



Sisonke National Sex Worker Movement in South Africa

Call for Nominations for Board of Directors

November 2021

SISONKE is pleased to announce a Call for Nominations for two vacancies on its Board of Directors. If you are a male, female and/or trans sex worker, we want to hear from you.

Background and Introduction

In 2003, Sisonke, a Sex Worker Movement was launched as a programme within SWEAT (Sex Work Education and Advocacy Taskforce) during the second national sex worker meeting in Worcester, Western Cape. The purpose of establishing the movement at the time was to develop national solidarity amongst sex workers and improve coordination and organisation in response to the issues faced by sex workers in their community and professional environment. The need for Sisonke to become an independent organisation became an integral part of strengthening the movement to increase its credibility and ability to function within its own structures, with its own mandate and mobilise its own resources.

Sisonke currently have two vacancies on its Board of Directors. Only male, female and/or trans sex workers should apply.

The value of joining the SISONKE Board to you:

- Develop your individual leadership skills.
- Knowledge of and contributions to gender justice and human rights, including through engaging female, male and transgender sex workers.
- Individual and organizational network, with a large spectrum of inspiring organizations and leaders working at all levels

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- Positive contribution to advancing the rights of sex workers in South Africa

Sisonke Mission

Through solidarity, we continue to create a strong, fearless movement towards decriminalisation of sex work and the realisation of our rights by being visible, acknowledge and heard.

Sisonke Vision

A South Africa where sex work is recognised as work and our safety, health and human rights are guaranteed and respected.

Sisonke's Objectives

1. To develop national solidarity amongst sex workers.
2. To reduce stigma and discrimination associated with sex work.
3. To advocate for the decriminalisation of sex work and to challenge punitive laws that affect sex workers.
4. To create a legally, socially and economically enabling environment for sex workers.
5. To fight for and defend the human and health rights of sex workers.
6. To fight for the recognition of sex work as work.
To empower sex workers to speak and act for themselves

What we are looking for:

All Board members should have:

- An interest in national and international issues related to Sex Work, HIV and AIDS;
- A strong commitment to supporting SISONKE's vision, mission and objectives
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to the duties of a Board, voluntarily (attending 4 meetings a year, and devoting time in between to reading, and providing input- at least one day a Month)
- The ability to execute responsibilities with regard to the board, which include:
 - 1) Determine and support the mission, vision, objectives, guiding principles and strategic framework of SISONKE
 - 2) Determine and abide by organizational policies
 - 3) Monitor progress in meeting the mission, goals and strategic directions
 - 4) Ensure the financial well-being of the organization, including oversight of financial strategy and resource mobilization and monitoring financial statements
 - 5) Ensure the continuity of the Board of Directors, including through the recruitment and orientation of new Board members
 - 6) Promote SISONKE and its policies
 - 7) Provide input and support to the National Coordinator and Management team

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- 8) The ability and capacity to communicate and network effectively and broadly (must have functioning communications linkages such as: Internet, telephone, computer and email)
- 9) The willingness to represent and speak on behalf of the Board of Directors when asked so and to be an ambassador for SISONKE in professional and private life
- 10) Very good communication and writing skills in English; other African languages are an advantage
- 11) The willingness to serve a three-year term. A Board member can be eligible for re-election for up to two consecutive terms.

How to Nominate

The Nominations are open to male, female and/or trans sex workers throughout South Africa. Persons can either self-nominate or be nominated by another person.

In your nomination, please state:

- 1) Why you are nominating yourself or the person (please provide details on your relationship with the nominee, if you are nominating another)
- 2) What skills you/the person will bring to the Board of Directors (attaching a CV or Resume will be useful in this regard)
- 3) What experience you/ the nominee has regard to sex work
- 4) The contact details and full names of the nominee

A person's nomination will be disqualified if:

- 12) There is a conflict of interest (for instance: an employee of SISONKE wants to apply as a Board member of SISONKE)
- 13) The nomination does not demonstrate that the person meets the criteria stated above

Deadline for submission of Nominations is the **14 November 2021**.

Serving on the Sisonke Board is voluntary, however Sisonke will cover the necessary travel, accommodation and data which may be required from time to time to facilitate attendance at meetings.

All nominations should be sent to yonelas@sweat.org.za, please use the subject: 'SISONKE BOARD NOMINATION'.

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More information:

Consult the website <http://www.sisonke.org.za> or [Sisonke Facebook page \(SisonkeMovementZA\)](#) or email us at the email address above.

Commented [KM1]: Add social media hyperlinks.

Commented [Y2R1]:

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Nomination form:

I nominate (full name of nominee)

For the position of Sisonke Board member to represent sex workers

1) Why are you nominating yourself or the person (please provide details on your relationship with the nominee, if you are nominating another)?

2) What skills you/the person will bring to the Board of Directors? (Please also attach a CV, if you have one)

3) What experience do you/ the nominee have with regard to sex work?

4)The full and recent contact details and full name of the nominee

Full name:

Province:

Town/City:

Telephone:

Email address:

Cell number:

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- 5) Are you a board member of any organisation or institution at the moment or have you acted as a board member in any capacity before?
Please give us some details- for which organisation and when)

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