



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Director General of the International Solar Alliance

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) invites applicants for the position of Director General of ISA. The Director-General is the Chief Executive Officer of the International Solar Alliance and is responsible to the Assembly for the performance of his/her functions.

BACKGROUND

The establishment of ISA was announced at the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris in 2015. The Framework Agreement for establishing the ISA, with its headquarters in Gurugram, Republic of India, entered into force on 6 December 2017. The ISA is an inter-governmental organization mandated to promote solar energy amongst its member countries.

The ISA mission is to provide a platform for cooperation amongst member countries for enhancing the use of solar energy for enabling universal energy access and energy equity while seeking the reduction of their carbon footprint. At present, ISA has 69 Members and 19 Signatories to the Framework Agreement.

FUNCTIONS

The Director General supports the Assembly in advancing the ISA's mandate and supports Member states to address common challenges and engage in coordinated action to scale up the deployment of solar energy. The Director General who is the Chief Executive Officer is responsible to the Assembly for all the activities of the International Solar Alliance, as well as its administration.

The level of the Director General, in terms of pay and perks will be equivalent to the Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) in the UN system and will be regulated as per the United Nations common system. The Headquarters Agreement between the ISA and Government of India provides that the rank of Director General shall be equivalent to that of Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and High Commissioners of Commonwealth countries accredited to India.

The Director General under the authority of the Assembly will:

a) Define broad strategies to promote and support policy advocacy activities and initiate and coordinate policy dialogue with Governments, local authorities, and other partners in the implementation of the International Solar Alliance mandate and objectives;

b) Provide overall direction to partnerships development and engagement with a wide range of stakeholders and partners including international organizations, other United Nations bodies, national, subnational and local governments, the industries, the financial actor, financial actors, and other partners to ensure effective coordination of the global energy transition agenda and 2030 Agenda;

c) Represent the ISA to promote the Alliance's vision, leadership, standing, and impact, with the overall guidance of its Members; and

d) Provide leadership for innovative approaches and resource-mobilization activities to support the countries to accelerate the deployment of solar energy at a national scale.

CORE COMPETENCIES

a) Demonstrated leadership experience with strategic vision and proven skills in managing complex organizations, such as an intergovernmental, international non-governmental or multinational private sector entity and at least two years' experience at the national level in the energy sector of a developing country;

b) Demonstrated understanding of the issue, of the pace, scale, and the opportunities and challenges of solar energy deployment, backed by a track record of high impact interventions in an international context;

c) Demonstrated intellectual leadership, creativity, and proven ability to propose new ideas and lead on new ways of working across silos to address issues of solar energy, issues of solar energy planning, legislation, financing, norms and standards, and on national solar energy policy as well as on the question of energy access in a complementary and synergetic way;

d) Proven track record of change management and accomplishments at the regional, national or international level with strong resource mobilization, political and diplomatic skills;

e) Demonstrated ability to work harmoniously in a multi-cultural team and establish harmonious and effective working relationships both within and outside the organization; and

f) Proven ability to inspire, encourage, build trust and confidence and also build consensus, stimulate effective campaigns, and drive collective action among a broad spectrum of people and organizations.

QUALIFICATIONS

a) National of an ISA Member Country and endorsed by that Member for initial appointment, and if sought, renewal.

b) At least 20 years of professional experience with at least 10 or more years of senior management at local, provincial, federal government and international levels.

- c) Advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent or higher) in a field relevant to the position would be preferred.
- d) Fluency in oral and written English is essential and fluency in other languages of the United Nations is an asset. Familiarity with Hindi language will be an added advantage.
- e) Excellent management and senior level administrative skills.
- f) Astute judgment and decision-making faculty.
- g) Ability to establish and maintain high-quality interpersonal relationships in a diverse, multicultural environment.
- h) Skills and command for resource mobilization for the ISA and smooth coordination especially with the host country Government, member countries, and international peers and organizations.
- i) Proven record of administrative excellence and innovation in past service, including national or international awards, if any.
- j) A comprehensive understanding of energy policies and climate change, with a focus on solar energy is desirable.
- k) Excellent communication and negotiating skills is highly desirable.

AVAILABILITY AND LENGTH OF SERVICE

The individual chosen for the post should be available to commence duties starting 15 March 2021.

The Director General is selected by and responsible to the ISA Assembly, for a term of four years, renewable for one further term.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS AND TIMELINES OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

The Member States must submit the applications of the qualified candidates through the National Focal Point or Contact Points based in New Delhi along with the endorsement of his/her country of citizenship to President-ISA-Assembly@isolaralliance.org with a copy to DG-selection@isolaralliance.org.

The applications must be supported by the candidates' CV or personal history profile (PHP), along with a Letter of Intent/Motivation.

The CV/PHP and the Letter of Intent/Motivation should specifically provide details as to the candidate's prior directly relevant experience in performing similar functions and how the competencies described in this Vacancy Announcement have been demonstrated previously. The Letter of Intent/Motivation should outline the candidate's plans to further strengthen the impact of the Alliance's work and its position in the international energy landscape, against the backdrop

of the Alliance's mandate and the ongoing global energy transition. The letter should not exceed the equivalent of three pages (1500 words).

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS IS 30 NOVEMBER 2020 AND NO NOMINATION WILL BE ACCEPTED THEREAFTER.

Shortlisted candidates will need to make themselves available for interviews in December 2020 and, as applicable, for a presentation to the ISA Assembly session tentatively in February/March 2021.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Short-listed individuals will also be required to complete the pre-appointment declaration of interests 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 ISA, should the individual be appointed to this position.