



Call for Nomination and Elections

AWFST Executive Members and Regional Steering Committee



BACKGROUND

The African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) is a leading multi-disciplinary network of researchers, practitioners and policy makers that promotes science, technology and innovation (STI) policy research, dialogue and practice, for African development. Its mission is to improve the quality of science, technology, and innovation research, policy and practice for sustainable development in Africa. ATPS works primarily through its National Chapters in at least 27 African countries, and with a chapter in the UK and the US to represent the African Diaspora. ATPS supports science, technology and innovation capacity building for African development through knowledge generation; knowledge brokerage; knowledge dissemination & outreach; and knowledge valorisation.

The African Women Forum on Science and Technology (AWFST) is a mirror initiative within the ATPS Strategic Plan Phase VI, 2008-2012, launched in 2008 with the aim to achieve similar awakening on STI amongst African women. The AWFST is a key thematic program of the ATPS supported by its consortium of Donors, including the Netherlands Directorate-General of Development Cooperation.

AWFST Vision

Empowered women in STI development in Africa

AWFST Mission

To provide a vehicle through which African women can express their ideas, contribute to their expertise and participate in policy and decision-making processes for sustainable development in Africa.

Objectives of AWFST

1. To instigate the culture of innovation amongst African women and build their confidence in the generation, use and mastery of African STI for African development;
2. To mobilize women and empower them to harness STI development in Africa
3. To facilitate and promote gender involvement in STI and social entrepreneurship in African countries;
4. Facilitate STI career mentoring and capacity building for African women by the senior scientists and personalities in Africa and globally;
5. To support and facilitate regional knowledge sharing and cooperation among African women;
6. To promote women involvement in research activities and other MDG related STI projects.

AWFST is seeking nominations of dynamic trans-disciplinary women with leadership skills among its membership to stand for election to fill the executive positions of the forum for a 3 year term, renewable once.

ATPS members are invited to nominate candidates for the following positions:

- African Women Forum for Science and Technology (AWFST) Chairperson
- African Women Forum for Science and Technology (AWFST) Vice Chairperson
- AWFST Steering Committee members

WHO CAN BE NOMINATED?

Candidates nominated for these positions must have the following minimum qualifications:

- Track record in women leadership and mentorship;
- Organization management skills;
- PhD plus 10 years of experience;
- Full ATPS membership and a minimum of 3 years of Active participation in ATPS activities;
- Be of good reputation and character.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

- The Committee shall liaise with the ATPS Secretariat Management to promote the AWFST program;
- Liaise with the AWFST Program Coordinators (appointed by ATPS) to facilitate the implementation of the ATPS activities under the AWFST program and ensure full compliance to ATPS policies and procedures.

ELECTION PROCEDURE

Election will be conducted through an online voting system. Only officially registered AWFST members as per the laid down registration procedure are eligible to vote (see attached Resolutions of the Executive Committee for clarification on membership criteria).

ELECTION CALENDAR

- Call for nominations- 26th March, 2012
- Nomination Closed- 25th April, 2012
- Short listing completed – 25th – 30th April, 2012
- Electronic Voting open on ATPS website - 1st -15th May, 2012

HOW TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES FOR THE ELECTED POSITIONS:

Nominations should be sent by e-mail to: awfst@atpsnet.org copied to executivedirector@atpsnet.org indicating:

1. The specific position the candidate is being nominated for,
2. A written confirmation by the nominee to stand for elections by members including a brief manifesto of what she plans to achieve for the AWFST program if elected, and
3. The most recent Curriculum Vitae of the nominated candidate including most recent experience in women leadership and participation in ATPS activities

We are looking forward to receiving your nominations by 17:00 hours on the 25th April 2012 accordingly. Nominations received after the deadline will not be considered. In case of any questions, please contact us at: awfst@atpsnet.org

SHORT LISTING PROCESS

The short listing process shall be conducted by the current AWFST coordinators in liaison with the ATPS Secretariat Management using the set of criteria mutually developed by the AWFST Executive Committee. Table I below provides details on elected positions available and number of candidates to be shortlisted to stand for elections:

Executive Committee:

Position	Number of candidates to be shortlisted	Number of Candidates to be elected by members
Chair	4	1
Vice Chair		1
Regional Representatives:		
Eastern Africa	4	2
Western Africa		
Anglophone	4	2
Francophone	2	1
North Africa	4	2
Southern Africa		
Anglophone	2	1
Lusophone	2	1
Central Africa	2	1
Diaspora		
USA	2	1
Europe	2	1
Total	28	14

Note: **Self nomination is not allowed**