

**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 Escazú Agreement	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am registered in the Regional Public Mechanism by the closing date of the electoral register	X	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a. Personal details

1) Full name: Bishnunnarine Tulsie

2) Gender: Male

3) Date of birth (day/month/year):
April 5. 1950

4) Nationality or country of residence:
Saint Lucian



Include a photo if desired

5) E-mail, for communications with the public: btulsie@gmail.com

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

Subregion 1.

Subregion 2.

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:

Other language (please specify)

Oral:
Written:

Basic:
Basic:

Intermediate:
Intermediate:

High:
High:

Mother tongue:
Mother tongue:

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

My role as the Chief Sustainable Development and Environment Officer for the Government of Saint Lucia (1995 – 2004) brought me into contact with, and allowed me to understand the value of meaningfully engaging civil society in matters of environmental sustainability. In this role I have had cause to engage in consultations and seek the inputs of the public, mainly through engagement with the private sector, NGOs and CSOs in developing policies, strategies and laws that affect the country as a whole. At some point in this process I felt that a permanent mechanism was needed to formalize these interactions, and led the process to create a Cabinet approved National Environmental Commission as the vehicle to achieve this improvement. This worked well for some years but fell into a hiatus after I retired from the public service.

Between 2004 and 2021 I served as the Director of the Saint Lucia National Trust which is an NGO mandated by law to protect, conserve and sustainably use the country's natural and cultural heritage in support of sustainable development. The Trust is a membership organisation and pursues its mandate through cooperation and collaboration with other NGOs, CBOs and public sector agencies. In this role, I was able to reflect on the manner of engagement between the public sector and NGOs through the eyes of an NGO and came to the conclusion that while the intention was good, those consultations were undertaken too late in the processes and served mainly to confirm that the consultations took place, rather than to meaningfully seek and incorporate the views and concerns of the public in matters of environmental sustainability. This caused me to pursue two things.

Firstly, I was able to convince my Board that we should create a Coalition of Civil Society Organisations (CCSO) to serve as an umbrella organisation to represent the collective views on civil society in matters of national development as to support the attainment of their individual mandates. I invested time and resources, including grant funding I was able to raise, to convene consultations with interested NGOs and through this process we have developed the Charter, Articles of Incorporation and Bye-laws for the CCSO. We are in the process of having the Coalition formally registered as a non-profit organisation. The vision of the Coalition, which I chair, is for civil society to be fully engaged as equal partners with the public and private sectors in the sustainable development of Saint Lucia, and its mandate includes serving as a common voice for NGOs and CSOs on matters of sustainable development, to provide a platform for discussion and debate among members and with the wider society on matters related to sustainable development and good governance, and to promote, advocate for, and where possible, facilitate effective social accountability.

Secondly, when I became aware of ECALC's efforts to give effect to Principle 10 of the Rio Agreement, I was able to convince my Board to get involved in the process, and assigned a member of staff, Mrs. Kareta Crooks-Charles, to be our point person on this matter from 2013. I provided technical and financial support for the work undertaken during the negotiations for the Agreement and for national level consultations to inform inputs, and to advocate for Saint Lucia to become integrally involved in promoting Principle 10 of the Rio Agreement. The National Trust also raised grant funding with the assistance of ECLAC to support the advocacy work we did to drive national interest in Principle 10 and now, the Escazu Agreement. I say without fear of contradiction that it is the work we did that persuaded the Government of Saint Lucia, acting through the Department of Sustainable Development, to become more involved in the Principle 10 and now, the Escazu processes.

I am currently retired but still invest time in promoting the work of the CCSO. While we await formal registration, we launched a membership drive, beginning with the organisations that were involved at the formation stage of the CCSO.

During my professional career in environment and sustainable development (1990 – 2021), I participated in many international negotiations at various levels, including as Saint Lucia’s head of delegation to Conferences of the Parties to the UNFCCC, the Montreal Protocol and the Basel Convention and served on several ad-hoc and governing committees of the convention bodies. I believe I have a good understanding of the international negotiating processes which will serve me well, if elected. I have also worked as a consultant in all CARICOM countries on environment and sustainable development matters, through which I have developed social capital, particularly within the environmental sustainability community

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

I do not have any formal education related to the Escazu Agreement. My knowledge of these matters is derived from 32 years of experience at various levels and with the insights of both as a public servant that headed the environment and sustainable development portfolio, and as the head of an NGO. This is well explained in section (d) above. I did, however, complete two university level law courses – The English Legal System and Contract Law – during my studies for Level 1 of the Chartered Association of Certified Accounts qualification.

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

I am retired and work as a private consultant. I also do voluntary work with the Coalition of Civil Society Organisations of Saint Lucia and provide voluntary support to local NGOs in developing proposals for grant funding and with issues related to organizational governance. My time is quite flexible except, of course, when I may have tight deadlines for consultancy outputs. Having read the duties of the representative of the public, feel that I will have the time to dedicate to this important duty.

g. Other relevant information

I have dedicated my life's work to making a difference in terms of human development sustainable development and am of the view that if elected, serving as a representative of the public within the Escazu process will allow me to continue providing this service, now that I am retired.

ANNEX 2
AFFIDAVIT ON ARTICLE 7 (c) OF THE RULES FOR THE
ELECTION
OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC FOR THE ESCAZÚ
AGREEMENT

In Gros Islet, Saint Lucia, on (date) August 22nd, 2022, I, Bishnunarine Tulsie, passport number R277180, with address at 30A Bonne Terre, Gros Islet, Saint Lucia declare for the purposes of my candidacy as elected representative of the public for the Escazú Agreement:

1. To have read and understood the Rules for the election of representatives of the public for the Escazú Agreement, including the requirements for submitting candidacies.
2. Not to incur in the prohibition set out under article 7 c) of the Rules for the election of representatives of the public for the Escazú Agreement, that is, “not be employed or have been employed in any branch of a State, whether national or subnational, in the 12 months prior to the election”.
3. To be aware that failure to comply with this affidavit or providing false statement will result in the disqualification of my candidacy from the election process.



SIGNATURE
