CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Appointment of Independent Non-Executive Directors

Distributed Africa Infrastructure for Supercomputing Applications

Building Africa's Sovereign Digital Infrastructure. Enabling the Next Generation of African Intelligence.

Location: Nairobi, Kenya (with continental and international engagement)
Engagement: Non-Executive Board Appointment
Application Deadline: 10 January 2027
Organisation: DAISA – Distributed Africa Infrastructure for Supercomputing Applications

---

1. About DAISA

DAISA (Distributed Africa Infrastructure for Supercomputing Applications) is a Nairobi-based infrastructure initiative established to advance the development of a distributed, sovereign-aligned High-Performance Computing (HPC) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) infrastructure network across Africa.

DAISA seeks to address critical structural gaps in Africa's digital infrastructure, particularly the continent's limited access to advanced computing capacity, fragmented digital infrastructure, data sovereignty challenges, energy constraints and the growing demand for AI-ready infrastructure.

Its infrastructure model envisages the development of interconnected, high-density sovereign compute hubs, supported by clean and reliable energy, international subsea connectivity, regional terrestrial fibre networks and cross-border digital infrastructure partnerships.

Through this approach, DAISA seeks to establish the foundational infrastructure necessary to support Africa's participation in the global AI economy, scientific research, financial innovation, public-sector digital transformation and advanced industrial applications.

The initiative is aligned with the broader ambitions of the African Union's Agenda 2063, regional economic integration and Africa's emerging digital sovereignty priorities.

Its proposed development and financing architecture incorporates blended finance, strategic infrastructure partnerships and long-term Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) concession arrangements.

DAISA is now seeking exceptional leaders to contribute to its institutional development, strategic direction, governance and long-term infrastructure investment ambitions.

2. The Opportunity

DAISA invites applications from accomplished professionals for appointment as **Independent Non-Executive Directors (NEDs)** to its Board.

This is an opportunity to participate in shaping an emerging category of strategic African infrastructure: sovereign compute and AI infrastructure.

Successful candidates will bring independent judgement, institutional credibility, international experience and the ability to navigate complex relationships involving governments, development finance institutions, institutional investors, technology providers and infrastructure operators.

The Board will play a central role in ensuring that DAISA develops with the governance standards, financial discipline, institutional accountability and strategic partnerships required to deliver infrastructure of continental significance.

We are particularly interested in individuals who understand that Africa's AI future will depend not only on algorithms and applications, but also on the ownership, financing, energy security, connectivity and governance of the underlying infrastructure.

3. Areas of Board Expertise

DAISA seeks candidates with demonstrated leadership and professional experience in one or more of the following areas:

A. Infrastructure Finance and Investment

- Project finance and infrastructure investment structuring.
- Blended finance and development finance instruments.
- Public-private partnerships (PPPs) and concession financing.
- Institutional capital mobilisation, infrastructure funds and private equity.
- Sovereign investment and long-term capital allocation.
- Experience engaging multilateral development banks and development finance institutions.

B. Digital Infrastructure, AI and High-Performance Computing

- Data centre development and operations.

- High-performance computing and AI infrastructure.
- Cloud infrastructure, digital platforms and hyperscale computing.
- Telecommunications, fibre networks and subsea cable infrastructure.
- Data governance, cybersecurity and digital sovereignty.
- Technology infrastructure investment and commercialisation.

C. Energy and Sustainable Infrastructure

- Renewable energy and independent power production.
- Geothermal energy and long-term power purchase agreements.
- Energy-intensive infrastructure development.
- Power systems, grid integration and energy security.
- Climate finance and sustainable infrastructure investment.

D. Sovereign Finance, Public Policy and International Relations

- Government relations and sovereign infrastructure programmes.
- Public finance, economic policy and fiscal sustainability.
- African Union and regional economic integration frameworks.
- International development cooperation.
- Regulatory frameworks governing digital infrastructure, data and telecommunications.
- Engagement with bilateral and multilateral institutions.

E. Corporate Governance, Risk and Institutional Leadership

- Board governance and fiduciary responsibilities.
- Enterprise risk management and institutional controls.
- Legal, regulatory and transaction advisory.
- Audit, financial oversight and investment governance.
- Organisational transformation and institutional development.

4. Key Responsibilities

Non-Executive Directors will collectively be responsible for:

1. **Strategic Direction:** Provide independent strategic oversight of DAISA's institutional development, infrastructure expansion and long-term continental positioning.
2. **Investment Governance:** Review and provide oversight of infrastructure investment strategies, capital allocation, project bankability and financing structures.
3. **Institutional Capital Mobilisation:** Support the development of relationships with development finance institutions, sovereign investors, infrastructure funds, institutional capital providers and strategic partners.
4. **Governance and Accountability:** Ensure appropriate governance frameworks, internal controls, risk management and institutional accountability.
5. **Strategic Partnerships:** Provide guidance on relationships with African governments, regional institutions, international technology partners and infrastructure operators.
6. **Sustainability and Impact:** Oversee the integration of environmental, social and governance considerations, climate resilience and long-term development impact.
7. **Executive Oversight:** Provide constructive challenge, independent judgement and appropriate oversight of executive management.
8. **Continental Positioning:** Contribute to positioning DAISA within Africa's emerging sovereign AI, digital infrastructure and strategic computing ecosystem.

5. Candidate Profile

Applicants should demonstrate:

- A distinguished professional track record, preferably at senior executive, board, investment committee or institutional leadership level.
- At least 15 years of relevant professional experience, with demonstrated leadership in their area of expertise.
- Experience operating in complex institutional, commercial or international environments.
- A strong understanding of African infrastructure development and its political economy.
- The ability to assess complex investment proposals and long-term infrastructure risks.

- Experience engaging senior government officials, institutional investors, development partners or international organisations.
- High standards of integrity, independence, professional judgement and accountability.
- The ability to contribute meaningfully to a multidisciplinary board.

Experience in Africa is highly desirable. Applications from the African diaspora and internationally experienced professionals with a demonstrated commitment to Africa's development are strongly encouraged.

6. Board Composition and Diversity

DAISA intends to build a multidisciplinary Board reflecting the strategic complexity of its mandate.

We particularly welcome applications from:

- Infrastructure investment professionals.
- Former senior executives of development finance institutions and multilateral organisations.
- Digital infrastructure and technology industry leaders.
- Energy and sustainable infrastructure specialists.
- Sovereign finance and public policy experts.
- Senior legal, governance and institutional risk professionals.

DAISA is committed to diversity of professional experience, geographical representation, gender and perspective.

The Board's composition should reflect the continental and international character of the infrastructure platform DAISA seeks to develop.

7. Appointment Terms

The proposed appointment framework is as follows, subject to the applicable constitutional documents and formal Board approval:

- **Appointment:** Independent Non-Executive Director.
- **Initial Term:** Three years.
- **Renewal:** Eligible for one further term, subject to performance and governance requirements.

- **Location:** Nairobi, Kenya, with regional and international engagement as required.
- **Meetings:** Quarterly Board meetings, with additional meetings where necessary.
- **Committees:** Directors may be appointed to relevant Board committees, including Audit and Risk, Investment and Finance, Governance and Nominations, and Strategy and Partnerships.
- **Remuneration:** Board remuneration and expense arrangements will be communicated to shortlisted candidates in accordance with the approved governance framework.

Appointments will be subject to appropriate due diligence, declarations of interest and applicable fit-and-proper requirements.

8. Application Requirements

Interested candidates should submit:

1. An updated professional CV or executive biography.
2. A cover letter outlining their suitability for the appointment.
3. A statement identifying their relevant experience and the strategic value they would bring to DAISA.
4. Details of previous board, investment committee or institutional governance appointments, where applicable.
5. Two professional referees.

Applicants should also disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest relevant to the appointment.

9. Selection Process

Applications will be assessed against the expertise, experience, independence and strategic requirements of DAISA.

The selection process will comprise:

- Initial assessment of applications.
- Shortlisting based on professional experience and board suitability.
- Interviews with shortlisted candidates.
- Reference checks and appropriate due diligence.

- Final appointment in accordance with the applicable governance and approval procedures.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

10. How to Apply

Interested candidates should submit their applications electronically to:

Email: board@daisa.africa
Subject: Application – Independent Non-Executive Director – DAISA

Application Deadline: January, 11 2027

For further information about DAISA, its mandate and strategic direction, visit:

https://daisa.africa/

11. An Opportunity to Shape Africa's Digital Infrastructure Future

Africa is entering a defining period in the development of its digital economy.

The next generation of economic competitiveness will increasingly depend on access to computing infrastructure, energy security, data sovereignty, artificial intelligence and the ability to mobilise long-term institutional capital.

DAISA seeks to contribute to this transformation by developing the infrastructure foundations upon which Africa's sovereign digital and AI capabilities can grow.

We invite leaders with the experience, judgement, institutional networks and commitment to help shape this ambition.

Join us in building the infrastructure that will power Africa's next generation of intelligence, innovation and economic transformation.

DAISA – Distributed Africa Infrastructure for Supercomputing Applications

Building Africa's Sovereign Digital Infrastructure.