**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT:AUDA-NEPAD-COMESA REQUEST FOR APPLICATION FOR THE POSITION OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER, VA/AUDA-NEPAD/22/41**

The African Union (AU) established as a unique Pan African continental body, is charged with spearheading Africa’s rapid integration and sustainable development by promoting unity, solidarity, cohesion and cooperation among the peoples of Africa and African States as well as developing a new partnership worldwide. Its Headquarters is located in Addis Ababa, capital city of Ethiopia.

The New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) is a programme of the African Union adopted in 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia, aimed primarily at poverty alleviation and promotion of economic growth and sustainable development in Africa. As a consequence of the integration of NEPAD into the structures and processes of the African Union, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) has been established by the Decision of the 14th AU Assembly of February 2010 as the technical body of the African Union, in replacement of the NEPAD Secretariat.

NEPAD Agency has transformed into the African Union Development Agency. The aim of the African Union reforms is to streamline and improve effectiveness and efficiency in delivering the implementation of AU decisions, policies and programmes across all AU organs and institutions. One the recommendations of the reforms is to transform the technical body of the AU, the NEPAD Agency into the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD). The decision was made during the 31st Ordinary Session of the Assembly of African Union Heads of State and Government in Nouakchott, Mauritania, African Heads of State and Government, in July 2018.

AUDA-NEPAD is an African-owned and led continental agency, spearheading Agenda 2063. The decision on the African Union Development Agency is an affirmation by Member States of their commitment to own an instrument that will champion development support to countries and regional bodies in advancing their priorities through the implementation of Agenda 2063.

1. To coordinate and execute priority regional and continental projects to promote regional integration towards the accelerated realisation of Agenda 2063;
2. To strengthen capacity of African Union Member States and regional bodies;
3. To advance knowledge-based advisory support,
4. To undertake the full range of resource mobilisation, and
5. To serve as the continent’s technical interface with all Africa’s development stakeholders and development partners

In line with Objective 2, and with support and collaboration from our development partners and regional economic communities, the AUDA-NEPAD came up with a programme to support the capacity of regional bodies to effectively implement their respective integration agenda, as aligned to Agenda 2063. In this regard, a comprehensive programme, “energize Africa” was developed to support the deployment experience staff as fellows, to enhance the capacity of RECs.

Based on the **Host Agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the African Union for AUDA-NEPAD to serve as the interim AU Office Operating outside the African Union Headquarters,** AUDA-NEPAD in conjunction with Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (**COMESA**) hereby invites applicants who are citizens of African Union Member States and resides in the COMESA Region for the following position:

1. **Post**

**Job Title: Social and Cultural Affairs Officer**

**Position Level: Energise Africa Fellow**

**Duty Station: COMESA Secretariat Headquarters, Lusaka, Zambia**

**Supervisor: Senior Gender Mainstreaming Officer**

1. **Key Performance Areas**

Under the director supervision of the Senior Gender Mainstreaming Officer, the Energize Fellow will be responsible for the following duties:

1. Facilitate policy coordination and promotion to boost cultural exchange and empower youth across the COMESA region.
2. Drive collaboration among Member States, NGOs, private sector, and civil society to promote awareness and implementation of the COMESA Social Charter, Youth Programme, health policies, and other initiatives.
3. Promote cultural and sporting exchanges among COMESA Member States for improved cohesion, peace, security, and socio-economic growth.
4. Work with member states to promote cultural and creative arts tourism, facilitate the movement of cultural products, and enhance access to regional and global art markets.
5. Develop policies and strategies to enable Member States to participate in regional and global partnerships for social and cultural development.
6. Build partnerships with youth development officers, national youth associations, social development agencies across Member States.
7. Conduct research, analyse data, and synthesize information on social development, youth empowerment, gender equality, and human rights and produce regional reports with detailed data, statistics, and information.
8. **Job requirements**

**Required Skills and Competencies**

1. Professionalism, team work, communication and interpersonal skills.
2. Excellent ability to build and maintain relations both internally and externally.
3. Ability to work in a multicultural environment.
4. Analytical and evaluation skills.
5. Excellent Report and proposal writing skills.
6. Knowledge of multisectoral approach to programming.
7. Research and ppublic ppolicy analysis.
8. Ccomputer skills.
9. **Education and Experience:**

Candidate must have a minimum of Bachelor’s Degree in Social Sciences, gender , business administration, international relations or related field. At least two (2) years experience in youth programming, gender, human rights, policy development, creating partnerships, and working at regional level particularly in the COMESA region.

1. **Other relevant skills**
2. Proven experience in policy development, youth programming, human right and partnerships.
3. Proficient in using database software and tools (e.g., Microsoft Access, Excel, SQL).
4. Strong attention to detail and accuracy.
5. Excellent organizational and time-management skills.
6. Ability to work independently and collaboratively within a team.
7. Familiarity with data protection and confidentiality principles.
8. **Language requirement**: Proficiency in one of the following African Union working languages is a requirement; English, French, Portuguese and Arabic. Knowledge of one or more of the other AU working languages would be an added advantage.
9. **Tenure of Appointment:** The appointment will be made on an AU short term contract for a period of one (1) year, of which the first three (3) months will be considered as a probationary period.
10. **Gender Mainstreaming:** The African Union Development Agency is an equal opportunity employer and qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.
11. **Applications** should be forwarded utilizing ‘’Arial’’ font 11.5**:** To apply, please submit the following:
12. A motivation letter stating reasons for seeking employment with the African Union Development Agency
13. A detailed and updated curriculum vitae (CV), not exceeding five (5) pages and indicating your nationality, age and gender.
14. Three (3) referees with good knowledge of the candidate’s work, furnishing full contact details, telephone, fax and e-mail addresses.
15. Certified copies of degrees and diplomas
16. **Remuneration:** An all-inclusivegross salary of US$ 20,102.70 per annum.
17. **Applications** should reach the address below not later than Monday 17 May 2024 Email: amohammed@comesa.int, and copy to jfanjanirina@comesa.int.

**Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted*.***

The African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) is a vision and strategic framework for Africa’s renewal that is based on a shared understanding that it is imperative to eradicate poverty and position African countries on the road to sustained economic growth and development. AUDA-NEPAD works closely with the African Union Commission (AUC), regional economic communities, national governments, research institutions and civil society organizations in its efforts to eradicate poverty in Africa whilst also voicing Africa´s concerns at the global level. For more information go to: [**www.nepad.org**](http://www.nepad.org)