

**ANNEX 1  
APPLICATION FORM**

	YES	NO
I am a national or resident of a Latin American and Caribbean country of Annex I of the Escazú Agreement	√ <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am registered in the Regional Public Mechanism by the closing date of the electoral register	√ <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am employed or have been employed in any branch of the State, national or sub-national, within the 12 months prior to the election	<input type="checkbox"/>	√ <input type="checkbox"/>

<p><b>a. Personal details</b></p> <p>1) Full name: Nicole Marie Leotaud</p> <p>2) Gender: Female</p> <p>3) Date of birth (day/month/year): 27 May 1970</p> <p>4) Nationality or country of residence: Trinidad and Tobago</p> <p>5) E-mail, for communications with the public: <a href="mailto:nicole@canari.org">nicole@canari.org</a></p>	<p>Include a photo if desired</p>
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<p><b>b. Subregion.</b> Indicate the electoral sub-region for which you are running (<b>select ONE</b>):</p> <p>Subregion 1. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Subregion 2. √ <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Subregion 3. <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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<b>c. Languages</b>				
Level of Spanish:				
Oral:	Basic: √ <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	High: <input type="checkbox"/>	Mother tongue: <input type="checkbox"/>
Written:	Basic: √ <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	High: <input type="checkbox"/>	Mother tongue: <input type="checkbox"/>
Level of English:				
Oral:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	High: <input type="checkbox"/>	Mother tongue: √ <input type="checkbox"/>
Written:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	High: <input type="checkbox"/>	Mother tongue: √ <input type="checkbox"/>
Other language (please specify)				
Oral:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	High: <input type="checkbox"/>	Mother tongue: <input type="checkbox"/>
Written:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	High: <input type="checkbox"/>	Mother tongue: <input type="checkbox"/>

**d. Letter or statement of motivation for applying for the role (600-1000 words maximum):**

My vision is that the rights and voices of all Caribbean people, including all non-state actors and particularly those who are vulnerable and marginalised, are respected and considered in decision-making to achieve eco-social justice and equity. This drives my work and I see the role of the elected representative of the public under the Escazú Agreement as an opportunity to bring together and support non-state actors calling for their rights to enhanced access to information, public participation, and access to justice in environmental matters in the region.

Building on the excellent work by the previous elected representatives of the public to input into the development of the text and advocating for countries to sign and ratify, I feel the next phase of work requires a much wider mobilisation and engagement of civil society and members of the public, especially vulnerable and marginalised groups. This work should focus on raising public awareness about the Escazú Agreement and gathering inputs from the public to feed into discussions at the COPs, the CSIC and other bodies of the Agreement. Advocacy for additional countries to join and on mechanisms for national implementation of the Agreement are critical; this requires broader mobilisation of stakeholders in countries across the region. There is very limited awareness of the Escazú Agreement among Caribbean civil society, and indeed many government agencies, and delivering on the ambitions of the Agreement will not be possible without broader outreach and involvement of all stakeholders and integration into existing policies and practices.

Mobilisation and engagement of stakeholders will require collaboration among the representatives of the public and with key civil society and other partners across the region. It will require establishing the structures and processes to support networking and coalition building among the public, so that voices from the region's public can be effectively fed into the Escazú Agreement processes at the regional level, and work at the national level.

It is key that the elected representatives of the public do represent the views and interests of the public. Effective synthesis, analysis and communication of recommendations from the public will be essential. But elected representatives of the public also need to effectively engage with the Secretariat, the COPs, the CSIS and the Presiding Officers to ensure that the processes are designed and implemented to support broad public participation in the Escazú Agreement processes and bodies. The process needs to be about much more than six persons designated as representatives – capacity building of the public to engage will be needed, as well as creating inclusive processes that enable stakeholders to effectively participate.

I would bring to the role my deep and broad experience as a Caribbean civil society champion, designing, facilitating and advocating for participatory processes across the region, leading communication initiatives tailored to effectively reach different target audiences, mobilising coalitions and networks, supporting civil society organisations, and involvement in multi-stakeholder policy processes. But I would come to this role with great humility and unwavering focus on serving the public, particularly those who are vulnerable and marginalised, and ensuring that their voices are heard.

**e. Education and relevant experience:** indicate your education and experience in matters related to the Escazú Agreement

Master of Science in Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development, University of Wisconsin-Madison (1996)

Bachelor of Science in Botany and Zoology, University of the West Indies (1991)

Nicole Leotaud has more than 25 years of experience working in environmental governance and management across the Caribbean in the non-profit, public and private sectors and academia. She has worked for the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) for over 16 years and has been Executive Director for the past 12 years, with responsibility for strategic leadership and management of this non-profit regional technical institute.

A conservation biologist by training, Nicole has spent the last 16 years with CANARI facilitating and promoting participatory approaches to natural resource management across the Caribbean, with in-country experience in: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Commonwealth of Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States Virgin Islands.

She has extensive experience in designing and facilitating multi-stakeholder engagement and has supported Caribbean civil society organisations with their own development, networking and influence. She has facilitated participatory development of national and regional policies, for example for the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). She is well known and respected across the Caribbean as a champion for civil society engagement in inclusive decision-making processes for environmental management and governance. She is a passionate advocate on Caribbean and SIDS sustainable development issues at global and regional fora. An experienced facilitator, she has successfully facilitated many multi-stakeholder processes which range from engaging local community resource users to supporting negotiators in global policy processes. She has led or co-led advocacy by CANARI and mobilised various civil society and multi-stakeholder coalitions and networks working to influence policy and practice.

Nicole has worked across the Caribbean region in diverse areas related to inclusive governance and management of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, green and blue economies, rural livelihoods and building resilience to climate change and natural disasters. She has developed, managed and executed research, capacity building, and processes for participatory policy development, planning and monitoring and evaluation. Current work includes leading research and advocacy on COVID-19 recovery as an opportunity for transformation to more inclusive, environmentally sustainable and climate resilient development.

**f. Time availability:** please explain your time availability and commitment to perform the functions of representative of the public

I am fully committed to continue my work to promote and facilitate participatory environmental management and governance in the region, particularly focused on amplifying voices of the most vulnerable and marginalised in society, through serving as representative of the public.

I am employed full-time at CANARI and expect the support of my organisation for this role, given that the Escazú Agreement is a key mechanism and perfectly aligned with CANARI's mission of promoting and facilitating stakeholder participation and collaboration in the stewardship of renewable natural resources in the Caribbean.

**g. Other relevant information**

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