
- Demonstrated leadership experience with proven skills in change management, reform, organizational development and leading organizational transformations;
- Demonstrated ability to work harmoniously in a multi-cultural team and establish harmonious and effective working relationships both within and outside the organization;

- Demonstrated commitment to the values and guiding principles of the United Nations, the work and objectives of OHRLLS, as well as familiarity with the United Nations system.

Languages

English and French are the working languages of the United Nations. For this position, fluency in English is required. A working knowledge of another United Nations official language will be an advantage.

Human rights screening

In accordance with the policy for the nomination of candidates, the Secretariat wishes to outline that it is the responsibility of the nominating Government to ensure that each candidate it nominates has not been convicted of or is not currently under investigation or being prosecuted for any criminal offence, or any violation of international human rights law or international humanitarian law. In the case of nominees who have been investigated for, charged with or prosecuted for any criminal offence but were not convicted, the nominating Government is requested to provide information regarding the investigation(s) or prosecutions concerned. The nominating Government is also requested to certify that it is not aware of any allegations against its nominated candidates that they have been involved, by act or omission, in the commission of any acts that amount to violations of international human rights law or international humanitarian law.

Individuals who are either nominated by Member States or who seek to serve with the United Nations in any individual capacity will be required, if short-listed, to complete a self-attestation stating that they have not committed, been convicted of, nor prosecuted for, any criminal offence and have not been involved, by act or omission, in the commission of any violation of international human rights law or international humanitarian law.

Conflicts of interest screening

All United Nations staff members are expected to uphold the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. Senior leaders in particular, have the responsibility to serve as role models in upholding the organization's ethical standards.

A conflict of interest occurs when, by act or omission, a staff member's personal interests interfere with the performance of their official duties and responsibilities, or call into question their integrity, independence and impartiality. Risk for conflicts of interest may arise from a staff member's engagement in outside (non-UN) employment or occupation; outside activities, including political activities; receipt of gifts, honours, awards, favours or remuneration from external (non-UN) sources; or personal investment. In particular, no staff member shall accept any honour, decoration, favour, gift or remuneration from any Government (staff regulation 1.2 (j)).

Where a real or perceived conflict of interest does arise, senior leaders are obligated to disclose this to the organization without delay. In order to avoid real or perceived family influence or preferential treatment and conflicts of interest that could stem from such situations, the United Nations Staff Rules provide that appointments "shall not be granted to anyone who is the father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of a staff member" (staff rule 4.7 (a)).

Short-listed individuals will also be required to complete a pre-appointment declaration of interests for senior positions to identify possible conflicts of interest that may arise and to proactively prevent and manage, as much as possible and in a timely manner, situations in which personal interests may conflict or appear to conflict with the interests of the United Nations, should the individual be appointed to this position.

The Secretariat takes this opportunity of reiterating to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations the assurances of its highest esteem.

11 January 2022