



**Afronomicslaw Academic Forum
Eastern Africa**

Call for applications for the Afronomicslaw Academic Forum (Eastern Africa)

31 May 2022

The [Afronomicslaw Academic Forum](#) is a network of students, early-career researchers, and early-career practitioners interested in international economic law as it relates to Africa and the Global South. The Forum is led by its own members, who coordinate a wide range of programming to support the professional development and intellectual growth of members over the course of one year.

The Eastern African wing of the Afronomicslaw Academic Forum was established in 2020. Collectively, members of the Forum bring with them a wealth of knowledge not only on international economic law and how it intersects with topical issues in their host countries, but also on the limits of how international economic law is taught at universities on the continent. Members work in government, international and domestic organisations, private law firms, universities and elsewhere, or they are students. Their interests are diverse, but they coalesce around a deep commitment to understanding (and changing) how international economic law impacts, and is impacted by, Eastern Africa, Africa and the global South more broadly.

The Eastern African Regional Board, which is the leadership of the Forum in Eastern Africa, is looking for students, early-career researchers, and early-career practitioners from the whole Eastern African region who are passionate about international economic law to join the Forum as part of its second cohort.

Members benefit from:

- Monthly substantive lectures with renowned scholars (usually on the 1st Saturday of each month)
- Monthly presentations by members based on various scholarly works
- Skilled workshops on academic research and publishing

- Structured editorial support for the researching, writing, presenting and publishing of a short symposium paper for the Afronomicslaw Academic Forum Annual Conference
- Ongoing mentorship from leaders in academia, government and legal practice
- Ongoing career support for accessing postgraduate degree and career opportunities
- A diverse network of like-minded individuals from across Africa

Applications close on **15 June 2022**. Membership to the Forum is for one year and will last from **1 July 2022** to **30 June 2023**.

Applicants are encouraged to think carefully about whether they have the capacity to fulfil the requirements of membership for the full year. The selection process is competitive. Applicants will be assessed on their demonstrable interest/experience in international economic law and public international law; demonstrable interest/experience in academic research and writing; leadership potential; and time availability.

I. Membership Options Available to Applicants

The Eastern Africa wing of the Afronomicslaw Academic forum is pleased to announce that it is calling for applicants to join it as Regional Representatives for the year 2022-2023. There are two major ‘streams’ or ‘departments’ within the Eastern Africa wing of the Academic Forum:

- The Editorial stream is generally charged with editing all blog pieces written by the Forum’s representatives and any external source. It also takes a lead on any initiatives within the Forum that touch on legal research and writing (e.g., legal writing and writing workshops, research projects, etc).
- The Partnerships stream is in charge of actively looking for and sharing career opportunities that may tie in with representatives' personal development plans and contribute, in this way, to their professional growth. The stream also plays a key role in assigning mentors to the members of the forum. Mentors are usually experienced professionals and academics in the field of IEL.

When applying to the Forum, applicants can express an interest to join either of the two streams. However, since there are limited slots for these two streams due to efficiency purposes, successful applicants will be accepted as ‘general members’. General members do not belong

to a particular stream in the Forum but have the same responsibilities and duties that all other regional representatives are bound to under Part II below.

Where a slot later opens up in either stream, a general member may apply for a position in the relevant stream. Provided that where they apply to the editorial stream, they will be required to meet the additional criteria specified under Part III below.

II. Duties and Responsibilities of Regional Representatives

Regional Representatives are expected to exercise the duties and responsibilities of their positions in the highest standards of excellence, integrity and prudence. Their duties include:

- Writing blogs on International Economic matters as they relate to Africa and the Global South.
- Reading core books and materials within critical IEL knowledge space.
- Actively participating in the Academic Forum reading and internal discussions activities.
- Submitting/acting on all agreed and assigned work consistently, on time and done excellently.
- Making attendance at all sessions and lectures a priority.
- Being prepared to discuss the issues and business on the agenda and having read all background material relevant to the topics at hand.
- Cooperating with and respecting the opinions of fellow representatives, and leaving personal prejudices out of all discussions, as well as following the principles of collective responsibility.
- Representing the Forum in a positive and supportive manner at all times and in all places.

III. Eligibility Criteria

Eligible candidates must meet the following criteria:

a) General Membership

- Must be from a country in Eastern Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan, North Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi, Djibouti).
- A citizen, student or researcher in any country in the region they are representing.

- Undergraduate student, graduate student or early career researcher with a demonstrated experience in or exposure to International (Economic) Law as it relates to Africa and the Global South.

b) Editorial Stream

In the event of a vacancy in the editorial stream, applicants to the editorial stream will need to meet the following requirements:

- Demonstrated editorial experience or knowledge in substantive matters of legal research and writing or notable experience in legal research-related projects or initiatives.
- Demonstrated experience in or exposure to International (Economic) Law as it relates to Africa and the Global South.
- Excellent written and spoken English.
- Excellent written and spoken communication skills.
- Evidence of published writing will offer an advantage to applicants but is not necessary.
- Passing an editorial test.

c) Partnerships Stream

In the event of a vacancy in the partnerships stream, applicants to the partnerships stream will need to meet the following requirements:

- Demonstrated experience in or exposure to International (Economic) Law as it relates to Africa and the Global South.
- Have good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Display great emotional intelligence.
- Must be willing to adhere to deadlines.
- Must display that they have good problem-solving skills.
- Passing an interview.

IV. Application Process

To become a member of the academic forum, applicants should proceed as follows:

Stage 1

- Submit a statement of interest in English (with not more than 250 words) as follows:
 - Tailored to the forum's objectives.
 - Well written (grammatically and should be concise).
 - Demonstrate how they will apply the skills that they will get from being a member of the academic forum.
 - Demonstrate where they see themselves in 2-3 years and how the forum can help achieve that.
- Submit a Curriculum Vitae (3 pages maximum) with two referees *who can be contacted*.

Stage 2

Applicants who are shortlisted will proceed to the next stage. This will be in the form of virtual interviews at a specified date and time.

Applicants are to send their applications to afronomicslawacademicforum@gmail.com. **The deadline of receiving the applications is 18 June 2022, at midnight (East African Time).** In case you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Regional Board at afronomicslawacademicforum@gmail.com.