

INVITATION TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN BEING THE DIRECTOR OF THE AFRICAN SCHOOL OF REGULATION (ASR)

Objective

The Parties to the Scientific Knowledge Partnership Agreement (the “ASR Parties” and the ‘Agreement’, respectively) to establish the African School of Regulation (ASR) are seeking expressions of interest from individuals to serve as the Director of the ASR.¹

Information about the ASR, its motivation, objectives, values and activities can be found at the ASR website <https://africanschoolregulation.org/about/>

The ASR

The African School of Regulation (ASR) aims to be a centre of excellence for independent discussion and knowledge exchange with the purpose of improving the quality of African energy regulation and policy.

The ASR aspires to achieve this through *excellence and intellectual integrity*, which require experienced professionals (both local and global) and independence. The institutional design, organisation and funding of the ASR shall make sure that both requirements are met. The ASR will initially focus on the energy sector, and on the power sector and clean cooking more specifically.

The ASR will draw on specialist global knowledge and expertise on how to regulate the energy sector effectively. This will require an appreciation and understanding of the rapid global energy transition, and the application of this knowledge and experience to the challenges of the African context, including the imperative of universal access to energy. Building new capabilities in Africa requires local institutions with specialist knowledge and expertise, backed by partners who are at the frontiers of international experience.

The ASR shall strive to contribute to the achievement of reliable, affordable and sustainable energy supply for all, and the protection of current and future consumers, which require ensuring the economic and financial viability along the entire supply chain. The ASR commits to pursue its goals by building an inclusive environment in the energy sector for all dimensions of human diversity (sex, race, colour, genetic features, ethnic or social origin, language, religion, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation).

Regulatory knowledge must be developed keeping *all* stakeholders in mind. The ASR, as a multi-stakeholder platform, will promote an open dialogue among regulators, policy makers, academics, utilities, mini-grid developers, solar home systems companies, consultants, investors, financial institutions, energy users and any other stakeholder whose activities are significantly affected by energy regulation. The ASR will aim to build local capacity using a multi-stakeholder approach to develop, teach and disseminate sound energy regulation and policy in Africa. In principle, the ASR will be designed following similar objectives than those inspiring the creation of the Florence School of Regulation (FSR) within the European University Institute, back in 2004 (see <https://fsr.eui.eu>).

The FSR has been mandated, by the other Parties to the Agreement, to manage the activities to establish the ASR, including the selection of the hosting institution where the ASR will be seated. On

¹ This Agreement has been signed by the European University Institute (EUI), the University of Cape Town (UCT), the Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sciences (PAUWES), the Enel Foundation (EF), the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), the Energy Nexus Network (TENN), the Rockefeller Foundation (RF), the Global Energy Alliance for the People and the Planet (GEAPP), and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). This initiative is also supported by the European Union (EU) via a Global Technical Assistance Facility (TAF) and, in different ways, by many other organisations.

July 12, 2022, Prof. Ignacio J. Pérez-Arriaga was appointed by the Parties to the Agreement as Interim Director of the ASR.

The ASR Parties have decided to enter into discussions with the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) to become the ASR host institution and with a selected group of organisations that have submitted proposals to become implementing partners in the various African regions, while maintaining contact with the remaining organisations. The ASR parties have decided to locate the ASR headquarters in Accra. Currently, the headquarters of the ASR Initiative is temporarily located at the FSR. The transition to the host institution will take place during 2024.

It is expected that a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the ACBF will be signed soon by the EUI representing the ASR Parties, followed by a detailed Hosting Agreement that will establish the transfer process of the ASR to be hosted by the ACBF, and the ASR Statute with the governance of the ASR and the relationship with the partners and funding organisations.

It is foreseen that, by the end of 2023, the ASR will have a host entity, a new Director who will replace the present interim one, a program of activities and reasonably secured funding for the following five years.

Job description

Responsibilities

The Director will be primarily responsible for

- i) representing the ASR before the ASR host entity and other organisations, and making commitments that are binding for the ASR with prior authorisation of the ASR Executive Board, when necessary,
- ii) establishing and maintaining collaborations with potential academic establishments and others willing to participate in or funding the ASR activities,
- iii) defining the content of the ASR activities, ensuring their relevance for the African energy sector and their execution, guaranteeing their quality level,
- iv) organising the fundraising for the ASR, with the support of the entities that collaborate with the ASR,
- v) recruiting the necessary staff for the ASR, appointing the coordinators and instructors for the diverse training activities, as well as researchers for the projects, among other activities,
- vi) defining the organisation and managing the ARS and its staff,
- vii) developing the medium and long-term plans for the ASR and the corresponding budgets and presenting them to the ASR Executive Board for approval and supervising their implementation.

These responsibilities will be more precisely defined in the Statute of the ASR and in the ASR staff regulation.

Place of work

The ASR Director will reside at the location where the future host entity will have its headquarters, except for occasional travels for meetings or events. The ASR Director shall be available to travel within Africa or elsewhere, for brief periods of time.

Qualifications and experience

The ASR Director must

- i) be citizen of an African country, with professional experience developed in the African space,
- ii) have a solid experience in at least one among the engineering, economic and legal aspects of the energy sector; in addition, experience is specifically required in energy regulation, as

- practitioner, academic or researcher, with substantial achievements as regulator, professor or industrial leader; at least a post-graduate degree in engineering, economics, law or equivalent; a PhD degree will be positively considered,
- iii) be familiar with and have high-level contacts in regulatory authorities, energy ministries, regulatory departments of energy utilities or consultancy firms, and development institutions at national, regional and international levels in the African space,
 - iv) have experience in education, having been involved in training activities, both presential and online,
 - v) have proven management skills in an academic or professional environment,
 - vi) work in the ASR, where both English and French are commonly working languages, and therefore excellent knowledge of one of them will be required, and knowledge of the other one is highly desirable; knowledge of any other language widely spoken in Africa would be also an asset,
 - vii) be strongly motivated for the development of the ASR.

Contract

The conditions of the contract will be established by the ASR Parties, in agreement with the host institution.

Length of contract

The contract will be signed for a period of 5 years. Tentative starting date January 1st, 2024. It can be negotiated to begin either before or after this date.

The contract may be extended for only one additional period of 5 years.

The selected candidate will serve a probationary period of nine months as part of the 5-year contract. The contract will be confirmed after the successful completion of the probationary period.

The ASR reserves the right to terminate the contract at any point in time, giving 6-month notice.

Salary

The salary will be discussed during the selection process.

How to apply

Those interested in the position of the ASR Director, and who wish to receive information on the requirements of the job and the selection process, may contact the ASR by registering at the link <https://africanschoolregulation.org/job/director-of-the-african-school-of-regulation/>.

This information will be treated confidentially and will be available only to the selection committee.