



**Mission Permanente
de la République d'Angola
Genève**

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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Angola to the United Nations Office and others International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to **all African Group Permanent Missions** accredited in Geneva, Switzerland, and has the honour to inform that the election process for the new leadership of the African Commission is underway.

Angola takes this opportunity to submit the candidature of the Mrs. **Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko** to the post of **AU Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment**.

The Republic of Angola hereby submits for your consideration and support the application and the CV of Her Excellency Ambassador Josefa Sacko who has been served the AU for the past few years in the position for which she is now applying.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Angola to the United Nations Office and others International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all **African Group Permanent Missions** accredited in Geneva the assurances of its highest consideration.



Genève, 12 August 2020

**TO:
ALL AFRICAN GROUP PERMANENT MISSIONS ACCREDITED IN
GENEVA
SWITZERLAND**



Mission Permanente de la République de l'Angola auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Geneva

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CURRICULUM VITAE

H. E. AMBASSADOR JOSEFA LEONEL CORREIA SACKO

*Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture
African Union Commission
Addis Ababa*

1. BIO DATA

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Gender: Female
Nationality: Angolan

2. EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

B.SC in Agronomy, University of Ife, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, 1982.

Post-Graduate Diploma Certificate in Project Management, University of Cocody- Abidjan, Cote D, Ivoire, 1983.

Post-Graduate Diploma Certificate in International Trade, Westminster University- London, 1989.

Master in General Management (Public and Development Management) British Institute for Management, 2008.

Post-Graduate Diploma Certificate in International Relations, Legion University, Accra, Ghana, 2010.

Certificate in Conflict Mediation and Peace and Security in Africa, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, Accra, Ghana, 2010.

3. OTHER RELEVANT TRAINING

4 Months Internship on Improvement of Cassava and Maize Yield, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture, 1984.

6 Months Training on Project Management, African Development Bank, Abidjan, 1989.

3 Months Internship on Futures Market and Price Risks Management for Agricultural Commodities, Birmingham Enterprise, London, 1996.

4. DISTINCTION AND AWARDS

- In 1996, elected member of the Consultative Committee of the Common Fund for Commodities, representing the African Continent, in Amsterdam- Netherland and later elected Chairperson of the Consultative Group.
- In 2003, appointed Governor for Africa in the Governing Board of CABI- International in Wallingford- UK, with 4 years' mandate.
- In January 2003, awarded the prize of the distinguish personality of the decade by IBC.
- In 2005, recognized as distinguished African Women by American Bibliography Institute
- In 2008, decorated with Order of "Chevalier de Merit Agricole" by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.
- In November 2011, awarded a prize by Inter-African Coffee Organization during the Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration for the contribution made in the development of the African Coffee Industry.
- In September 2012, recognition by the International Coffee Organization for the contribution made in the development of the World Coffee Industry from 1993-2012.
- Since 2018, I have been serving as a member of the United Nation's Champions 12.3-a global coalition of sustainable food champions;
- In May 2019, I joined the Scale Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Lead Group at the invitation of the UN Secretary-General in recognition of my strong commitment to the fight against malnutrition.
- In March 2019, I was named one of the 100 most influential people in climate policy for my efforts towards influencing climate policy in Africa.

- In 2019, awarded the Prix De La Foundation 2019 by Crans, Montana, Brussels Belgium for her efforts to empower rural women.
- In December 2019, I was named as one of the 100 Most Influential Africans by New African for holding African governments to account for their commitment to agriculture and defending the interests of African farmers.
- In 2020, appointed a member of Honour of the Institute of Crans, Montana, Brussels Belgium.

5. EMPLOYMENT

March 2017-Date: Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture is responsible for initiating, promoting and monitoring policies and strategies that would contribute to the development of the rural economy, agricultural transformation, environmental sustainability and the blue economy in Africa.

The key achievements include:

- Facilitated the implementation of CAADP through translating the political commitment in the Malabo Declaration into concrete actions; and so far assisting 20 member states to domesticate the Malabo goals into National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs).
- As part of holding Governments accountable, inaugurated the first-ever Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard (AATS), the Biennial Review Reports on the implementation of Malabo Declaration the first of which was launched in January 2018 and the second in February 2020 by African Heads of States and Government.
- Developed frameworks and strategies to assist RECs and member states to develop sub-regional and national policies and strategies including the Continental Post-Harvest Loss Management Strategy in 2018, the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa in 2018; the Sustainable Forest Management Framework for Africa in 2019 and the Blue Economy Strategy for Africa in 2020.
- Led African Delegation at COP23 in Bonn Germany in November 2017 COP24 in Katowice, Poland in 2018.

- The Environment Division developed a Monitoring and Reporting tool for the AU Strategy to combat illegal exploitation and illegal trade in wild Fauna and Flora.
- Initiated win- win partnerships with the European Union (EU), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), IFAD, World Bank, and China to support countries in implementing the commitments of the AU Heads of State and Governments.
- The strategic partnership with the EU led to production of the Task Force Report on Rural Africa in 2019, the first report to deliver concrete policy recommendations for the Africa-Europe Alliance. The Report which has been lauded by European parliamentarians and adopted by the third AU-EU Agriculture Ministerial Conference held on 21 June 2019 provides some far-reaching recommendations on how to transform rural areas in Africa. The recommended four priority actions are: a) A Territorial development strategy for income and job creation; b) Sustainable land and natural resources management and climate action; c) Sustainable transformation of African agriculture; and, d) Development of the African food industry and food markets. The implementation of the findings would hopefully unleash new financing to rural Africa.
- Concerned about the burden of foodborne diseases and the benefits of investing in safe food, led the efforts in hosting the First FAO/WHO/AU International Food Safety Conference in Addis Ababa from 12–13 February 2019.
- Under my leadership, the DRR Unit assisted African countries to Implement the Programme of Action (POA) for the implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. The Unit also developed the first Biennial Report on the implementation of the PoA . launched on 5 August 2020.
- Led the effort in curtailing the impact of COVID-19 on food security and nutrition in Africa.

2016 -2017: Executive Administrator of Angola Fund to Manage Agrarian Development (*Fundo de Apoio ao Desenvolvimento Agrário - FADA*), Luanda, Angola.

In an effort to diversify the Angolan economy away from oil and revamp the agricultural sector, the Angolan Fund to manage Agrarian Development was set up to boost investment in the sector and specifically provide access to finance to small- scale farmers.

- I successfully administered this fund as the Executive Administrator until I was elected as African Union Commissioner in January 2017.

2014 to 2017: Special Adviser to the Ministers of Agriculture, Luanda, Angola.

Assigned the responsibility of advising on all issues related to strategies for alleviating poverty, food security and nutrition in Angola; and international cooperation, both bilateral and multilateral.

- I was part of the Government Team that responded to minimize the impact of the 2012-2014 drought in Angola. In Cuando Cubango for instance, at least 80 per cent of households were able to meet their minimum food and livelihood protection needs with the assistance provided by the Government and partners.
- Acted as Focal point of International Coffee Organization and the Inter-African Coffee Organization.

2014 to 2017: Advisor to Minister of Environment and Goodwill Ambassador on Climate Change, Luanda, Angola

As Advisor to Minister of Environment and Goodwill Ambassador on Climate Change, my terms of reference included evaluation of the reports on climate change and participation in the negotiation of climate conventions.

- I was part of Angolan delegation and negotiators at COP 21/ Paris Agreement in 2015 and COP 22 in Marakesh, Morocco in 2016.

2000-2013: Secretary General of the Inter-African Coffee Organisation, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

The Secretary General oversees the coffee economy of the 25 African coffee producing countries, management of the General Secretariat on day to day basis and execution of the recommendation of the General Assembly.

- I successfully championed the empowerment of small-scale coffee farmers across the continent by setting up Regional Centers of Excellence for capacity building of Member States, Genetic Material Conservation, Coffee Quality Improvement and Cup Tasting Liquor in Cote d'Ivoire, Uganda, Cameroon and Zambia.

1993 to 1999: Top level Positions at Inter-African Coffee Organisation, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

I held various top level positions from 1993 to 1999 at Inter-African Coffee Organisation including National Director of the Cabinet of International Relations of the State Secretariat for coffee (1993-1996), and Adviser to the Secretary of State for Coffee (1996-1999).

As National Director of the Cabinet of International Relations, Madam Sacko's main duties was to follow up on all the International Conventions related to coffee industry. As Adviser to the Secretary of State for Coffee (1996-1999), She was assigned as focal point for SADC, and the EU, USAID and some NGO responsible for international development.

- It was due to my exemplary conduct in these assignments that led to her elevation as Secretary General of the Organisation in November 2000.

1990-1993: Head of International Cooperation Department, the State Secretariat for Coffee, Angola.

As National Director of the Cabinet of International Relations, my main duties include following up on all the International Conventions related to coffee industry. As Adviser to the Secretary of State for Coffee (1996-1999), I was assigned focal point for SADC, and the EU, USAID and some NGO responsible for international development.

- On behalf of the government of Angola, I successfully followed up on international coffee agreement, the cooperation with the World Trade Organization and International Coffee organization.
- I was also very active as focal point of the Common Fund for Commodities and gender equality

1988-1990: Head of Coffee Project Division, at the State Secretariat for Coffee, Angola.

My main tasks were distilling projects to be submitted to donors; following up on the implementation of several project, and evaluation of the achievement of each project in the project division.

- All the assigned tasks were successfully accomplished.

1984-1988: Senior Officer and Coordinator of SADC Program in the planning Cabinet of the Ministry of Agriculture.

I was in charge of the national development program in the Ministry of Agriculture and the focal point of SADC program. My duties included following up on the national program, liaising with the Ministry of Planning and attending SADC annual meetings.

I successfully executed all the assigned tasks.

6. LANGUAGE SKILLS:

Competence on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 –basic, 5 – excellent)

Language	Readin	Speakin	Writing
Portuguese	5	5	5
French	5	5	5
English	5	5	5
Spanish	4	4	4
Lingala	5	5	5

7. REFERENCES

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