

MOTIVATION LETTER

Olatunji Mayowa

I am Olatunji Mayowa, a 26-year-old IFSA member from IFSA Tree Club LC, Nigeria. Starting from June, 2023, I will be done with academic year as an undergraduate of forestry student from the department of Forest Production and Products, Faculty of Renewable Natural Resources, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

I've been part of IFSA since 2018 and I've been privilege to hold 2 positions since then. I am currently the LC President of the IFSA Tree Club LC and also the Head of Organizing committees for NARM 2024. Throughout these years, I've developed my skills of interpersonal relationship, effective communication and writing skills, time-management, organization and team play dynamics. Therefore, it gladdens me to express my keen interest to apply for the position of Northern Africa Regional Representative.

EXPERIENCE

As the President of the Lc, I had the opportunity to organize many LC events such as Freshers' Orientation Workshop which fostered on enlightening the new students on how they can find their path in the field of forestry. In addition, I orchestrated various initiatives some of which were reported on the IFSA web page, these include engagement of communities towards creating a greener and resilient environment in celebration of the World Clean Up Day and International Day of Forests. Being the LC representative, I have regularly participated in the Regional Councils, Coffee Hours and Workshop that provided valuable insights and guidance towards assuming leadership roles within the organization. Moreover, I have actively engaged my LC and even other LCs to participate in IFSA activities as well as assisting them to occupy different IFSA official positions both at local and international level. Serving in the capacity as the Head of Organizing committees for NARM 2024, my experiences are transferable, especially in the area of program management, networking with other LCs and so on.

INTEREST

Taking up these responsibilities and engaging in IFSA projects has helped to garner experience and skills to understand the systematic workflow of IFSA. Now I am committed to take this

situation a level higher to the level of the whole region, the Northern Region, which the position of Regional Representative would enable me to do. This is an opportunity to give back to IFSA community especially to my region and I am indeed grateful for it.

UNDERSTANDING OF THE POSITION

As an active member of IFSA, I am aware of the responsibilities that the position entails and I'm preprepared to contribute to the success of the organization in assuming this role. In assuming this role, my primary objectives will be to maintain close contact with all country and LC representatives in our region. I will strive to ensure that they are fully aware of the valuable opportunities that IFSA can offer. Additionally, I am eager to reinforce and sustain the effort of my predecessor towards ensuring the standing and stability of the association within our region by engaging the active members, reactivating the non-active members and also ensures, if circumstance permit the incorporation of the new and intending members into the organization. I believe I have gained some of the experience in this area, having being mentored by my predecessor.

As the Regional Representatives, I would also like to try to develop the initiatives of conducting workshops inviting various experienced and developed foresters via online focusing on enlightening all members on how to navigate on obtaining the benefits embedded in Forestry as profession. My strongest skills lie in my determination and ability to learn anything I set my mind to. With my experiences, my understanding of the position, my passion, and my plans for the future, I believe I will make a great Regional Representative and can't wait to make IFSA community a better place.