

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) invites applicants for the position of Director-General of IRENA. The Director-General is the head and chief administrative officer of the International Renewable Energy Agency, and is responsible to the Assembly and the Council for the performance of her/his functions.

BACKGROUND

Established in 2011 and headquartered in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, the International Renewable Energy Agency is an inter-governmental organisation mandated to promote the widespread and increased adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy in the pursuit of sustainable development, energy access, energy security and low-carbon economic growth and prosperity. IRENA's mission for the next five-year period is to play a leading role in the ongoing transformation of the global energy system as a centre of excellence for knowledge and innovation, a global voice of renewable energy, a network hub for all stakeholders and a source of advice and support for countries.

This mission is reflected in four strategic objectives that give orientation to successive programmatic cycles. Accordingly, IRENA works to:

- » Empower effective policy and decision-making by providing authoritative knowledge and analysis on renewables-based energy transformation at global, national and sectoral levels;
- » Shape the global discourse on energy transformation by providing relevant timely, high-quality information and access to data on renewable energy;
- » Provide an inclusive platform for all stakeholders to foster action, convergence of efforts and knowledge sharing for impact on the ground;
- » Support country-level decision-making to accelerate the renewables-based transformation of national energy systems, advance strategies to diversify energy sources, reduce global emissions and achieve sustainable development.

At present, IRENA has 156 Members (155 States and the European Union) that acceded to its Statute, and 25 additional States in the process of accession and actively engaged.

FUNCTIONS

The IRENA Director-General provides strategic direction and leadership for the execution of the Agency's mandate and its management against the backdrop of the ongoing global energy transition and an evolving international environment, in a manner that is responsive to the needs and priorities of the Agency's membership.

The main functions and responsibilities of the IRENA Director-General are as follows:

- » Ensure the effective implementation of IRENA's mandate, objectives and activities as defined in its Statute and in the decisions of its Governing Bodies, including with regard to the Agency's biennial work programmes, with the IRENA Medium-term Strategy as guiding framework;
- » Continue increasing IRENA's visibility, standing and impact by advancing a clear vision for the Agency, with the overall guidance of its Members and with a firm commitment to multilateral cooperation;

- » Stimulate dialogue, build strategic partnerships and engage a wide range of stakeholders and partners, including international organizations, to strengthen international cooperation and provide thought leadership in the contexts of energy transition, sustainable development and climate change;
- » Deepen IRENA's commitment to implementing renewable energy strategies in Member States, including by facilitating Member-to-Member communication;
- » Further build and strengthen the Agency's institutional and intellectual capacity as a centre of excellence for renewable energy, continue efforts to attract the strongest talents in the field and further develop a high quality, diverse, and dedicated staff body;
- » Provide overall guidance on innovative financing mechanisms, partnerships and resource-mobilization activities to further strengthen the Agency's capacity to attract additional funding, and to broaden its resource base and increase the predictability and sustainability of its funding;
- » Oversee the continuous development and implementation of effective, accountable, and operational administrative structures, ensuring sound management, performance, accounting and reporting of the Agency's financial and human resources;
- » Ensure the respect of the exclusively international character of the Secretariat in the performance of its responsibilities.

COMPETENCIES

- » Solid understanding of the global energy landscape and of the significance, pace, scale and the opportunities and challenges of the ongoing global energy transition;
- » Demonstrated intellectual leadership, strategic vision, transformative capacity, and proven ability to take initiatives, propose new ideas, and to convene stakeholders to converge efforts and foster action for impact at the global and regional level and on the ground;
- » Proven track-record of achieving high-impact results in an international environment and conducting high-level policy engagements requiring sound political judgement and diplomatic skills to handle sensitive and complex issues;
- » Demonstrated leadership in overseeing the delivery of policy advice, advisory services and the development of knowledge products;
- » Demonstrated ability to develop an effective strategy, translate it into action, and effectively plan and manage resources to deliver expected results and achieve outcomes in a dynamic and fast changing environment;
- » Demonstrated ability to guide innovative resource mobilization efforts and to forge related partnerships;
- » Demonstrated leadership experience and proven skills in managing complex teams or large organizations in settings, such as intergovernmental, international non-governmental or multinational private sector entities;
- » Demonstrated ability to inspire and build trust and consensus, to lead and work harmoniously in a multi-cultural environment, and to establish effective working relationships both within and outside the organization;
- » Demonstrated ability to cultivate and maintain a work environment that is supportive of staff professional aspirations and professional advancement;
- » Demonstrated record of setting clear standards for accountability, probity and risk management, for ensuring sound and transparent financial management, and delivering continuous improvement in the organizational impact, efficiency and effectiveness of results.

QUALIFICATIONS

- » At least 15 years of professional experience with 10 or more years of senior management experience in public sector, government, international organization, private sector, corporation, non-governmental organization, or other international setting with particular focus on management in a large multicultural environment;
- » A strong understanding of renewable energy issues in the context of sustainable development, climate change and the global energy transition is desirable;
- » Strong analytical, communication, and negotiating skills, including the ability to engage with and motivate a diverse range of stakeholders;
- » Astute judgement and decision-making, including the ability to address contentious issues effectively;
- » Advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent or higher) in a field relevant to the position preferred;
- » Fluency in oral and written English is essential. Knowledge of other languages is desirable.

AVAILABILITY AND LENGTH OF SERVICE

The individual chosen for the post should be available to commence duties starting May 2019.

The Director-General is appointed by the IRENA Assembly for a term of four years, renewable for one further term, but not thereafter.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS AND TIMELINES OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

Qualified candidates may submit their application by uploading either their CV or personal history profile (PHP), along with a Letter of Intent/Motivation via the online application portal dgselection.irena.org.

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 Agency's work and its position in the international energy landscape, against the backdrop of the Agency'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 6 June 2018.

Shortlisted candidates will need to make themselves available for interviews in September 2018 and, as applicable, for a presentation to the IRENA Council in November 2018.

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 IRENA, should the individual be appointed to this position.