



CORE VALUES: *INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM, RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY*

ECA/OIF Fellowship Programme for Young African Translators Call for Applications – 2026 Cohort

Application deadline: 31 July 2026

Organizational Setting and Reporting Relationships

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in partnership with the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) and as part of the development by the OIF of the international programme in translation and conference interpretation at the *Collège international de Villers-Cotterêts (Cité internationale de la langue française)*, is launching a pilot fellowship programme aimed at strengthening the pool of qualified African language professionals and preparing young translators for the standards and competitive examinations of the language services of the United Nations system, including the DGACM.

This initiative contributes to the promotion of multilingualism within international organizations and supports the professional development and employability of young African language professionals.

The 3-month fellowship programme will be implemented between October and December 2026, within the Publications and Conference Management Section (PCMS) of ECA in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and will combine practical immersion in UN language-service workflows, mentoring by experienced professionals, and targeted professional development activities.

The programme is initially planned as a pilot cohort for 2026.

Fellowship Areas

The fellowship programme is open to young African professionals specialized in:

- Translation
- Revision/editing
- Conference documentation
- Multilingual communication
- Terminology and language technologies

The programme will primarily focus on French language professionals, with strong working knowledge of English required. Knowledge of another UN official language is an advantage.

Responsibilities

Under the supervision of experienced language professionals within PCMS, Fellows will contribute to selected activities related to multilingual conference and documentation services.

Assignments may include:

- Translation and revision of documents;
- Research and terminology work;
- Exposure to UN editorial and documentation standards;
- Participation in mentoring and professional development activities;
- Familiarization with multilingual conference servicing workflows;
- Participation in practical exercises and simulations related to UN language examinations;
- Support to selected multilingual communication and conference-related activities.

The Fellows will also participate in structured learning and mentoring activities and online seminars/modules developed jointly by ECA and OIF.

Competencies

Professionalism: Ability to produce high-quality written work under supervision; ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines; interest in multilingualism and international public service.

Communication: Excellent drafting and language skills; ability to communicate clearly and effectively in multicultural environments.

Teamwork: Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues from different cultural and professional backgrounds.

Qualifications, target audience and eligibility criteria

- (i) Be nationals of an African member State;
- (ii) Be under 35 years of age at the time of application;
- (iii) Hold a master's degree, or equivalent, in translation, languages, linguistics or a closely related field;
- (iv) Have obtained the required degree within the last three years;
- (v) Have French as their main language ("A" language);
- (vi) Have English as a working language;
- (vii) Demonstrate a strong interest in translation, revision and language services in an international organization;
- (viii) Be available to participate in the full duration of the programme in person in Addis Ababa.

Special Notice

This call is open only to nationals of member States of the Economic Commission for Africa.

Candidates must submit the following documents in PDF format:

- (i) UN Administrative Profile (AP) generated through Inspira in French;
- (ii) Motivation letter in French;
- (iii) Curriculum vitae in French;
- (iv) Certified true copies of advanced university degrees or attestation of results, and transcripts;
- (v) Copy of valid passport information page;
- (vi) One professional or academic reference letter;

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in a written assessment and a short online interview.

The selection process will be conducted jointly by ECA and OIF.

Logistics

- 1. The fellowship programme will take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
- 2. The duration of the fellowship is expected to be three months;
- 3. Selected Fellows will receive:
 - A monthly stipend of USD 3,000;
 - A one-time settling-in grant of USD 3,000;
 - Return air travel between the fellow's country of residence and Addis Ababa;
 - Medical insurance coverage arrangements as applicable.

ALL SUBMISSIONS TO BE EMAILED TO:	
Email Address:	RecruitmentPPost@un.org
Subject Line:	ECA Fellowship for Young African Professionals, 2026

Application deadline

- Applications must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Addis Ababa time on 31 July 2026.
- **Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**