

Vacancy Announcement

Director

ICSU Regional Office for Africa

(Re-advertised)

Location: Pretoria, South Africa

Term: 3 years, renewable

Closing date: 15 July 2010

The International Council for Science (ICSU) invites applications for the post of Director of its Regional Office for Africa (Sub-Saharan Africa), which was established at the National Research Foundation (NRF), Pretoria, South Africa in 2005.

ICSU is a non-governmental organisation with a global membership of National Scientific Bodies (121 Members, representing 141 countries) and International Scientific Unions (30 Members). ICSU mobilises knowledge and resources of the international scientific community to strengthen international science for the benefit of society. Activities focus on three areas: International Research Collaboration; Science for Policy; and Universality of Science. Further information about ICSU can be found at www.icsu.org.

The Regional Office for Africa is responsible for promoting and facilitating the increased participation of African countries and scientific organisations in the activities of ICSU and its Members. It also ensures that ICSU's strategy and activities are responsive to the needs of the African region. Thus, the Office is assisting in strengthening science and building scientific capacity in Africa. The Office receives strategic and scientific guidance from the ICSU Regional Committee for Africa (RCA). The RCA develops strategic plans and approves work plans for the Office. Members of the Regional Committee are nominated by ICSU National Members in Africa.

The Director is responsible for the activities of the Regional Office under the direction of the ICSU Executive Director. The staff of the Office currently consists of a total of four persons. The Director is appointed for a term of three years, renewable, under the general conditions applicable to staff at NRF.

ICSU is seeking candidates with the following:

Qualifications and knowledge

- A PhD degree in a scientific discipline (or equivalent experience).
- Minimum of 5 years experience in scientific research and administration, including experience of international research collaboration.
- Fluent in written and spoken English; some knowledge of French and/or Portuguese is an advantage.
- Prior knowledge of ICSU and its major partners, such as UNESCO and the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS), and of African regional initiatives for science would be an additional advantage.

Skills

- Excellent skills in strategic planning as well as management abilities, including the capacity to administer financial resources and exercise appropriate supervision and control.
- Ability to work with people from different nationalities and cultural backgrounds and be prepared to travel internationally.

Applicants are requested to address the above description and qualifications in a cover letter and attach a curriculum vitae with the name and contact details of three referees. Applications, with 'ROA Director' in the subject line, should be sent via email to recruitment@icsu.org and addressed to Professor Deliang Chen, Executive Director, International Council for Science (ICSU).

The closing date for applications is 15 July 2010.

This position is only open to citizens of countries of the African continent, who are also currently located in South Africa. It is expected that the Director will start his/her appointment on 1 September 2010.