

OFFICE OF NATIONAL SECURITY

Position title: Communication Specialist

Opening date: 1 August 2019

Closing date: 31 August 2019 23:59 EAT

****Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply****

Terms of Reference

The Federal Republic of Somalia (FGS) is committed to reform the Somali security sector as set out in the National Security Architecture and in line with the priorities agreed in the Transition Plan. The Office of National Security in Villa Somalia is seeking a communication specialist to support the National Security Adviser and Office of National Security.

Office of National Security:

The Office of National Security (ONS) of the Federal Republic of Somalia sits in the Office of the President in Villa Somalia. The Office is headed by the National Security Adviser (NSA) to the President of Somalia. The NSA with the support of the ONS, provides comprehensive policy advice on national security matters to the President and senior FGS leadership, to support national and state-level national security coordination structures (the NSC and its subsidiary bodies), and Regional Security Councils (RSCs) and Offices (RSOs).

Role:

In the last two years the FGS has undertaken a number of landmark reforms in the security sector and has made significant progress in building Somali security institutions. At the same time, comprehensive security operations are being carried out across the country to recover communities from al-Shabaab and return stability and security to the people of Somalia. One of the most challenging aspects of reform is changing the narrative on Somalia to build confidence in our progress, and to counter al-Shabaab's propaganda machine.

The Communications Specialist in the ONS will be responsible for communicating progress and achievements to a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including the Somali people and an international audience. The officer will work closely with other FGS ministries and departments to ensure a coherent narrative and communicate key messages as part of the FGS' Strategic Communications Plan.

The Communications Specialist will work with and support the ONS team, RSOs and FGS line ministries under the direction of the National Security Adviser.

Responsibilities:

Work closely with FGS ministries and departments to deliver a coherent and agreed narrative as part of the FGS' Strategic Communications Plan.

- Draft press releases, social media content, and online articles on national security issues, including newsletters, updates and other communications products.
- Proactively develop strategies for communications engagement and identify opportunities to communicate FGS key messages to target audiences.
- Contribute communications advice to the ONS team to amplify security sector reform initiatives and progress.
- Maintain an active network of Somali and international media contacts.
- Organize press conferences, interviews, and press encounters for the NSA when requested.
- Management of crisis communications when necessary.
- Draft media lines to take and ensure that messages and media engagement are aligned to FGS communications and coordinated with relevant departments and ministries.

Requirements:

- A minimum of three years communications experience, ideally for an international, governmental or non-governmental organization.
- Technical expertise in social media optimization, photo editing and online editing is required.
- Knowledge of strategic communications and crisis management communications.
- Good drafting skills, ability to communicate clearly and effectively, and meet deadlines for publication or release.
- Good network of contacts within the Somali media community (online, broadcast and print media).
- A keen interest in national security and state-building issues is desirable.
- Fluency in Somali and English is required for this role.

How to Apply:

Applicants are required to submit all the required documents to Safia.seed@presidency.gov.so with a subject line: **ONS Communications Specialist Ref: CSONS31819**

- The required documents that must be included in the applications are:
 - CV – maximum 2 pages
 - A cover letter detailing how your qualifications, skills and experience is best suited for the role.

Important:

- Applications received after the closing date of 31 August 2019 23:59 EAT will not be considered.
- Shortlisted candidates will be required to submit educational and other supporting documents to prove their qualifications for the position.

