

United Nations  Nations Unies

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The Secretariat of the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations and has the honour to request the nomination of candidates for the position of Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) at the level of Assistant Secretary-General. Decision 4/COP.1 provides that the Executive Secretary will be appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations after consultation with the Conference of the Parties through its Bureau.

The objective of the Convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa, through effective action at all levels, supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements, in the framework of an integrated approach which is consistent with Agenda 21, with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in affected areas.

The Executive Secretary is the Head of the Permanent Secretariat and is responsible for the functions as established under article 23 of the Convention. In this respect, the Executive Secretary reports directly and is accountable to the Conference of the Parties (COP) on the administration of the Permanent Secretariat and on the implementation of the COP decisions and United Nations General Assembly resolutions as they relate to Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD), in particular the UNCCD Ten-Year Strategy (2008-2018). The Executive Secretary also assists the Secretary-General in reporting to the General Assembly on the implementation of its annual resolutions on UNCCD. The Executive Secretary serves as the global voice on issues related to DLDD in advancing the commitments by world leaders at the Rio+20 Conference, contained in the outcome document entitled “The Future We Want”.

Further information on UNCCD is available on the following website:  
<http://www.unccd.int>.

In soliciting nominations for this position, the Secretary-General is seeking an individual with:

- Demonstrated knowledge of development issues, particularly in the area of desertification and sustainable development;
- Strong diplomatic and resource mobilisation skills;
- Impeccable personal and professional integrity, with unimpeachable interpersonal and political skills;
- Demonstrated leadership experience with strategic vision and proven skills to manage a complex organization, as well the ability to mobilise various forms of support from multi-stakeholders and partners;
- A good understanding of the United Nations system, in particular the closely related United Nations Conventions on Climate Change and Biological Diversity.

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.

In order to ensure a wide pool of candidates for this position, the Secretariat would welcome any nominations to supplement the Secretary-General's own search and consultations. The Secretariat would especially welcome nominations of female candidates. 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.

All nominations should include the curriculum vitae of the candidates and must be received **by 1 July 2013**. Nominations may also be sent to: [eosgapplications20135@un.org](mailto:eosgapplications20135@un.org).

The Secretariat of the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

30 May 2013

T. C. H.