ECA Fellowship for Young African Professionals

Position: Research Fellow (Multiple positions)

Functional Title: Research Fellow

Economic Commission for Africa/ Capacity Development Division

Department/Office/Division: Job Network and Job Family

Date of issue: 19 May 2017

Deadline: 18 June 2017

Ref. No.: HRSS/17/05/0437

CONDITIONS

The call is open only to nationals of United Nations Economic Commission for Africa member states; and UN regulations on temporary positions and the following conditions will apply:

1. The candidate must be graduating or have graduated before 1 July 2017 from a Master’s Degree or doctorate or their equivalents;
2. Should have identified fit or interest in one or more of the identified areas;
3. Selected candidates will work on a predefined project, designed to contribute to specific aspects of the work programme of the mentoring Division, Sub-Regional Office or ECA centres, and contribute to other activities;
4. Participate in national, regional or international meetings as assigned for exposure;
5. Submit a peer reviewed research paper at the end of the assignment;
6. Will be part of an alumni association of ECA Fellows and member of practicing international development “community of practice”.

LOGISTICS

1. Fellows must be available to travel to the assigned station by 1 July 2017;
2. Will receive a return air ticket between his/her country of residence and the assigned duty station;
3. Will receive monthly stipend of USD 4,000 for the duration of the fellowship;
## GENERAL INFORMATION

ECA is the regional arm of the United Nations in Africa. Its mandate is to promote the economic and social development of Africa. ECA's dual role as a regional arm of the UN, and a part of the regional institutional landscape in Africa, positions it well to make unique contributions to member States' efforts to address their development challenges. Its strength derives from its role as the only UN agency mandated to operate at the regional and sub-regional levels to harness resources and bring them to bear on Africa's priorities.

As part of its programme of support to member states, national, sub regional and regional institutions, and to promote the efficient utilization of policy research in member states as well as to build and strengthen the capabilities of their policymakers, ECA seeks to engage bright young Africans by developing their capacity and enhancing their knowledge and skills through a fellowship programme within ECA’s work programme. This fellowship initiative is in line with the Commission’s effort to assist member States develop their capacity in economic and social development policy research and analyses.

ECA is inviting applications from qualified young African Professionals in the areas of Macroeconomic policy; Social Policy Development; Innovation and Technology; Management of Natural Resources and Sustainable Development; Development Planning; Statistics; Regional Integration; Infrastructure; Industrialization and Trade; Governance; Political and Human Security. Qualified women and young scholars are particularly encouraged to apply.

Candidates applying for the position must be 35 years of age and below, at the time of the application. Candidates currently enrolled in a Ph.D. programme or with an admission are also welcome to apply. First, fellows are expected to, within the context of ECA strategic and thematic areas of focus, ECA’s work programme and regional initiatives, among others, substantively contribute to policy analysis and research; capacity development issues and knowledge promotion. Second, the fellowship programme will facilitate practical, on-the-job experience to the young professionals as they build and develop their professional career at African development institutions, teaching and research think tanks or member States’ government institutions. Third, fellows will also become familiar with the Commission's broad programmes and services to member States and sub-regional bodies in addressing economic and social development priorities in Africa.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Within delegated authority, the incumbent will be responsible for the following duties:

The Fellows will agree to a work programme in the area of economic and social development defined mutually with the receiving/mentoring Division, Sub-Regional Office or Centre. The fellows will contribute to the work of the Division, Sub-Regional Office or Centre by carrying out research, analytical studies, drafting reports and supporting other activities, as directed.

Assignments within the areas of focus may include, but are not limited to, collecting, evaluating, interpreting, and analyzing economic, social and political development issues in the focus areas. The fellow(s) will also contribute to technical and policy reports, briefing notes, and support in the organization and servicing of expert group meetings, workshops, and seminars; and fulfill various other administrative tasks for the effective delivery of the activities.
### COMPETENCIES

**Professionalism:**
In-depth knowledge and understanding of socio-economic and political development issues; conceptual and strategic ability to analyze and evaluate critical matters pertaining to socio-economic and political issues in Africa including ability to translate development-related data/information into policy relevant analyses; ability to undertake research with limited supervision. Is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results; is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns; shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges; remains calm in stressful situations. Takes responsibility for incorporating gender perspectives and ensuring the equal participation of women and men in all areas of work.

**Planning and Organizing:**
Develops clear goals that are consistent with agreed strategies; identifies priority activities and assignments; adjusts priorities as required; allocates appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work; foresees risks and allows for contingencies when planning; monitors and adjusts plans and actions as necessary; uses time efficiently.

**Communications:**
Excellent communication (spoken and written) skills, including the ability to present high-level papers to peers and stakeholders, both at the institutional, regional and international level, both orally and in writing, in a clear, concise style.

**Teamwork:**
Ability to establish and maintain effective working relations with people of different national and cultural backgrounds and respect for diversity.

### QUALIFICATIONS

**Education**
Advanced university degree (Master’s Degree or doctorate or their equivalents) in international affairs, development, diplomacy, economics, political and social sciences, development, peace and human security, public administration, law, minerals and natural resources, law, and related field is required.

**Work Experience**
Academic research or academic work related to the focus areas is required. And experience in research/analytical work in socio-economic and political development, natural resource management/law, regional integration, governance, infrastructure development, governance, peace and related areas in the context of Africa, either in the academia, private, public or civil society organizations, is an advantage.

**Language**
English and French are the working languages of the United Nations. The fellows shall be fluent in oral and written English or French. Working knowledge of the other is also desirable.
HOW TO APPLY

How to apply

Candidates must submit their applications together with the following documents:

- Cover letter
- UN Personal History Profile (PHP) *
- Copy of academic degree certificates, and;
- Three letters of reference/recommendation.

Applications with all the supporting documents should be sent by e-mail to one of the below mentioned email addresses by putting the subject line.

*UN Personal History Profile can be created at [https://inspira.un.org](https://inspira.un.org)

ALL SUBMISSIONS TO BE SENT TO:

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<tr>
<th>Email Address:</th>
<th><a href="mailto:RecruitmentPPost@un.org">RecruitmentPPost@un.org</a></th>
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<td>Subject Line:</td>
<td>ECA Fellowship for Young African Professionals, Ref. No. HRSS/17/05/0437</td>
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The United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs. (Charter of the United Nations- Chapter 3, article 8).

THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE OF THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS (APPLICATION INTERVIEW MEETING, PROCESSING, TRAINING OR ANY OTHER FEES). THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CONCERN ITSELF WITH INFORMATION ON BANK ACCOUNTS.

PLEASE NOTE THAT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.