

Board Member Candidate's e-flyer

First Name : **Getachew Debas**

Last Name : **Belew**



Why do you want to become an ASAF Board member?

I am determined to become an ASAF Board member to have a significant impact on the organization's future and actively contribute to its mission of promoting academic cooperation between Africa and Europe. As a Board member, I will seize the opportunity to drive ASAF's strategic direction, coordinate its activities, and represent the forum at continental and global levels. Drawing on my expertise and diverse perspective, I will play a pivotal role in shaping ASAF's initiatives and enhancing its effectiveness in serving its members. Moreover, this role presents a unique chance for substantial professional growth, networking, and the ability to drive positive change in academic collaboration across continents.

What is your vision for ASAF?

My vision for ASAF is to strengthen its role as a dynamic and influential platform that empowers African students, alumni, and professionals who have benefited from international mobility scholarships. I envision ASAF as a catalyst for change, fostering a network of African change-makers who contribute to improving higher education across the continent. It should serve as a bridge between Africa and Europe, enhancing

academic cooperation and cultural exchange. ASAF should advocate for international mobility, expand learning opportunities, and promote intra-African mobility. As a hub for professional development, it should provide continuous learning and mentorship programs. ASAF should be a voice for African students, offering insights on higher education and international mobility. It should encourage innovation to address educational and societal challenges in Africa, while facilitating collaboration among members to create impactful projects. By realizing this vision, ASAF can play a crucial role in shaping African higher education, fostering global connections, and empowering the next generation of African leaders and professionals.

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

I will offer strong commitment, leadership, communication, and collaborative skills, honed through my experience. My exposure and experience, I can effectively represent ASAF across diverse forums. My contributions will focus on advancing Africa-Europe academic cooperation, expanding member networking, implementing innovative professional development programs, enhancing ASAF's policy advocacy role, and strengthening key partnerships. I am dedicated to advancing ASAF's mission and supporting the development of African students and alumni globally

Why should you be elected as an ASAF Board member?

I believe I should be elected as an ASAF Board member due to my deep commitment to fostering academic cooperation between Africa and Europe and empowering African students and alumni. Also, as an Ethiopian/East African, I bring a unique cross-cultural perspective that contributes to ASAF's inclusive approach. My exposure, experiences and track record demonstrate my ability to bring fresh ideas to expand ASAF's impact. Through my excellent network, I can create new opportunities for

collaboration and growth. My dedication to professional development aligns with ASAF's focus on capacity building. By electing me, you would gain a dedicated, skilled, and forward-thinking member ready to advance ASAF's mission and support African students and alumni on the global stage.