CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: MEMBER OF THE REGIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT OF THE *INDIANOCEANIE*

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS : 28 FEBRUARY 2025

1. Context

The Regional Youth Parliament of the Indianocéanie is an initiative led by the Association of Parliaments of the Member States of the Indian Ocean Commission (AP-IOC), bringing together the National Assemblies of the IOC Member States. The association is supported by the IOC General Secretariat, in its capacity as the Secretariat of the AP-IOC, more particularly ensured by its governance unit and supported by the Governance, Peace and Stability (GPS) project.

During the statutory meetings of May and September 2024, the AP-IOC expressed the importance of involving youth in decision-making processes on common issues in the Indianocean region. The Association proposed the establishment of a regional youth parliament based on the existing experiences in the region and at the level of other inter-parliamentary organizations such as, among others, the Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie (APF).

This proposal also received strong support from the youth at the regional conference on the role of youth in peacebuilding and democracy initiatives in October 2024 in Madagascar. The creation of a regional youth parliament is even one of the key recommendations of this conference.

In addition, youth, a cross-cutting axis of the IOC Strategic Development Plan, is placed at the heart of regional priorities, as evidenced by the regional integration framework, currently being finalized, aimed at strengthening the participation of young people in advocacy on regional issues and the management of common goods. Under the impetus of the Seychelles' Presidency of the IOC Council of Ministers, which highlights youth as a "driver of modernization", the IOC's Governance, Peace and Stability (GPS) Project, supported by the French Development Agency, integrates youth as a key actor and beneficiary of activities to promote democratic governance.

In this perspective, the AP-IOC, in collaboration with the APF and the IOC General Secretariat, through the Governance, Peace, Stability project, co-organised an interparliamentary cooperation seminar on public policies for youth in November 2024. This event aimed both to encourage the sharing of experiences among

parliamentarians on public policies in favor of youth and to define concrete actions for the creation of a regional youth parliament of Indianoceanie.

As an extension of the actions already undertaken, the AP-IOC, in collaboration with the national parliaments that are members of the organisation and with the support of the IOC General Secretariat through the Governance, Peace and Stability (GPS) project funded by the French Development Agency (AFD), is launching a call for applications for young people who have demonstrated significant commitment and contribution to the promotion of the voice and rights of young people in the Indian Ocean region to constitute the first cohort.

2. Description of the Regional Youth Parliament (PRJIO)

2.1. Objectives and expected results

The main objective of the PRJIO is to create **a structured framework** for young people in the *Indianoceanie* to speak with a u**nified voice, to influence national, regional and international decisions** impacting their future, while promoting and strengthening their **active participation in democracy**.

Specifically, the PRJIO aims at :

- **Promote a unified and structured voice for the youth of *Indianoceanie*** to enable them to express themselves collectively and represent their aspirations in a coherent manner at all levels.
- **Strengthen democracy and foster youth engagement** through parliamentary simulations, training sessions and initiatives that deepen their understanding of democratic processes.
- **Facilitate regular dialogues between young people and decision-makers** to amplify their voices, advocate for their interests, and actively participate in decision-making processes that shape their future.

The expected outcomes:

- The establishment of a regional youth parliament, comprising **(06) six representatives per AP-IOC member country**, with gender balance ensured through a rigorous, objective, and transparent selection process.

- **A structured and coherent platform that empowers young** people to advocate effectively and influence regional and international decisions.

- **Enhanced understanding of democratic principles** through simulations and training, enabling youth to actively contribute to policy discussions and development initiatives within their region.

- **Regular participation of young people in meetings with decision-makers**, ensuring their aspirations are considered and reflected in policies and initiatives that impact their future.

2.2. Mission of the members of the PRJIO

The first cohort of PRJIO members is invested with a two-year non-renewable mandate for the following missions:

- Carry the voice of young people in their respective regions by highlighting their aspirations, concerns and proposals in parliamentary debates.
- Act as ambassadors for the youth of the *Indianoceanie* on the national, regional and international scenes.
- Participate in the development of recommendations and resolutions on youth issues to be presented to policy makers.
- Collaborate with local, regional and international institutions to integrate youth priorities into public policies.
- Promote youth participation in democratic processes and their engagement in community initiatives.
- Conduct awareness campaigns on issues of common interest in the region, such as climate change.
- Participate in trainings and workshops organized by the AP-IOC and its partners to develop their skills on various topics.
- Share the knowledge acquired with youth representative structures/bodies in their respective countries to multiply positive impacts in their communities.
- Facilitate exchanges between young people from the different islands of the *Indianoceanie t*o strengthen regional solidarity.
- Conduct advocacy with state and non-state actors to initiate projects in favor of youth.
- Contribute to the follow-up of the commitments made by the AP-IOC, the respective national parliaments and the PRJIO concerning youth.
- Take responsibility for a topic by taking leadership on a theme, analyzing it, developing it, and actively engaging other young people while mobilizing them.
- At the end of each youth parliamentary session, clearly define the concrete actions to be implemented in the respective countries.
- Write annual or periodic reports on progress made and challenges encountered and disseminate them widely.

3. Criteria and Qualifications

Applications from young people who meet the eligibility criteria are strongly encouraged:

- ✓ Be a citizen of any one of the following : the Union of the Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles or La Réunion, residing in one of the IOC countries, and aged between 18 and 25.
- ✓ Have demonstrated significant commitment through active involvement in an associative movement or professional engagement with a social vocation.

- ✓ Show a proven track record of significant contributions to the promotion of youth rights and advocacy within the Indian Ocean region.
- ✓ Be currently enrolled in or have completedformal education (school, university or technical training), or be engaged in a professional activity.
- ✓ Possess communication and advocacy skills.
- ✓ Have proficiency in French, the working language of the AP-IOC.
- ✓ Knowledge of another language spoken in the *Indianoceanie* region is an asset.
- ✓ Submit a complete application file.

Members of the AP-IOC, agents of the General Secretariat of the IOC, members of the selection committee and their direct relatives, as well as agents of the French Development Agency, International Organisation of La Francophonie, Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie are not eligible for this call for applications.

4. Instructions for the applicants

To be eligible, the participant must register only online at the following link: https://www.commissionoceanindien.org/prjio-aac/ and submit the application file including the elements mentioned below **at the latest on February 28, 2025**. It should be noted that applications must be submitted in French with the exception of the video which can be made in one of the languages of the IOC Member States: English, Creole, French, Malagasy and ShiKomori.

- A curriculum vitae, including a telephone number and email address, formatted according to the template provided in the call for applications notice.
- A photocopy of the first page of the applicant's valid passport or national identity card.
- Proof of affiliation with a youth, associative, or solidarity movement (optional).
- A video not exceeding 3 minutes answering the following questions (candidates wishing to submit their video in a language other than French must provide a French translation of the transcript in Word or PDF format):
    - What are the challenges of a regional youth parliament of the *Indianoceanie,* highlighting the common challenges and interests of IOC Member States?
    - Why do you want to become a member?
    - What skills do you bring to the regional youth parliament?
    - What changes will you make at the level of your community/association by becoming a member of the PRJIO?
- A typed transcript of the video in French, submitted in Word or PDF format.
- A signed authorization letter for image use, in accordance with the template provided in the call for applications notice.
- Copies of certificates and diplomas.

Given the opportunity offered to the selected young people to participate in events at regional and international level, it is recommended that candidates take the necessary

steps to obtain a passport or check the validity of their passport. The organizers will not be held responsible for the inability of a winner to participate in future events.

Any additional information or modification to this call for applications will be communicated through the website : https://www.commissionoceanindien.org/prjio-aac/

An **information session** is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 11:00 AM (Mauritius time)**. You can register for this session using the following link: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/Vi1N8nVbTX-k3XYmv-Uu0A

5. Selection of candidates

The selection of candidates is carried out according to the following steps:

1. Selection phase: Applications are evaluated to identify potential candidates. This evaluation is conducted at the national level by a selection committee established by the National Assembly of the respective AP-IOC member country.

1. Possible additional tests (if required): Further evaluations, such as written tests and/or oral interviews, may be conducted to finalize the selection process.

The selection process is completely free of charge and takes place in a transparent manner. Each step is rigorously documented to ensure fairness and to justify the choices of the successful candidates.

6. Evaluation of the applications

- Applications submitted after the deadline will be automatically rejected.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Applications from ineligible candidates will be disqualified.
- All eligible applications will be assessed based on a predefined evaluation grid.

Reference	Designation	Verification framework	Maximum score
01	Experience	Curriculum vitae + copies of certificates and diplomas	10
02	Social commitment [1]	Proof of membership in a youth movement (optional) + video + typed text of the video + certificates	25
03	Motivation	Video + typed text of the video	15
04	Relevance of the arguments	Video + typed text of the video	25
05	Communication and advocacy capacity	Video + typed text of the video	25

[1] Demonstrate a social commitment through active participation in an associative movement or the exercise of a profession with a social vocation, and have demonstrated a significant commitment and a significant contribution to the promotion of the rights and voice of young people in the *Indianoceanie* region.

	TOTAL	**100**

Annexes to the call for applications

Annex 1: CV template to be used by candidates

Annexe 2: Sample Letter of Authorization for Image Use

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION TO USE THE IMAGE FOR THE REGIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT OF INDIANOCEANIA

I, the undersigned [Name of participant] :

ID card/passport number :

email adress :

Phone number:

I hereby grant to the Association of Parliaments of the Member States of the Indian Ocean Commission (hereinafter referred to as AP-COI) and to any third party having obtained an authorization to this effect from AP-COI, the right to use my image and voice taken within the framework of the : Indian Ocean Regional Youth Parliament organized by AP-COI and its partners. Consequently, I authorize any reproduction in such number as it will please the AP-COI and its partners, any representation, any modification and, more generally, any exploitation, commercial or non-commercial, of the photograph(s) made within the framework of the communication relating to the projects of the AP-COI and its partners. The photograph(s) may be used in whole or in part, by any means (web, TV, social networks, etc.) and on any medium and integrated into any other material (film, animation, etc.) known or yet to be known. The present transfer is granted free of charge, without limitation of time or place, for any national or international use. I declare that I am not bound by any exclusive contract concerning the use of my image or name. It is understood that the AP-COI expressly refrains from exploiting the video, audio or photographic content in any way that might violate the privacy and dignity of the individual. A copy of this deed of transfer of image rights must be returned to AP-COI, completed and signed by each person identifiable on the photographs.

Signed in:

Signature:

If you are unable to sign electronically, please re-enter your first and last name.

Nom de famille :

Prénoms :

Date de naissance :

Nationalité :

Etat civil :

Sexe :

N° de carte d'identité : **N° de Passeport :**

Adresse :

Téléphone :

Courriel :

1. Education:

1.1. Education : cycle secondaire

Institution (Nom et pays)	Date de début	Date de fin	Certificats obtenus /Diplôme obtenus (par exemple BEPC, CAP, Baccalauréat, SC, HSC, GCE 'O' level, GCE 'A' level)

1.2. Education : cycle tertiaire

Institution (Nom et pays)	Date de début	Date de fin	Diplôme obtenus (Certificat, diplôme, licence / degré, masters, doctorat)

1.3. Autres formations professionnelles

Institution (Nom et pays)	Date de début	Date de fin	Diplôme obtenus ou compétences développées

2. Engagement social ou exercice d'un métier à vocation sociale

Nom de l'association/organisation Pays	Contact de l'association[1] (e-mail, numéro de téléphone, site web, page facebook, …)	Date de début	Date de fin	Domaine	Apport à votre personne

3. Expérience professionnelle y compris stage (si applicable)

Date de début	Date Fin	Position	Entreprise/Institution + contact	Brève description du travail

4. Connaissances linguistiques

Langues	Lu	Parlé	Ecrit	Commentaires

Note : : Indiquer votre niveau de connaissance sur une échelle de 1 à 5 (1 : Excellent/bilingue, 2 : Avancé, 3 : intermédiaire, 4 : débutant, 5 : élémentaire)

5. Autres informations pertinentes

Item (Prix, publication, etc…)	Détails

Signature:

Date :

[1] Au moins un contact téléphonique et une adresse e-mail du responsable. **Note** : Les organisateurs se réservent le droit de contacter les personnes de références.