Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

PROFESSIONAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT No: 2312-ESS

Issued on: 26 March 2010
Deadline For Application: 21 May 2010

POSITION TITLE: Statistician
GRADE LEVEL: P-4
DUTY STATION: Rome
DURATION*: Fixed Term: three years
POST CODE/Nº: unidentified
CCOG CODE: 1M02

Applications from qualified women as well as from qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Under the overall supervision of the Director, ESS, and as a member of one or more task teams will:

• develop and maintain the methods and procedures for the collection, validation, consistency analysis, editing and dissemination of statistics related to crop and livestock production and external trade with emphasis on data quality, coverage and timeliness;
• contribute to revising the methodology for the construction of the Food Balance Sheets/Supply Utilization Accounts and the estimation of various elements contained therein, exploring alternative methods for carrying out the work to increase productivity and improve the consistency of the statistics;
• contribute to the development and maintenance of statistical programs/software for the processing and analysis of large, multi-dimensional data sets in food and agriculture;
• evaluate and adopt relevant new procedures, concepts, definitions, standards and statistical methods and conduct analyses and projections related to food and agricultural commodities;
• liaise with member countries, international organizations and private sector associations to establish agreements for data exchange;
• organize training courses and workshops at the national, regional and international levels to support countries’ capacity to disseminate food and agricultural statistics and provide relevant data to international organizations; develop supporting documentation and training materials; participate in missions to countries, as necessary;
• provide guidance and supervise staff working on data compilation;
• prepare technical papers for discussion and publication;
• engage in the preparation and support of and attend intergovernmental and international meetings;
• perform other related duties as required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
Candidates should meet the following:

• Advanced University degree in statistics or, economics supplemented by training in quantitative methods
• Seven years of relevant experience in national or international organizations in the collection, compilation, validation and analysis of food and agricultural statistics. (a Ph. D. or equivalent may substitute for two years of required experience)
• Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two

SELECTION CRITERIA
Candidates will be assessed against the following:

• Extent and relevance of experience in the compilation, validation and analysis of food and agricultural statistics in national or international organizations
• Level of knowledge of the main data sources used for the compilation of food and agricultural statistics
• Extent of experience in the use of econometric tools and statistical software (e.g. SAS, GAMS, STATA, SPSS)
• Excellent analytical, writing and communications skills, and ability to conduct independent research, to prepare papers and documents of a high professional standard and to present statistical materials lucidly and effectively
• Management and leadership skills and capacity to work effectively in multidisciplinary teams
• Relevance and level of academic qualifications

Please note that all candidates should possess computer/word processing skills and should be capable of working with people of different national and cultural backgrounds.

*The length of appointment for internal FAO candidates will be established in accordance with applicable policies pertaining to the extension of appointments

REMNUNERATION
Level P-4 carries a net salary per year (inclusive of a variable element for post adjustment) from USD 101,943 to USD 124,908 (without dependants) and from USD 109,473 to USD 134,908 (with dependants)
TO APPLY: Carefully read and follow the Guidelines to applicants

Send your application to: V.A 2312-ESS
Director Statistics Division, ES Department
FAO Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome ITALY
Fax No: +39 06 5755615
E-mail: ESS-Director@fao.org

Please note that FAO staff members are international civil servants subject to the authority of the Director-General and may be assigned to any activities or office of the organization.

FAO IS A NON-SMOKING ENVIRONMENT
GUIDELINES TO APPLICANTS

Examine carefully the relevancy of your qualifications by reviewing the Duties & Responsibilities of the position and the requirements that are needed in order to perform the job successfully.

HOW TO APPLY

Please provide a **completed FAO Personal History Form**, found on the Internet site.

- Your application should be typewritten (where possible), signed and dated.
- Clearly indicate in the appropriate box on the Personal History Form and on the front of your application, the title of the post and the Vacancy Number.
- Submit a separate application for each position for which you are applying.
- Send your application to the address (mail, e-mail, or fax) indicated on the Vacancy Announcement.
- Internal candidates should provide 10 copies of their application.

*Applicants will be contacted directly if selected for an interview.*

FILLING IN THE FAO PERSONAL HISTORY FORM

**LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Please list the languages with which you are familiar, beginning with your mother tongue, indicating the extent of your knowledge as:

- **Excellent/Good = Working knowledge**: You will be expected to work independently using the language required, to prepare a variety of written communications (correspondence, reports, working papers, etc...), to participate actively in meetings and in work-related discussions, etc.
- **Fair = Limited knowledge**: You will be expected to follow work related discussions or meetings, even though you may wish to intervene in another official language. You will be expected to participate in simple conversations, to use the telephone, to read and understand work-related texts and to write simple communications, etc.
- **Slight**

**COMPUTER SKILLS**

- Indicate your word processing skills and knowledge of database/spreadsheet (e.g. Excel, Access), or any other office automation software known and used.
- If applicable, specify your work experience in data entry/retrieval and programming skills. Indicate knowledge of programming languages and operating systems.

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS**

Starting with the present and going in back in time, please give details of:

- Period of study with name and location of the academic institution,
- Title of study obtained, both in the original language and in English, indicating the subject(s) of specialization and year degree* was/is to be awarded,
- List any other relevant training or formal education that may be relevant to your application.

*If selected for an interview, you will be expected to provide FAO with certified copies of your academic qualifications.*

* A university degree is a title of study substantiated by at least 3 years of full time study (equivalent to a BA or BSc) from a bona fide institution. An advanced university degree is equivalent to a Masters degree.

**EXPERIENCE**

- Relevant professional experience is counted from the time of attainment of the first relevant degree.
- Endeavour to demonstrate how your experience meets the requirements of the post.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

- If applicable, give the number of publications and provide a list and the dates of the most relevant publications.
- Provide samples of written work only upon request.