

Terms of Reference for “Senior Network and Infrastructure Engineer (Consultant)” - WACREN

1. Background

WACREN is the West and Central African Research and Education Network which supports interconnections and fosters collaboration between R&E institutions in the region and international peers by building and operating a world class network infrastructure, developing state of the art services, promoting collaboration among national, regional, and international R&E communities, and building the human capacity of the REN community.

WACREN was constituted in 2010 with its headquarters in Accra, Ghana. Membership to the organization is open to national research and education networks (NRENs) from all 22 countries of the region and to other organizations sharing the WACREN vision. WACREN currently has 14 members, including NRENs from 11 countries in West and Central Africa.

Taking advantage of the European Union funded AfricaConnect2 and AfricaConnect3 projects, WACREN has started the process of rolling out its network, and thus needs more highly skilled, enthusiastic and motivated human resources to implement this process and put WACREN on a steady and sustainable growth path.

The following Terms of Reference are for the position of “Senior Network and Infrastructure Engineer as a Consultant”.

2. Scope of Work

- Day to day operation, monitoring and maintenance of the WACREN network;
- Deployment and commissioning of new WACREN POPs;
- Deployment, operation and monitoring of WACREN services infrastructure;
- Deployment and operation of the WACREN Network Operations Center in collaboration with the NOC engineer;
- Advise the CEO;
- Provide technical training when and where required;
- Participate in public forums, such as standards-setting bodies, and monitor technical matters that have the potential of impacting the mission of WACREN;
- Carry out any other tasks as and when assigned by the CEO.

3. Key Qualifications, Skills and Experience

Essential:

- A Master’s degree or Bachelor’s degree in IT/Computer Science with a network engineering focus;
- At least 3 years relevant continuous work experience in a network and infrastructure engineer function;
- Good hands-on experience in installing, configuring and managing Juniper and/or Cisco routing and switching equipment;
- Good understanding of network and systems security;
- Experience managing high performance web and data infrastructure;
- High integrity, drive for excellence and good interpersonal skills;
- Result orientation and ability to work autonomously;
- Ability to work in a team;

- Availability and ability to travel within and outside the WACREN region;
- Fluency in English or French; working knowledge in the other language is an advantage.

Desirable:

- Juniper certifications
- Cisco certifications
- Good experience with Research and Education Networks.

4. Type of Contract, Reporting, Assumption and Place of Duty

If successful, the selected applicant, as Consultant, will be offered a **3-months contract**. He/she will report to the CEO. The contract is renewable, subject to a mutual agreement between WACREN and the position holder.

It is expected that the successful applicant assumes duty on 1 January 2021.

Place of duty is at the WACREN Secretariat in Accra, but the successful applicant is allowed to work remotely if (s)he is not resident of Ghana.

5. Submission of Applications and Timeline

- Applications can be submitted online at <https://indico.wacren.net/event/115/>
- Deadline for Submission of Applications: **18 December 2020**
- Notification to Short-listed Applicants: **21 December 2020**
- Interviews of Short-listed Applicants: **22 December 2020**
- Notification to Selected Applicant: **23 December 2020**
- Deadline for Acceptance of the Position by Selected Applicant: **24 December 2020**

WACREN is an equal opportunities organization and female applications are highly encouraged.

Please note: only short-listed applicants will be contacted.

WACREN Secretariat: secretariat@wacren.net