



Uppsala, 6 Dec. 2023

Dear MANSAdenw

As stipulated in our newly adopted modifications of MANS A bylaws, we are proceeding to elections the coming months ([Bylaws](#)). By this message, I call for nominations for a number of positions.

Vice-President

This position is part of the new tripartite system of Vice-President, President, and Past President, each position with a two years term. The bylaws stipulate, in Article C, Section 1d, as follows:

“When developing a slate of candidates for the position of Vice-President, care will be taken to ensure that the candidates are based, in turn, in West Africa, North America, and elsewhere (Europe, Asia, Australia, etc.), so that different world regions are represented in the positions of Vice-President, President and Past President. In the absence of a suitable candidate for one region, another region may have a second representative.”

We now call for nominations of candidates for Vice-President based in the West Africa region. In two-years’ time, nominations of candidates for Vice President will be recruited from the category of members based *elsewhere (Europe, Asia, Australia, etc.)*. It goes without saying – but must be recalled – that all members who have paid their dues should vote in all elections. Hence, the regional sourcing does not mean that we should elect a regional representative, but a Vice President (and President, and Past President) for us all.

Treasurer

This is a new position since we have now split the previous position of Secretary-Treasurer. The bylaws stipulate, in Article C, Section 1e, as follows:

“The terms of the Secretary, Treasurer and West Africa Coordinator are three years, renewable by vote at the Annual General Assembly. Preferably, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the West Africa Coordinator are elected alternately with the other officers and between these three roles.”

We call for nominations of candidates for Treasurer. The term is three years. The Bylaws stipulate, in Article C, Section 5, that the duties are:

“(a) The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds and other important financial documents of the Association. He/She/They has the authority and power to approve, on behalf of the Association, checks, bills, and other obligations, and deposit to the credit of the Association or make payment in such bank or banks as the Executive Committee may designate. He/She/They records the receipts and expenses of the



Association and provides a full written report of all funds received and paid at the Annual General Assembly of members.

(b) The Treasurer shall deal with all membership and dues matters of the Association, including the establishment of annual lists of members up to date with their dues.

(c) The Treasurer proposes and monitors the annual budget of the Association.”

The position of Treasurer (2024-27) is theoretically open for any member. However, given that MANSNA’s Bank Accounts are located in the USA, the treasurer should be based in the USA as well. The current Secretary-Treasurer Marcia Tiede has opted not to run for the Treasurer position, but to run for the Secretary position (see below).

Secretary

This is a new position since we have now split the previous position of Secretary-Treasurer. The term is three years. The Bylaws stipulate, in Article C, Section 4, that the duties of the Secretary are:

“(a) The Secretary shall act as Secretary of the Association.

(b) The Secretary has custody of the archives and other important administrative documents of the Association.

(c) He/She/They takes minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee, the Annual General Assembly, and other business meetings, and makes them available to the President and/or the person designated by the President for distribution in the Newsletter.

(d) The Secretary prepares and distributes the Newsletter on the activities of the Association and its members.”

The position is open for any member. The current Secretary-Treasurer Marcia Tiede is candidate for the position of Secretary 2024-27.

West Africa Coordinator

This is a new position that has been de facto an appointed Officer position and member of the Executive Committee since 2021. The term is three years. The Bylaws stipulate, in Article C, Section 6, that the duties of the West Africa Coordinator are:

“(a) The West Africa Coordinator must reside in West Africa, assist in the recruitment of new members of the Association in Africa, and organize the collection of dues from members of the Association.

(b) He/She/They manages the bank account of the Association located in West Africa where membership fees are deposited for Africa-based members.

(c) He/She/They records the regional income and expenditure of the Association and provides a full written report of all transactions each year prior to the Annual General Assembly.

(d) He/She/They works with other Officers in the Executive Committee, as well as with the Advisory Board and the Focal Points, to organize events related to the Association in Africa.”

The position is open for members based in West Africa. The current West Africa Coordinator Yao Marcel Kouakou is candidate for the position 2024-27.



We invite nominations for these four important positions. The nominations should be in the form of a letter of maximum two pages summarizing the candidate's educational, research, and professional background, as well as current institutional affiliations. Any dues-paying member has the right to nominate candidates for all positions. The bylaws, in Article C, Section 1, h-j, stipulate:

“(h) Officers must be current in their dues.

(i) Two months before the Annual General Assembly, the President issues a call to all members who wish to nominate themselves or others for any open position on the Executive Committee.

(j) Any member who wishes to stand for election to one of these positions must send a declaration of candidacy to the Association at least three weeks before the elections by electronic mailing list of the Association.”

Deadline for the two pages nominations is 5 January 2024. As stated in the Bylaws, the declaration of candidacy shall be communicated at least three weeks before the elections by electronic mailing list of the Association. However, the current President (Sten Hagberg) and President-Elect (William Moseley), who do not stand for any election, will work with the practical organization of the elections. As such, please send nominations to Sten, and William. They will then compile and send out the nominations to the list serve once all nominations are submitted.

Sten Hagberg
MANSA President