

**ANNEX 1
APPLICATION FORM**

***** ALL FORMS RECEIVED WILL BE PUBLISHED *****

PLEASE SEND TO secretaria.escazu@cepal.org by 31 August 2022 (11:59 pm Santiago, Chile time)

Please select as applicable:

	YES	NO
I am a national or resident of a Latin American and Caribbean country of Annex I of the Escazu Agreement	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am registered in the Regional Public Mechanism by the closing date of the electoral register	x <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"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>

a. Personal details

- 1) Full name: Ruth viola Spencer
- 2) Gender: female
- 3) Date of birth (day/month/year): 1 4 April, 1955
- 4) Nationality or country of residence: Antigua and Barbuda
- 5) E-mail, for communications with the public: ruthspencer5@gmail.com



b. Subregion. Indicate the electoral sub-region for which you are running (**select ONE**):

- Subregion 1.
 Subregion 2. x
 Subregion 3.

c. Languages

Level of Spanish:

Oral: Basic: Intermediate: High: Mother tongue:
 Written: Basic: Intermediate: High: Mother tongue:

Level of English:

Oral: Basic: Intermediate: High: Mother tongue: x
 Written: Basic: Intermediate: High: Mother tongue: x

Other language (please specify)

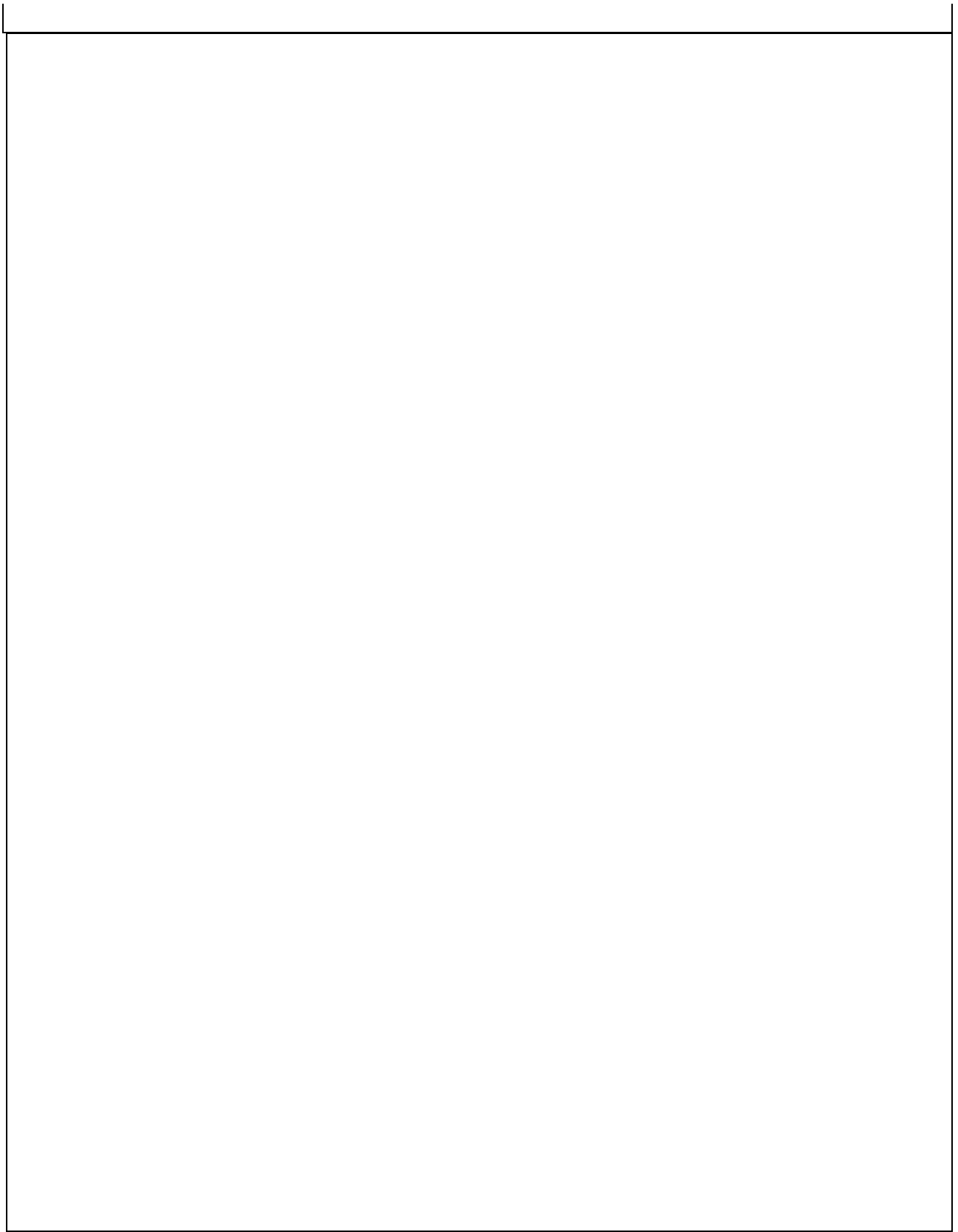
Oral: Basic: Intermediate: High: Mother tongue:
 Written: Basic: Intermediate: High: Mother tongue:

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

The knowledge and experiences gleaned over the years from working with people in all settings and walks of life has given me a wide and inclusive gender lens developing respect for each voice. I was fortunate to have been involved in the P10 negotiation processes since 2015 and my journey in advocacy and being a part of the public education and awareness processes has been wonderful with much learning and is leading to Escazu becoming a household name. I am able to build strong relationships with churches, private sector, community groups, CSO's locally, regionally and globally but the connections built with the vulnerable and marginalized groups that the Escazu agreement provides special consideration for, has been special and exciting. I know them by name and face and when they reach out to me in churches, in parking lots in the streets and supermarkets, I stop and make time to listen to them and am glad to be a part of their empowerment process.

My life operates by key values "do unto others as you would have them do to you" and "to whom much is given much is required. I have a vision and goal aiming for successes and achievement in many areas since in this role I will continue to be proactive and visionary, willing to go the extra miles, thinking outside of the box, taking on new roles and responsibilities willing to go against the odds, and making the necessary sacrifices to deliver "big wins" for the people. In the Caribbean region where I will be serving, I have the respect of the people, my work is exemplary, demonstrating integrity, showing humility and empathy with people. I have connections, alliances and association with many local groups that I have built up over the years so I can continue to build and strengthen alliances for Escazu actions.

As I reflect on this year-2022 since the start of face to face meetings post Covid and a Escazu local community representative- to many international meetings, I can recount the many doors of opportunities that have opened up for sharing on the Escazu Agreement, and linking the dots of the many engagements and meetings to the Escazu agreement., The meetings included the Geneva and Nairobi biodiversity meeting, the UNCCDD COP, UNFCCC SB 56 meetings, the Dakar plastics meetings the Bonn IPBES meetings. I have built many new relationships from my interventions and sharing on the Escazu Agreement. I have been building connections with government representative from Belize, Bahamas, Suriname and strengthened my relationship with the Mexican., Argentina, Guyana, St Lucia. I raise my hand, ask questions and make comments in side events and from the feedbacks received and persons coming to me sharing their cards, I know something I have said have impacted them. I make it a must and practice to share in webinars I attend and my voice and advocacy has impacted so many persons who have now invite and included me in many international processes. My relationships with the Indigenous People from many Latin countries have been strengthened and I have built personal relationships and have many on WhatsApp. Many times, I am the only Caribbean person participating in the meetings and events of the International Indigenous Framework for Biodiversity (IIFB) group for the Biodiversity Convention, in the Local Communities and Indigenous peoples (LCIP)Platform for the UNFCCC in the CSO Network for the UNCCD, in SAICM for Chemicals and Waste, the Mercury Minamata Convention, SDG's and other UNEP processes since I have been involved in the accreditation process for many of the local groups. In this way our local actions can be in the national reporting processes meeting global agendas and targets. I have also been documenting and involved in producing case studies, videos, evidenced based knowledge management products showcasing local community-based actions.



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

My interest in people centered development led me to studies at the Bachelor's, Masters and Post Graduate Student in Project Analysis and Appraisal and International Development Economics at Yale University, New Haven, Ct.

One of my interests is in appropriate technologies that make life better for the people and contribute to a cleaner environment. I was selected on International Women's Day, (IWD) 2019 by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda-the Department of Gender Affairs for the Inaugural Award for Energy, Climate Change and the Environment because of the kind of life I reflected to the nation. This adds to my selection as one of 5 finalists for the 2018 Nomination for the CARICOM Energy Personality Award and on June 5, 2015, I was Awarded the National Energy Globe Award for Antigua and Barbuda, under the patronage of the United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO) and in cooperation with United Nations Environment Programmed (UNEP)

My passion and dedication have led to building the capacities of the local community grassroots groups through mentoring taking on varied roles and responsibilities which bring empowerment and visibility to their work that is leading to socio economic and environmental development that is people centered. Where it is necessary, I do one on one work with local group leaders. My work and actions spread across many conventions to include Waste Management, Chemicals and Pollutants, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Mercury. I am blessed and honored to see the many opportunities for implementation, building synergies, integration and linkages of the Escazu Agreement with many processes and across the conventions and through piggy backing, I make many connections. I aim to ensure that the rights of all persons to a clean and healthy environment must be supported and backed up the knowledge, valuation and recognition of the people and aim for this to become a part of the overall decision-making process. These local solutions are impacting global agendas and target. I have authored several case studies that tell the stories and show the evidence of local community-based adaptation action.

I have been appointed to many national and international working groups and committees at the academic level. In Jan 2022, I was appointed by the Yale Alumni Association as mentor to Yale Graduate students, I provide one on one learning and sharing experiences to Graduate students which incorporate guidance, advice, best practices, sharing local to global solutions, gaps and challenges and knowledge management products. Opportunities are also provided for sharing on panel presentations and webinars for global audiences On Feb 22nd, I was appointed to the Board of Directors -Yale International Alliance and starting in the Fall 2022, I will host and lead a Yale Common Room on Environmental Governance. I was also recently selected to be a Co-chair of the Global network for local communities.

In the Caribbean region and in Antigua, I have been developing new relationships with members of the judiciary to include Magistrate Ngaio Emanuel, Dexter Wasson, Grenada retired Judge Rita Joseph Olivetti. Who have become strong allies in my work?

The way forward in this role requires bold advocacy but with passion, persistence, commitment and dedication the transformational changes that are required at all levels with government and members of the public will be realized through open, transparent, inclusive and participatory processes.

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f. Time availability: please explain your time availability and commitment to perform the functions of representative of the public
I enjoy working with people see this as an extension of my commitment to empowering and serving people. I commit to giving priority of my time, knowledge and resources to fulfill this important mandate to carry out the functions, roles and responsibilities of the Public Representative.

g. Other relevant information