How to start the application process:

The application process consists of two parts: the first part is a web-based survey and the second part is an application form in Word format. Both parts and all sections of the application form need to be completed for the application to be processed.

**First part:** The [web-based survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WebApplication_SMH_HRC28_March2015_26_22) is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate/s applying for and nominating entity. **The web-based survey should only be completed once** per selection round, i.e. multiple selection is allowed to indicate if the candidate is applying for more than one mandate within a given selection round.

**Second part:** The application form in Word which can be downloaded, completed and saved in Word format and then submitted as an attachment by email. Information provided in this form includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words. The application form should be completed in English only. It will be used as received to prepare the public list of candidates who applied for each vacancy and will be made available to concerned parties, including through the OHCHR public website.

Once completed, the application form in Word should be submitted by email to [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)

If the candidate is applying for more than one mandate, a mandate-specific application form needs to be completed and sent for each mandate.

* A maximum of three reference letters can be attached, in pdf format, to the application sent by email. No additional document is required.
* **Application deadline: Friday, 20 February 2015 (12.00 noon GMT)**
* Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.

General description of the selection process is available at <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx>

Please note that for this appointment, only nationals of States belonging to the specific regional group are eligible. Please refer to the list of United Nations regional groups of Member States at <http://www.un.org/depts/DGACM/RegionalGroups.shtml>

In case of technical difficulties, or if you encountering problems completing or accessing any of the forms, the Secretariat may be contacted by email at [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org) or fax at + 41 22 917 9011.

**An acknowledgment email will be sent when we receive both parts of the application process, i.e. the information through the web-based survey and the Word application form by email.  
Thank you for your interest in the work of the Human Rights Council.**

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family name:** Gomez | **5. Sex:**  **Male**  **Female** |
| **2. First name:** Daira | **6. Date of birth (dd-mm-yy):** 2-sep-65 |
| **3. Maiden name (if any):** | **7. Place of birth:** San Jose |
| **4. Middle name:** Corina | **8. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):** Costa Rica |
|  | **9. Any other nationality:** Spain |

**II. MANDATE - SPECIFIC COMPETENCE / QUALIFICATIONS / KNOWLEDGE**

**NOTE: Please describe why the candidate’s competence / qualifications / knowledge is relevant in relation to the specific mandate:**

1. **QUALIFICATIONS** (200 words)

**Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights; good communication skills (i.e. orally and in writing) in one of the six official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)**

I have a master´s degree on Industrial Management from the Catholique University of Louvain, Belgium. I speak French, English and Spanish. Since 2000, I am the Executive Director of CEGESTI, a non for profit organization aiming to promote sustainable development in Latin America. I lead the main activities of CEGESTI:i) raising awareness on environmental and human development issues; ii)capacity building of individuals and organizations to conduct responsible businesses, iii) public policy on decent jobs, respect of human rights, responsible public procurement, and iv) transfer of knowledge through methodologies, success cases, best practice manuals. I´ve published 85 articles in magazines and newspapers about sustainable development, human rights, decent jobs, responsible investments and strategic management. I´ve participated in publications to facilitate implementation of the UN Guiding Principles, methodologies for integrating human rights on business practices and manuals to promote financial investmests while respecting environment and human rights www.cegesti.org. I actively speak in international conferences (spanish/english) on social responsibility, human rights and sustainable development making an empahisis on SMEs and discrimination issues. I took park of the development of ISO 26000 and now I am on the Post Publication Organization

1. **RELEVANT EXPERTISE** (200 words)

**Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles. (Please state how this was acquired.)**

**Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the United Nations or other international or regional organizations’ work in the area of human rights. (Please state how this was acquired.)**

**Proven work experience in the field of human rights. (Please state years of experience.)**

As Director of CEGESTI, I acquired a sound knowledge of United Nations System. CEGESTI is the result of ONUDI and UNDP and acted as UNDP project from 1990-2008. CEGESTI is a NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC. I have 22 years experience on business&sustainability and I lead CEGESTI´s efforts on capacity building and training on human rights, labor rights, responsible investment and environment. At present 1,500 SMEs have benefited, 140,000 person-hours of training have being provided and through due diligence processes we support the channel of financial resources to companies proving respectful practices and compliance to human rights. I´ve experience on WG mandate. CEGESTI executed the project: Strengthening Human Rights www.negociosresponsables.orgThe Outputs were presented at 2014 UN Forum in a parallel session:

A. 972 workers, 900 producers benefited from stronger capacities from businesses to respect human and labor rights. Indirect benefit: 1268 producers, 330 companies.

B.Public commitment to respect human rights by private sector organizations representing more than 3,000 companies. CACIF in Guatemala, Renovables in Nicaragua and AHPER in Honduras.

C.Four regional spaces of dialogue regarding UN Guiding Principles one of them with the participation of Mr. Selvanathan and Ms. Guaqueta.

D.Three public policies to incentive compliance with human rights.

1. **ESTABLISHED** **COMPETENCE** (200 words)

**Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired.)**

Through practical experience on the field, working with different stakeholders and time dedicated to study and research, I have developed the following competences:

1. Capacity to design, fundraise and implement initiatives at Regional level with the participation of multiple stakeholders in order to strengthen capacities of individuals and organizations to overcome challenges linked to the respect human rights, labor rights, environmental sustainability and responsible investments.

2. Capacity to facilitate spaces of dialogue among businesses, governments and civil society on how to integrate human rights into business practices.

3. Ability to approach the organized private sector from different countries and create synergies to incentive private policies to respect human rights.

4. Capacity to lead creation of knowledge resources that facilitate the implementation of good practices by business community.

5. Ability for setting at international conferences actions taken in the Region on topics such as the respect of human rights by businesses,the role of the financial sector

6. Capacity to advice on strategic planning and work in a multicultural environment as I did for International IDEA.

7. Capacity to commit efforts to found NGOs focus on issues of human rights, ex. The National Advisory Council on Social Responsibility, LN of Global Compact, ISO 26000-PPO

1. **flexibility/readiness and AVAILABILITY of time** (200 words)

**to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its requirements, including participating in Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. (Indicate whether candidate can dedicate an estimated total of approx. three months per year to the work of a mandate.)**

The role of being the Executive Director of CEGESTI is time demanding, since CEGESTI is a non for profit organization, relative small, with multiple activities in the region.

In case, I am elected I will make myself available.

**III. Motivation Letter** (600 word limit)

My professional career has been devoted to work, from the perspective of a technically strong NGO, with the private sector and its stakeholders to carry on responsible businesses in compliance with law and human rights. I´ve been dedicated to facilitate awareness, capacity building, generation of knowledge resources and public policies to guarantee that businesses and individuals have the tools, instruments and most important the access to use them to create economic, environmental and social conditions that enhance well-being.

My motivation to join the Working Group, stems from my desire to contribute to the mandate given by the Human Rights Council to promote the effective and comprehensive dissemination and implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and therefore improve its impact on people´s dignity.

As a member of the Working Group, I would like to share my 22 years experience supporting productive organizations, small and medium sized companies, cooperatives, gubernmental institutions and local governments in Central America, the Caribbeans and South America to improve their ability to face sustainability challenges and, in particular, the respect for human rights.

Since 2011, I´ve closely followed the activities of the WG and been actively involved in the dissemination of the Guiding Principles among businesses. I´ve participated in the three UN Forums, first as attendee and later on as chair of the Panel: Implementation of the UN Guiding Principles in agribusiness, and in 2014 as organizer and panelist of the parallel sesion “The Commitment of the Central American Private Sector to respect Human” Rights” as well as panelist on the session: Integrating human rights into public procurement”. In the 2013 at Regional Forum for Latin America, I presented the work of CEGESTI implementing the Guiding Principles.

As I member of the WG, when organizing the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights I would like to:

1. Enhance participation of Latin American stakeholders and, in particular, of the business community as I stated on my letter sent to the WG in April 2013.

2. Strenghten visibility of SMEs companies and producers respecting human rights, and the need to have responsible value chains.

3. Motivate implementation of sustainable public procurement to integrate human rights into business practices.

4. Make efforts to achieve a balance participation of developing countries and stakeholders to achieve a fruitful dialogue.

I am willing to joint efforts with the members of the WG to promote and increase training and capacity building on the use of the Guiding Principle and sharing my knowledge working in the field with UNDP, the Netherlands and German Cooperation, Global Compact, The Regional Office of ILO in Central America, ISO and with responsible finance organizations such as DEG Invest and Oikocredit.

I would like also to contribute with my experience promoting synergies and partnerships among multi-stakeholders groups, to motivate National Action Plans for the implementation of the Guiding Principles in Latin America since they are fundamental for scaling up actions.

In regards to the recommendation to establish a regular and systematic process for measuring and reporting on progress made by States and businesses in implementing the Guiding Principles, I plan to effectively find ways to satisfy this request.

Finally, I believe that a fundamental part of the role of a member of the WG is to actively listen to different stakeholders to build trust and create spaces of dialogue to identify paths to make feasible the UN "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework and I am committed to do so.

**IV. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)**

**Please indicate all language skills:**

**Mother tongue:** **Spanish**

**Arabic:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily orNot easily:   
**Write:** Easily or Not easily: **Speak:** Easily or Not easily:

**Chinese:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**English:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **easily**

**French:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **easily**

**Russian:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**Spanish:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **easily**

**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

**NOTE: Please list the candidate’s academic qualifications (university level and higher).**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of degree and name of academic institution:** | **Years of attendance**  **(from-to):** | **Place and country:** |
| Master on Science. Industrial Management, "Supra Cum Laude". Université Catholique de Louvain. Thesis on Strategic Business Alliances among European Small and Medium Sized Companies | 1990-1992 | Louvain-La Neuve Belgium. |
| Bachelor´s Degree on Industrial Engineering, University of Costa Rica | 1983-1988 | San José, Costa Rica |
| Licenciatura. Industrial Engineering, University of Costa Rica | 1988-1989 | San José, Costa Rica |
|  |  |  |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held, beginning with the most recent one.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of employer,**  **functional title,**  **main functions of position:** | **Years of work (from-to):** | **Place and country:** |
| CEGESTI, a NGO that promotes sustainable development in Latin America. I am the Executive Director of CEGESTI and international expert on responsible investments, human rights & businesses, capacity building of small and medium sized companies, strategic business planning and innovation.  I´ve been responsible for the management of multiple projects in Central, North and South America and Europe for international cooperation agencies, such as UNDP, ONUDI, IDB, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and the German Technical Cooperation.  I am responsible for the design of specialized technical assistance services for various industries and the identification of funding opportunities at international level and the management of CEGESTI relations with institutes, universities and global companies located in different continents.  I´ve acted as International Evaluation Consultant for UNIDO projects in Mexico, Ecuador and Uruguay and has supported intergovernmental organizations such as International IDEA in Sweden, including operations in Nepal, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, United States, Ghana and South Africa, and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) in Rome, Italy.  Founder and Board Member of a number of organizations among others: The Costa Rican Chapter of Project Management Institute, The National Cleaner Production Center, The National Counsil on Social Responsibility and member of several national and international technical committees on environmental management, waste management competitiveness, and social responsibility (ISO 26000 on social responsibility and INTE 35 standard management systems of social responsibility). Currently she is NGO representative of the ISO-PPO on social responsibility  I regularly publish articles on national newspapers and magazines and has provided several courses and workshops in Central America, Mexico, Haiti, Brasil, Peru, Spain, Sweden and Austria. She has been professor at Master Degree level at the University of Costa Rica.  As Executive Director, her main responsibilities are:  Define and follow up the strategic planning of the organization.  Planning, control and monitoring the operational activities.  Supervise the activities of 15-18 fulltime experts and seven support personnel.  Proactive identification of new knowledge and technologies in order to create or strengthen the organization services.  Ensure an adequate project management of each project work carried out by the organization assigning the adequate human and financial resources.  Ensure the efficacy of the quality system.  Manage the organizational culture and maintain and excellent work environment.  Ensure the achievement of sustainable indicators of the organization.  Responsible for the management of large international cooperation proyects in Central America and the Carribean, the design of consultancy services specialized for different kind of industries.  Responsible for representing CEGESTI in several organizations such as: National Council in Social Responsibility, The National Institute on Technical Standards, PYME Network, International Platform on Social Responsibility.  Responsible for resource movilization for CEGESTI. This task implies a close relation with donors, partners, thinks thanks, beneficiaries | 2000-present | San José, Costa Rica |
| Project Coordinator at CEGESTI. I was responsible for fund raising and service delivery to Small and Medium Sized Companies to strenghthen their competences on finance, cost monitoring and software. | 1999-2000 | San José, Costa Rica |
| Project Manager at CEGESTI. I was responsible for projects concerning strategic alliances between Costa Rican and Swedish SMEs financed by the Swedish International Agency for Development and between CR and European SMEs through mechanisms such as BRE, AL-INVEST. Support was provided to help companies from both sides to drive the cooperation agreement, manage culture differences, and integrate innovation and technological planning  Project Manager in the areas of cost monitoring systems, software development and information technology. | 1994-1997 | San José Costa Rica |
|  |  |  |

**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS   
(of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1)**

**1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause him/her to limit the extent of their inquiries, to limit disclosure, or to weaken or slant findings in any way? If yes, please explain.**

No

**2. Are there any factors that could either directly or indirectly influence, pressure, threaten, or otherwise affect the candidate’s ability to act independently in discharging his/her mandate? If yes, please explain:**

No

**3. Is there any reason, currently or in that past, that could call into question the candidate’s moral authority and credibility or does the candidate hold any views or opinions that could prejudice the manner in which she/he discharges his mandate? If yes, please explain:**

No

**4. Does the candidate comply with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1?**

***Para. 44: The principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time shall be respected.***

***Para. 46: Individuals holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity which may give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate shall be excluded. Mandate holders will act in their personal capacity.***

yes

**5. Should the candidate be appointed as a mandate holder, he/she will have to take measures to comply with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1. In the event that the current occupation or activity, even if unpaid, of the candidate may give rise to a conflict of interest (e.g. if a candidate holds a decision-making position in Government) and/or there is an accumulation of human rights functions (e.g. as a member of another human rights mechanism at the international, regional or national level), necessary measures could include relinquishing positions, occupations or activities. If applicable, please indicate the measures the candidate will take.**

Not applicable

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