***APPLICATION DEADLINE: 27 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 12:00 noon GREENWICH MEAN TIME***

* *The application process consists of two compulsory parts:****(1) online survey[[1]](#footnote-2)*** *(*[*https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/672471*](https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/672471)*)*

*and****(2) application form in Word format[[2]](#footnote-3)*** *(to be downloaded from* [*https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/HRC46.aspx*](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/HRC46.aspx)*)*

* *Once fully completed, the Word application form should be submitted by email to* [*hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org*](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)
* *A maximum of up to three optional reference letters may be attached to the email (in Word or PDF format).*
* *No additional documents (e.g. CVs, resumes or additional reference letters) will be accepted.*
* *Applicants will receive an acknowledgment email when both parts of the application process, i.e. the data submitted through the online survey and the Word application form, have been received by the Secretariat. Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.*
* *Applications will only be considered if both parts and all sections of the Word application form have been completed and received by the Secretariat before the expiration of the deadline.* ***No incomplete or late applications will be accepted****.*
* *Only nationals of the States belonging to the* [*regional groups*](https://www.un.org/dgacm/content/regional-groups)*, for which specific vacancies have been advertised, are eligible for the Working Group mandates.*
* *General description of the selection process and answers to frequently asked questions are available at* [*https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx*](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx) *and* [*https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/BasicInformationSelectionIndependentExperts.aspx*](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/BasicInformationSelectionIndependentExperts.aspx)
* *In case of technical difficulties or problems with accessing or completing the forms, you may contact the Secretariat by email (*[*hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org*](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)*) or fax (+41 22 917 9008).*

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family (last) name:** Ntaka | **5. Year of birth:** 1974 |
| **2. First (given) name:** Madoda | **6. Place of birth:** Rome, Italy. |
| **3. Other name, if any:** | **7. Nationality[[3]](#footnote-4) (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):** South African |
| **4. Gender:** Male | **8. Any other nationality:** Argentinian |

**II. MANDATE-SPECIFIC COMPETENCE / QUALIFICATIONS / KNOWLEDGE**

**NOTE: Please describe why the candidate’s competence / qualifications / knowledge is relevant in relation to the specific mandate:**

1. **QUALIFICATIONS** (200 words)

**Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights; good communication skills (i.e. orally and in writing) in one of the six official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)**

My professional qualifications in the field of human rights include a law degree from the University of Buenos Aires, the top law school in Argentina. In law school I had a profound exposure to international human rights instruments since it was a subject that I opted to attend as part of my legal branch specialization. I completed an accredited postgraduate program on international relations at the National University of National Defense. I serve as the legal adviser for the Attorney General of the City of Buenos Aires and I am the cofounder of the Organización Afrodescendiente para la Formación y Asistencia Jurídica (OAFRO), Argentina’s first Afro-descendant legal aid organization. I have been invited to present at academic seminars related to human rights, migration, constitutional law, economic growth, and access to justice in Argentina, South Africa and the United States. I have strong communication skills in my native language of Spanish and fluency in English which includes completing an advanced level program in England. I regularly give presentations and conduct business in both English and Spanish.

1. **RELEVANT EXPERTISE** (200 words)

**Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles. (Please state how this was acquired.)**

**Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the United Nations or other international or regional organizations’ work in the area of human rights and particularly in the area of the mandate. (Please state how this was acquired.)**

**Proven work experience in the field of human rights and particularly in the area of the mandate. (Please state years of experience.)**

My relevant knowledge was acquired by working and participating in various organizations in civil society and at the federal level. I took part in the meetings held in Buenos Aires (Ministry of Justice and Human Rights) related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Developments Goals (SDG) adopted in 2015. As a practicing lawyer, I participated in the commission focused on the SDG 16 which underscores the importance of building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels as the foundation for achieving desired outcomes. The International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination resonated with me in its connection to the core principles of the South African Freedom Charter for the Rainbow Nation. I was invited to participate as a speaker at the 57 th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Indianapolis, U.S.A., 2014 which was focused on the South African Theme: ¨Rethinking Violence, Reconstruction and Reconciliation.¨ As a South African and Argentine lawyer, I was invited to participate in an official visit to South Africa representing the Argentine-South African Chamber of Commerce in 2007. I visited the country several times for projects on social development, agriculture, and sports.

1. **ESTABLISHED** **COMPETENCE** (200 words)

**Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired.)**

My legacy is activism as my father Simon “Blues” Kotsi Ntaka, also fought for the rights of African diasporic people until 1965, when he was forced into exile in Argentina. He instilled the importance of playing an active role in creating a just society. Nationally, I served as the director of the Human Rights Unit of the Argentine Institute for Equality, Diversity, and Integration and co-organized the ¨First Meeting on Free Legal Aid Providers¨ in Buenos Aires. Regionally, I serve as a legal advisor for the Centre for Legal and Social Studies and Argentine Commission for Refugees assisting refugees from Africa and Latin America. As a member of the Argentine-American Network for Leadership, I spoke on access to free legal aid at the Latin American Seminar in Mediation. Internationally, I served on the South African-Argentine Chamber of Commerce providing legal advice for commercial international trade between South Africa and Argentina to promote economic development. Finally, I was a featured speaker of the Seminar on the social repercussions of the Pandemic in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, and represented the City of Buenos Aires in the 2019 meeting with the UN Expert Group on People of African Descent.

1. **PUBLICATIONS OR PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

**Please list significant and relevant published books, articles, journals and reports that the candidate has written or public statements, or pronouncements that the candidate has made or events participated in relation to the mandate.**

* 1. **Enter three publications in relation to the mandate applied for, in the order of relevance:**

**1. Title of publication:** AFRICA`S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE

**Journal/Publisher:** https://argenafrica.wordpress.com/

**Date of publication:** April 3,2014

**Web link, if available:** https://argenafrica.wordpress.com/

**2. Title of publication:** THE DAY I MET MR. NELSON MANDELA. LETTER TO PRINCESS ZENANI DLAMINI

**Journal/Publisher:** https://argenafrica.wordpress.com/

**Date of publication:** March 28, 2014

**Web link, if available:** https://argenafrica.wordpress.com/

**3. Title of publication:** Aportes para la construcción de un ecosistema de justicia centrado en las personas

**Journal/Publisher:** Ediciones Saij. Ministerio de Justicia y Derechos Humanos

**Date of publication:** November, 2019

**Web link, if available:** http://www.bibliotecadigital.gob.ar/items/show/2659

**If more than three publications, kindly summarize** (200 words):I have published articles on economic development and partnerships between South America and South Africa. In the ¨Fourth BINATIONAL COMMISSION BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND SOUTH AFRICA,¨ I addressed the human rights approach which uses the framework of institutionalized oppressions and addresses the challenges that both countries face in the future. There is still a lot of work to be done in terms of human rights protections. Both countries have suffered similar authoritarian and despotic regimes from which each country can draw its own conclusions and assumptions. I also wrote an article titled ¨A BRIEF NOTE OF OUR DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM¨ discussing democracy as a legal and institutional structure on the African continent. I question the obstacles that impede reaching the ideals of unity, equality and social development in Africa. I highlight the fundamentals of a democratic system which include education, good governance and multiple perspectives. In another article titled ¨AN INTROSPECTIVE VIEW INTO SOUTH AFRICAN PUBLIC SERVICE,¨ I discussed the significance of the term ”public service,” which entails a social agreement that it should be accessible to everyone in an appropriate manner. I’ve additionally published articles on human rights, good governance and international relations.

* 1. **Enter three public statements or pronouncements made or events that the candidate may have participated in relation to the mandate applied for, in the order of relevance:**

**1. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** Building a Black Organization in a White Nation. The creation of Argentina´s First AfroDescendant´s Legal Aid Organization

**Event organizer:** Center for Ethnic Studies and the Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies.

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** September 17 th, 2020

**Web link, if available:** https://youtu.be/-r--jSYDKug

**2. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** ¨Racism, Colonialisim, Coloniality are also a world pandemic¨.

**Event organizer:** ALADDA AND ANU-AR

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** June 1, 2020

**Web link, if available:** Seminar on the social repercussions of the Pandemic in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. https://www.anu-ar.org/, https://www.facebook.com/silvia.perazzo.92.

**3. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** 57 th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. VI-G1 ¨Africa and the Responsability to Protect¨ Local and International Dimensions.

**Event organizer:** African Studies Association

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** november 21, 2014

**Web link, if available:** Rethinking Violence, Reconstruction and Reconciliation. African Studies Association. Cambridge Journals. Paper format

**If more than three, kindly summarize** (200 words):Conference on Africa: ¨Development and Human Rights¨. Library of the National Congress, Buenos Aires Argentina. April 2018. https://www.facebook.com/madoda.ntaka.5/

Seminar on ¨Politics and African Thoughts¨. Deputy Chamber of the National Congress, June 5, 2018. https://www.facebook.com/madoda.ntaka.5/

Interview upon the ¨International Visitor Leadership Program¨, City of RALEIGH, North Carolina, USA. September 19, 2017.https://www.facebook.com/madoda.ntaka.5/

¨Latin American Seminar in Mediation, Reduction of inequities¨. University of Buenos Aires, October 2, 2019, https://www.facebook.com/events/1079264559130961/permalink/1079264562464294/?sfnsn=mo Co organizer of the ¨First Meeting on Free Legal Aid Providers¨ which took place in the City of Buenos Aires, organized by the University of Buenos. November 27, 2018. Aires.http://www.derecho.uba.ar/noticias/2018/primer-encuentro-de-prestadores-de-servicios-juridicos-gratuitos

I have also co-organized the Second and Third meeting on Free Legal Aid Providers hosted in August 2019 and August 2020 respectively August 4 and 5, 2020.

1. **flexibility/readiness and AVAILABILITY of time** (200 words)

**to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its requirements, including participating in Human Rights Council (HRC) sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. Kindly indicate whether the candidate can dedicate an estimated total of approximately three months per year to the work of a mandate.**

**Please note that the work of mandate holders is unpaid. Those appointed as mandate holders serve in their personal capacities. They are not United Nations staff members, they are not based in United Nations offices in Geneva or at another United Nations location, and they do not receive salary or other financial compensation, except for travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance of “experts on mission”.**

My duties as a part of the working group would be an extension of the professional work I do as lawyer and my volunteer work in human rights activism. Many of the policies that govern how I practice law are based on UN international mandates. Serving in the working group would be a natural progression for me. As a mid level professional, I have the flexibility in my schedule to accommodate the work the position entails.

As a regular part of the work I do, I have traveled to South Africa and the U.S. to participate in various human rights-focused programs and seminars. The work I do with the UN will be prioritized as it is directly related to advancing the rights of the Africans and Afro-descendants I serve in Argentina. I will have no issue dedicating the time needed for the mandate.

I am not in need of a payment for my work with the UN as my professional position as an attorney satisfies my income needs. Participation in the working group will provide me with the invaluable experience, support, and exposure needed to advance my current activism projects like the Afro-descendant legal aid organization I co-founded.

1. **NOMINATION FOR THE MANDATE**

**Indicate whether the candidate has been nominated by (check all that apply):**

**Individual nominations (indicate this if the candidate is self-nominating)**

**Governments**

**Regional groups operating within the United Nations human rights systems**

**International organizations or their offices**

**Non-governmental organizations**

**National human rights institutions**

**Other human rights bodies**

**Name of the nominating entity and additional information about the nomination (use if applicable, for third-party nominations only)** (200 words)**:**

**III. Motivation Letter**(600 word limit. Must be typed in the space below and not sent in a separate email or as an attachment. To be drafted and signed (i.e. with a typed signature) by the candidate himself/herself even if nominated by another entity.)

As a South African and Argentine lawyer, I have dedicated my career to advancing the rights of members of the African Diaspora. With the upcoming 20th anniversary of the Durban Declaration of 2001, I am reminded of the significance of that meeting for Argentina which sent its own delegation of Afro-descendants helping bring visibility to our activism. We are also at the midpoint of the International Decade for People of African Descent. The challenge now is to advance the causes mentioned at these meetings in the Latin American context and beyond. I believe with my personal background, professional training, and international collaborations, I am well positioned to help achieve these goals.

I belong to this vulnerable segment of society. Though I had the opportunity to graduate with university-level degrees, I am not pleased to be the exception. I would like to ensure that all of the people of African descent have the opportunity to access quality education that prepares them for living-wage jobs. Through my work and activism, I have witnessed firsthand the urgent need to address the historical inequalities. The needs of Afro-descendants must be prioritized to end inequalities and discrimination.

The sustainable development goals have recommendations to provide a vehicle to address the racism, racial discrimination, and xenophobia, that people of African descent face every day around the world. I have already begun working towards these goals on a smaller scale with my work in Argentina providing legal aid and my international projects in the U.S. and South Africa. This includes my founding of the first Afro-descendant legal aid organization in Argentina. With my leadership experience and collaborative work in federal offices and grassroots organizations, I have the skillset to ensure that the goals of the Working Group are accomplished.

Being both African and Latin American, I would bring a unique perspective to the working group. I have provided legal representation for Afro-descendants in Latin America who have encountered violent racist attacks, illegal detainment, workplace and sexual harassment, migrant abuse, and employment discrimination. I have done my best to defend them using the skill sets I have, but I recognize the urgent need for more human rights training due to the surge in west African immigrants and Afro-descendant immigrants from Latin America combined with increased political mobilization against racism.

My participation in the working group will provide a deeper understanding of the roles of international actors in ensuring human rights are protected across the globe. The experience will give me the international tools to work with the main stakeholders in order to implement the guidelines and principles outlined in the Durban Declaration two decades ago. It will also provide me with additional human rights expertise to encourage states in the region to focus more on people of African descent a group who face multiple and compounded forms of discrimination.

Upon completion of my tenure, I will apply the new knowledge in my employment as an attorney and as an advisor to the City of Buenos Aires Attorney General’s office as well as to my leadership positions in the nonprofits REAL and IARPIDI which both focus on increasing access to legal aid for Afro-descendants. The situation in Latin America for the African Diaspora necessitates the nation’s more active and visible role in worldwide conversations about human rights protections especially in regards to its population of Afro-descendants. My legal training combined with previous experience participating in human rights-related initiatives have ensured that I will be able to take full advantage of the knowledge imparted on me and help the advancement of Afro-descendants across the globe.

**IV. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)**

**Please indicate all language skills below.**

**1. Mother tongue:** **Spanish**

**2. Knowledge of the official languages of the United Nations:**

**Arabic:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily orNot easily:   
**Write:** Easily or Not easily: **Speak:** Easily or Not easily:

**Chinese:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**English:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **easily**

**French:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **not easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **not easily**

**Russian:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**Spanish:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **easily**

**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

**NOTE: Please list the candidate’s academic qualifications (university level and higher, indicating the type of degree and field of study, and whether full- or part-time; for example, *Masters in Law, University of XXX, part-time, 1975-1977, city and country)*. If space in the table is insufficient, more than one degree may be listed in a single row below, separating them by a blank line.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of degree, field of study and name of academic institution, full or part-time:** | **Years of attendance**  (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2003;  for ongoing education, please put e.g. 2018-present): | **Place and country:** |
| Law Degree: University of Buenos Aires, Argentina | 1996-2002 | Argentina |
| Masters Degree Course: International Relations, University of National Defense, Argentine Defense Department, certified by CONEAU | 2010 | Argentina |
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|  |  |  |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held in the area of human rights, beginning with the candidate’s current (most recent) occupation.** **Also indicate whether positions held were full-time or part-time. If space in the table is insufficient, more than one position may be listed in a single row below, separating them by a blank line.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of employer,**  **functional title,**  **main functions of position, full- or part-time:** | **Years of work** (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2005;  for ongoing activities, please put e.g. 2018-present): | **Place  and country:** |
| Part time. Adviser to the City of Buenos Aires Attorney General Office, | Sept. 2016—present | Argentina |
| Part time. Associate Lawyer at Kaplan Attorneys at Law, | Feb. 2015—present | Argentina |
| NON-PROFIT Legal Aid Argentine Institute for Equality, Diversity, and Integration (IARPIDI), | Mar. 2014—2018 | Argentina |
| Non-PROFIT Legal Aid Centre for Legal and Social Studies (CELS) and Argentine Commission for Refugees and Migrants (CAREF). | Jan. 2001—Jul. 2003 | Argentina |
| Independent Legal assistance to the Afro-Argentine community in Buenos Aires, | Mar. 2001—present | Argentina |
| Part time. Argentine-American Network for Leadership (REAL), | Feb. 2015—present | Argentina |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS   
(of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1)  
*To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on the candidate’s behalf.***

**1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause the candidate to limit the extent of inquiries, to limit disclosure, or to weaken or slant findings in any way? If yes, please explain.**

NO

**2. Are there any factors that could either directly or indirectly influence, pressure, threaten, or otherwise affect the candidate’s ability to act independently in discharging the mandate? If yes, please explain:**

NO

**3. Is there any reason, currently or in the past, that could call into question the candidate’s moral authority and credibility or does the candidate hold any views or opinions that could prejudice the manner in which the candidate discharges the mandate? If yes, please explain:**

NO

**4. Does the candidate comply with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1? (Please answer YES if the candidate complies, NO if the candidate does not comply, together with an explanation.)**

***Para. 44: The principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time shall be respected.***

***Para. 46: Individuals holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity which may give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate shall be excluded. Mandate holders will act in their personal capacity.***

YES, the candidate complies with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the annex to Human Rights Conuncil resolution 5/1.

**5. Should the candidate be appointed as a mandate holder, the candidate will have to take measures to comply with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1. In the event that the current occupation or activity, even if unpaid, of the candidate may give rise to a conflict of interest (e.g. if a candidate holds a decision-making position in Government) and/or there is an accumulation of human rights functions (e.g. as a member of another human rights mechanism at the international, regional or national level), necessary measures could include relinquishing positions, occupations or activities. If applicable, please indicate the measures the candidate will take.**

There´s no current rise of interest in the activities that I carry out and I don´t hold any accumulation of human rights functions.

**VIII. CERTIFY AND SUBMIT APPLICATION  
*To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on the candidate’s behalf. The candidate’s name below should match how it is entered on the first page of the form and in the online survey.***

**I hereby certify that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete and are made in good faith. I understand that falsifying or intentionally withholding information will be grounds for not being selected or appointed or the withdrawal of any proposed appointment or, if an appointment has been made and accepted, for its immediate cancellation or termination.  
  
Kindly note that whilst no changes can be made after this application form has been submitted and the deadline for applications has expired, any relevant change of current occupation, employment, or position, or any other relevant fact or circumstance should be brought to the attention of the secretariat by   
email (**[**hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org**](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)**).**

**Please review the application before you insert your name and date to indicate your agreement.**

**Name:** Madoda Ntaka

**Date:** November 27th, 2020

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1. The short **online survey** is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate applying for and, if appropriate, nominating entity. The same name, gender and nationality must be used both in the online survey and in the Word application form. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. The **application form in Word format** includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words (section III of the form). The application form should be completed in English or French only, the two working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. The application form will be used as received to prepare the public list of eligible candidates who applied for the vacancy. The application forms of eligible candidates will also be posted as received on the OHCHR public web page for the selection process. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Only nationals of African States are eligible, see <https://www.un.org/dgacm/content/regional-groups> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)