***APPLICATION DEADLINE: 27 JUNE 2024 AT 12 NOON GENEVA TIME***

* *The application process consists of two compulsory parts:****(1) online survey[[1]](#footnote-1)*** *(<https://forms.office.com/e/2zbGHzqvQ6>), and****(2) mandate-specific application form in Word format[[2]](#footnote-2)*** *(to be downloaded from* *<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/hrc57>)*
* *Once fully completed,* ***in English or French only****, the Word application form should be saved in Word format and submitted by email to ohchr-hrcspecialprocedures@un.org*
* *A* ***maximum of up to three optional letters of support*** *may be attached to the email (in Word or PDF format).*
* *No additional documents (e.g., CVs, resumes or additional letters of support) 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.*
* *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. Please read the instructions in this form carefully and fill the form fully in accordance with such instructions.* ***No incomplete or late applications will be accepted****.*
* *Candidates eligible for* ***Working Group mandates*** *are 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.*
* *General description of the selection process and answers to frequently asked questions are available at <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/nominations> and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/basic-information-selection-independent-experts>*
* *In case of technical difficulties or problems with accessing or completing the forms, you may contact the Secretariat by email (ohchr-hrcspecialprocedures@un.org) or fax (+41 22 917 9008).*

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family (last) name:** Ben Mansour  | **5. Year of birth:**     **1979** |
| **2. First (given) name:**   Hatem  | **6. Place of birth:**      **Oslo, Norway** |
| **3. Other name, if any:**        | **7. Nationality (please indicate the one nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):**      **Norwegian** |
| **4. Gender:**  Male  | **8. Any other nationality:**      **Tunisian** |

**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-word limit)

**Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights, and 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).**

Examinated as Cand. Jur. (Master of Law) from the University of Oslo (UiO) in 2007 with specialization in International Human Rights, International Criminal Law and International Refugee Law.

Training in applied asylum law in cooperation with other UN human rights conventions as well as; European Convention on human rights the Schengen-system and the Dublin-agreements, as caseworker.

**RELEVANT EXPERTISE** (200-word limit)

**Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles (please indicate how this was acquired). Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the work of the United Nations or other international or regional organizations in the area of human rights, and particularly in the area of the mandate (please indicate how this was acquired).**

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

Special expertise in the rights of refugees and immigrants from applied practice, and the situation of migrants in Europe in special.

Expertise in fact-finding missions having undertaken missions to Kosovo and Algeria.

Expertise on the Human Rights situation on people of African descent in Europe, Africa and South-America from having had responsibility for updating the security and human rights situation in all regions at different times at the Norwegian Immigrations Appeals Board.

Expertise in United Nations bodies from the afformentioned work. Experience in coordinating civil society domestically and internationally. Organised the WGEPAD meetings with civil society in Norway 2023.

1. **ESTABLISHED** **COMPETENCE** (200-word limit)

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

I have high competence in communication, public and inter-personal, acquired through work experience in such different capacities as private soldier in conflict area, music manager, bureaucrat and executive director of a national NGO.

Further I have high competence in antiracism, discrimination in employment and socio-economic structures through my work in DEI and as head of the Norwegian Center Against Racism.

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 in which the candidate has 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: Vi er ikke alltid farlige (on the life of Nelson Mandela)**

**Journal/Publisher:**      **Aftenposten**

**Date of publication:**    **12/2013**

**Web link, if available:**

**2. Title of publication:**    **10 Undersøkelser - Frihet (guest editor)**

**Journal/Publisher:**      **Transcultural Arts Production (TrAP**

**Date of publication:**      **06/2017**

**Web link, if available:**    <https://trap.no/uploads/10-undersokelser-var-2017.pdf>

**3. Title of publication:**  **Mørkebrune tall om brune nordmenn**

**Journal/Publisher:**  **Dagbladet**

**Date of publication: 09/2019**

**Web link, if available:** <https://www.dagbladet.no/kultur/morkebrune-tall-om-brune-nordmenn/71580097>

**If more than three publications, kindly provide a summary of the rest** (200-word limit):     Number of publications are too numerous to name all, ranging from articles on police-brutality and killings, discrimination of refugees of African descent, to structural racism in culture sector and welfare-system.

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

**1. Platform/occasion/event of public statement/pronouncement:**

**Event organizer:**  **United Nations Permanent Forum for People of African Descent**

**Date of public statement/pronouncement:**   **15.04.2024, 06/2023, 12/2022**

**Web link, if available:**

**2. Platform/occasion/event of public statement/pronouncement:**

**Event organizer: European Union, Black in Europe high-level meeting, Barcelona**

**Date of public statement/pronouncement:**  **11/2023**

**Web link, if available:**

**3. Platform/occasion/event of public statement/pronouncement:**

**Event organizer: Roots Synergy Roundtable, The Hague**

**Date of public statement/pronouncement:**   **25/05/2024**

**Web link, if available:**

**If more than three, kindly provide a summary of the rest** (200-word limit):    I will primarily show to my statements at the three sessions of the PFPAD, my calls for recognition through statistics, stronger Pan-African unity, a second International decade for people of African descent and youth representation among other points made. Further I have made similar statements in other international forms as well as frequently in Norway.

1. **flexibility/readiness and AVAILABILITY of time** (200-word limit)

**to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its requirements, such as participating in Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York; travelling on two country visits per year; drafting reports according to established deadlines; organizing and participating in consultations and meetings; addressing allegations of human rights violations with all concerned; providing advice to States and other stakeholders on issues related to the mandate; and engaging with a variety of stakeholders.**

**Kindly indicate whether the candidate can dedicate an estimated time of four to six months per year to the work of a mandate depending on its workload.**

As of the moment I am working freelance, consulting, public speaking and drafting several books/articles on antiracism/rights movements and Pan-Africanism my schedule is flexible. Un-paid I am organizing Pan-African network in the Nordics, and partaking in European networks. For employment I am will seek a part-time position with flexibility. During my time as executive director at the Norwegian Center Against Racism I have shown results while at for a longer période of time being without a deputy director and filling both roles.

I have proven large capacity doing voulenteer work or projects, from boardmemberships, running a music-management and being guest editor of an art publication to coaching my children’s football-teams.

I have economic stability as homeowner with no bank-mortgage, in Oslo, Norway, and have a degree of economical independence.

The flexibility in work and economic independence and proven high-capacity are good testament to that I will be available for the two yearly country visits, meetings and sessions in Geneva, and New York or elsewhere if/when necessary and expenses covered. As I in different capacities follow-up on human rights violations at the moment and take part jn consultations and reporting this will not have impact on capacity.

**Please note that the work of mandate holders is unpaid. Those appointed as mandate holders serve in their personal capacity. 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 a salary or other financial compensation, except for travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance of “experts on mission”.**

1. **NOMINATION FOR THE MANDATE**

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

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

 **Governments**

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

 **International organizations or their offices**

 **Non-governmental organizations X**

 **National human rights institutions X**

 **Other human rights bodies**

**For third-party nominations, please provide the name of the nominating entity and additional information about the nomination** (200-word limit)**:**

The nomination is made by the African Renaissance and Diaspora Network, executive director Djibril Diallo.

See attached letter of recommendation.

The African Renaissance and Diaspora Network (ARDN), headquartered in New York, is an international NGO with public charitable status 501(c)(3) and partnership agreements with the United Nations.

Operating in over 80 countries worldwide, ARDN is dedicated to accelerating the realization of the African Renaissance by supporting United Nations programs and priorities.

Mr. Ben Mansour is nominated on background of his combination of competence, experience and relational skills suited for the position as representative for Western-Europe and other states in the United Nations Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent

Mr. Ben Mansour has high expertise, with a background in International Human Rights law, and experience from applied practice from asylum-cases and politically from an NGO perspective, as well as a solid network among and knowledge of current and historical situations of people of African descent.

Mr. Ben Mansour is a great communicator with good inter-personal skills and would be a great addition to the WGEPAD.

The Equality and Anti-discrimination Ombud in Norway, Bjørn Erik Thon (LDO [ldo.no](http://ldo.no)) is the second nominating institution. See attached letter.

**III. Motivation Letter, INCLUDING YOUR VISION FOR THE MANDATE**600-word limit. Must be typed in the space below. Cannot be sent in a separate email or as an attachment. To be written by the candidates themselves, even if nominated by an other stakeholder. Please include your vision for the mandate.

I hereby apply for the position at the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent representing Western-Europe and other states. I believe my expertise in international human rights, my networking and communication skills in combination with my deep-rooted commitment to uplifting people of African descent, and knowledge and understanding of the current situations, injustice and difficulties people of African descent are faced with in different regions, and historical injustices leading to the current situation.

I believe the WGEPAD can be instrumental in bettering the situation of people of African descent nationally in member states through country visits and consultations, and at the same time pointing to injustices, discriminatory practices and socio-economical differences that affect people of African descent across nations and regions.

Trained in International Human Rights, with a background from peacekeeping, I from a young age wished to work for an equitable world. I came early to the belief that sustainable solutions are found through legal principles, obtaining rights of individuals and nations. In this international institutions, the United Nations in particular, are instrumental to nations, even more for human rights of individuals.

My early role models range from Malcom X, Mandela to Koffi Annan, and I have gained increased appreciation for the work of people as different as Hammarskjöld and Fanon. I believe most is accomplished being steadfast in principles, diplomatic in attitude and pragmatic in practice.

Speaking at the United Nations has been a long time ambition, and participating in the sessions of the PFPAD, and the visit of the WGEPAD to Norway were manifestations of years of building competence and experience bearing fruits. Of moments I could have mentioned giving statements, meeting dignitaries, but two moments that have given me hope for the joint work for all Africans stick out:

The first from closing of a the second session og the PFPAD in New York, as special rapporteur, Michael Mceachrane presented the recommandations from the PFPAD 2nd session applause rang through and I felt the hairs of my arms raise as mr. Mceachrane read the second recommendation, a second international decade for people of African descent. Just hours earlier I had handed him a petition for just this, after working the room getting signatures by numerous delegates including UN appointees and representatives of member states, and promises of support in the General Assembly.

The second is the country-visit of the WGEPAD to Norway. As we organized the town-hall meetings I came in contact with a group of refugee women of Somali background, all single-mothers with lack of employment, part of the most marSeeing how they prepared for the meeting, as the most marginalized group, their issues highlighted in the WGEPAD-report and put on the agenda nationally in Norway show a direct effect on the grassroots of a UN instrument I have never seen earlier on the issue on racial justice and discrimination.

I envision the WGEPAD can be more proactive, offering recommendations, and open for consultations with member states, as well as civil society.

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

**Please indicate all language skills below.**

**1. Mother tongue: Norwegian**

**2. Knowledge of the six 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:no   If yes,

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

**V. EDUCATION**

**Please list the candidate’s academic qualifications (university level and higher, indicating the type of degree and field of study, academic institution and whether full- or part-time). If space in the table is insufficient, more than one degree may be listed in the additional cell 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): | **Degree obtained** (please indicate YES or NO): | **Place and country:** |
| Name of degree:Cand. Jur. (Master of Law)Field of study: International Human Rights, Refugee and Criminal Law.Academic institution: University of OsloFull or part-time:Full-time | 2000-2007 |      yes | Oslo, Norway |
| Name of degree:      Field of study:      Academic institution:      Full or part-time:        |       |       |       |
| Name of degree:      Field of study:      Academic institution:      Full or part-time:        |       |       |       |
| Name of degree:      Field of study:      Academic institution:      Full or part-time:        |       |       |       |
| Name of degree:      Field of study:      Academic institution:      Full or part-time:        |       |       |       |
| Additional:       |  |  |  |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT**

**Please list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held in the area of human rights, beginning with the candidate’s current (or most recent) occupation. If space in the table is insufficient, more than one position may be listed in the additional cell below, separating them by a blank line. Please be as precise as possible since this section will be used for assessing the eligibility of candidates in terms of professional experience in the field of human rights.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of employer,****functional title,****main functions of position (brief description), full- or part-time** (please complete ALL fields): | **Years of work**(provide a range from-to, e.g., 05/1999-10/2005; for ongoing activities, please put, e.g., 08/2018-present): | **Place and country:** |
| Name of employer: Antirasistisk Senter/Norwegian Center against RacismFunctional title:Director       Main functions of position:Political strategy, communication and networking, administrative and economic responsibility Full- or part-time: Full-time | 05/2022-06/2024 | Oslo, Norway |
| Name of employer: Antirasistisk Senter/Norwegian Center against RacismFunctional title: Deputy Director Main functions of position: Political strategy, communication and networkingFull- or part-time: Full-time | 02/2022-05/2022 | Oslo, Norway |
| Name of employer:Kirkens BymisjonFunctional title:Project manager diversity and inclusion Main functions of position: Management of DEI-project for one of Norways largest NGOs, from data analysis to producing program of activities.Full- or part-time: Full-time | 08/2021-02/2022 | Oslo, Norway |
| Name of employer: Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board/UtlendingsnemdaFunctional title: Senior Advisor Main functions of position: casework on asylum cases and overreaching responsibilities in training and updating on human rights situationsFull- or part-time: Fulltime | 09/2016 - 08/2021      | Oslo, Norway |
| Name of employer:Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board/UtlendingsnemdaFunctional title: Interim Section managerMain functions of position:      Full- or part-time:Fulltime | 05/2018 - 09/2018      | Oslo, Norway |
| Name of employer:  Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board/Utlendingsnemda    Functional title:Project managerMain functions of position: Manage IT-project Full- or part-time: Fulltime | 03/2017 - 09/2018      | Oslo, Norway |
| Name of employer:Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board/Utlendingsnemda      Functional title:AdvisorMain functions of position:Asylum case-work, fact-finding missionsFull- or part-time:Fulltime  | 09/2010 - 09/2016 | Oslo, Norway |
| Name of employer:  Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board/Utlendingsnemda    Functional title:Higher Executive OfficerMain functions of position: Asylum caseworkFull- or part-time: Fulltime | 08/2007 - 09/2016 | Oslo, Norway |
| Additional: The Norwegian Armed Forces, KFOR NATO, Kosovo. Soldier-peacekeeping | 08/1999 - 03/2000 | Obilic, Kosovo |

**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. 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 paragraphs 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, and provide 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

**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 a 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 that the candidate will take in this regard.**

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

 **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 (ohchr-hrcspecialprocedures@un.org).**

**I hereby certify that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete and 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.**

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

**Name:**    **Hatem Ben Mansour**

**Date:**      **26.06.2024**

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1. The **online survey** is used to collect information for administrative 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-1)
2. The **mandate-specific 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-2)