

Board Member Candidate's e-flyer

First Name : **Apiyo**

Last Name : **Okwiri**



Why do you want to become an ASAF Board member?

I am motivated to pursue a position on the ASAF Board (Presidency) because I am deeply passionate about ASAF's mission to build a pan African forum integrating mobility students, alumni and other stakeholders through promoting mobility, strengthening capacity and contributing to policy development.

As a beneficiaries of EU scholarship we bear testimony of the quality of education and skills attained. I believe in the strength in numbers and that each person is uniquely qualified to provide a testament of the impact in the different countries and regions of Africa.

I believe that through collaborative efforts, we can make significant strides in Promoting EU mobility programmes thereby enhancing learning mobility, innovation and competitiveness in Africa by supporting young people's employability; Strengthening professionals skills through continuous skills training, collaboration with higher education stakeholders by promoting members insights into educational processes, policies and innovative practices and fostering dialogues with the responsible policy makers; Boosting leaderships through strengthening participatory and leadership skills through enriched programme wise, countrywide and regional efforts in articulated spacing, events and discussion platforms; and Growing the

active member portfolio through targeted facilitation/funding schemes and utilizing communication channels to provide voice for member activities

What is your vision for ASAF?

- **Strategic development:** I aspire to help develop and implement strategic initiatives that enhance ASAF's mission, focusing on promotion, advocacy, member engagement and enhancement.
- **Member Engagement:** I aim to strengthen the community by creating and strengthening programs and regional groupings that tap into the power of diversity and promote inclusivity and accessibility, ensuring that ASAF serves all members effectively.
- **Growth:** I hope to work towards establishing funding schemes and collaborative strategies that will support the long-term growth of ASAF, ensuring its continued impact and presence in our community.
- **Advocacy:** I want to raise awareness about ASAF's mission and activities, advocating for the organisation involvement in broader networks to attract new opportunities and resources.
- **Networked:** To help shape the future of ASAF it is imperative that the organisation networks with Higher Education stakeholders in Africa and beyond and I believe I can leverage my networks for the benefit of ASAF.

What skills do you bring to the position and what contributions do you want to make?

I have over fifteen years of expert knowledge and diverse experience in international partnerships, strategic planning, external relations and higher education cooperation. I have experience building and implementing partnerships with higher education institutions in Africa through working with regional bodies from all regions of Africa to ensure the successful design and delivery of the Harmonisation of African Higher

Education I have also gained relevant international experience as President of Erasmus Mundus Association (EMA).

Additionally, I work with key higher education stakeholders in Latin America, Asia and Caribbean States which offers a platform of sharing experiences interregionally, which ASAF can benefit from.

Why should you be elected as an ASAF Board member?

I am passionate about volunteering; I was present at the inception of the ASAF idea inspired by the Abidjan Declaration after the 4th Africa-Europe Youth Summit of 9 - 11 October 2017 in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire) and I helped steer ASAF to the launch in 2019.

I am eager now to contribute my insights and expertise to drive meaningful change within the organisation. I believe enhancing member engagement and fostering a stronger sense of community - ensuring that all voices are heard and valued is the best way to anchor a strong organisation.

I see this position as a chance to help shape the future of ASAF, and collaborating with members and board members to achieve our shared vision.