



2019 MAR 13 PM 1:43

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

MAR 13 2019

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), and pursuant to section 4 of the Office and Commission on African Affairs Act of 2006, effective June 8, 2006 (D.C. Law 16-111; D.C. Official Code § 2-1393), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

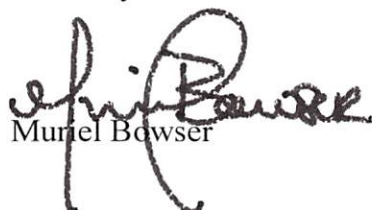
Ms. Hellen Fissahaie
1314 K Street SE #104
Washington, DC 20003
(Ward 6)

for appointment as a public voting member of the Commission on African Affairs, replacing Willair St. Vil, for a term to end October 27, 2021.

Enclosed, you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,


Muriel Bowser



Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution,
which was referred to the Committee on _____.

To confirm the appointment of Ms. Hellen Fissahaie to the Commission on African Affairs.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Commission on African Affairs Hellen Fissahaie Confirmation Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:

Ms. Hellen Fissahaie
1314 K Street SE #104
Washington, DC 20003
(Ward 6)

as a public voting member of the Commission on African Affairs, pursuant to section 4 of the Office and Commission on African Affairs Act of 2006, effective June 8, 2006 (D.C. Law 16-111; D.C. Official Code § 2-1393), replacing Willair St. Vil, for a term to end October 27, 2021.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

HELLEN FISSIHAIE



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CommonShre

September 2016- Present

Co-Founder

Washington, D.C.

- Curate a monthly platform to allow entrepreneurs, consultants, and creatives to gain valuable feedback and insight to address a challenge they are currently facing in their business pursuits. Currently planned and executed 9 events with an average of 25-30 entrepreneurs and first CommonShre Thanksgiving, hosting 30 entrepreneurs in collaboration with Seedups.
- Hosted Thursday Night Suppers which brings together entrepreneurs and D.C. residents to enjoy a monthly dinner as a means to connect residents. Hosted 6 dinners in 2017.

F3 Global LLC

January 2015-Present

Principal & Chief Strategy Officer

Washington, D.C.

- Boutique consulting firm working to develop businesses and community leaders in the U.S., Africa, and Middle East. Focused on building capacity for women owned and minority owned businesses globally.
- **Local Highlights:**
 - Develop, implement, and deliver workshops, panel discussions, and training programs for small business owners in partnership with Institute for Justice and other local D.C. organizations. Resulting in new stakeholder partnership with D.C. Mayor's Office on Small Businesses to strengthen city's ecosystem for entrepreneurs.
 - Designed, developed, and managed NAACP DC economic business reform focused on building capacity around black owned business owners. This initiative resulted in the development of a business toolkit (in circulation in D.C.), black business directory, monthly workshops, and a Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED) funded business program to help entrepreneurs go from informal businesses and ideas to fully launched businesses in the district.
 - Coordinated a successful HBCU conference securing sponsors and monies from sponsors such as Home Depot at \$50K, speakers such as Mayor Benjamin of Columbia, South Carolina and Obama Administration White House Appointees, also securing reputable universities such as Morehouse College within a month.
- **International Highlights:**
 - Successfully helped a Woman owned Kuwait company develop a strategy to enter the Diaspora Kuwaiti-American market and build a platform for mothers and families with disabled children. Business is the leading agency on disability within Kuwait.
 - Created training for 50 young women between 18-24 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania as part of a week-long entrepreneurship program in partnership with University of Dar es Salaam and Sote Tunaweza. Graduated 50 women and helped top 10% ideas enter incubators and accelerator programs as well as get seed funding.

Tea Time for Education

October 2015- Present

Co-Founder & CEO

Washington, D.C.

- Develop and curate a once a year event that brings together powerful women speakers, diverse networks, and sponsors in support of yearly honorees. The 2016 honoree is The HOPE Scholarship Initiative.
- Designed, planned, and implemented a fellowship training program. Trained and employed 4 fellows from 4 universities (Duke University, University of California Santa Barbara, George Mason University and Howard University) for 4 months resulting in each student receiving different job offers post fellowship as a direct result of our program.
- Scouted and secured two executive level speakers (Vice President of Development at the Congressional Black Caucus, Ms. Tasha Cole and President of HBCUstory, Dr. Crystal deGregory).
- Raised capital from local startups and small businesses in DC resulting in a \$1000 donation towards honoree organization.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

May 2013-August 2015

Global Program Specialist

Washington, D.C.

- Designed, managed, and piloted internal company health program (Zetas Have Heart) across 40 states and 6 countries, resulting in a 370 plus membership initial sign-up for the Pilot program (exceeding expectation by 150%).
- Planned a 5-country market entry plan that allowed the organization to successfully enter 4 new markets and establish new chapters in London, Belgium, Dubai, and Germany within one year.
- Conducted an internal company evaluation, interviewing executive board members, staffers, and members who are active and non-active to understand current company standings and create a recommendation for organizational and cultural reform.
- Designed, managed, and piloted partnership with White House Initiative on Women and Girls as well as Affordable Care Act successfully within the organization, which included tracking growth metrics.

Project Orotta

January 2010-December 2013

Co-Founder & Operations Director

Dallas, Texas & Washington, D.C.

- Project Orotta is a global campaign that raised funds to purchase cutting edge technology for Orotta Medical and Dental School. The first medical and dental school in Eritrea.
- Created Campaign, organized 4 city teams (3-4 people per team), managed budget and logistics, and executed high-level negotiations between local Eritrean and African Diaspora communities, the Eritrean government and Embassy in D.C.
- Raised \$43,000 in 4 months and negotiated the logistics and delivery of technology equipment into Eritrea.

ThinkImpact

May-September 2013

South Africa Country Associate (Program Director)

Mpumalanga, South Africa

- Focused on social innovation and market solutions for community development to produce socially conscious entrepreneurs and businesses, resulting in 16 new startups formed.
- Managed and led 26 scholars, 4 in-country advisors, 4 villages, 15 design teams, community organizers and 4 committees in order to develop new businesses that address local issues, resulting in 16 new startups.
- Coordinated operational management of the ThinkImpact Institute in South Africa while managing project budget.
- Managed and addressed in-country crisis such as house fires, student medical emergencies, tribal and government tribulation, communal conflicts, etc.

Clutch.com

Business Analyst

March-May 2013
Washington, D.C.

- Managed IT consultants regarding deadlines for upcoming research projects.
- Bridged the gap between larger and smaller IT companies using industry matrix.
- Developed team-building strategies in order to integrate new hires and further scale company.

EDUCATION

Masters of Science in International Political Science
University of Texas at Arlington

May 2011
Arlington, Texas

Bachelor of Arts Degree, Political Science
University of Texas at Arlington

August 2008
Arlington, Texas

SERVANT LEADERSHIP/ SPECIAL PROJECTS

Grid2Grid
Board Member

July 2017-Present
Washington, D.C.

Diaspora RiseUP!
Advisory Board Member

May 2017-Present
Washington, D.C.

NAACP DC
Black Business Committee Chair

August 2014-March 2017
Washington, D.C.

Eritrean Diaspora Network (EDN)
Refugee Work Group Leader and Leadership Team

November 2014 - Present
Washington, D.C.

Startingbloc Fellow
Social Entrepreneurial Fellow

June 2012 - Present
Manhattan, New York

SKILLS

- Multilingual – Amharic (starter), English (fluent) and Tigrinya (fluent)
- Proficient on MACs, Microsoft Office (Excel, PPT, Word), PCs, SPSS, QuickBooks, Eudora, Adobe Creative

Suite, SharePoint, Google +, Google tracking systems, and Social media literacy, Graphic Design and Web design literacy



Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

Hellen Fissahaie



Hellen Fissahaie owns and operates F3 Global LLC, a capacity building strategy firm based in the District.

Ms. Fissahaie a professional woman who is passionate about the growth and potential of communities of color. She is of Eritrean origin, born in Sudan and grew up in Dallas, Texas. Ms. Fissahaie's firm is focused on health, agriculture, and entrepreneurship for private and public sector clients in the United States, Africa, Middle East, and the Caribbean.

A Ward 6 resident, Ms. Fissahaie received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Master of Science in Foreign Policy from the University of Texas at Arlington.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To: Alana Intrieri, Steve Walker
From: Betsy Cavendish
Date: June 22, 2018
Subject: Legal sufficiency review of a Resolutions nominating Hellen Fissihaie, Margaret Kamara, Theodore Ngatcou, Yodit Shibru, and Narciso Sumbana as members to the Commission on African Affairs

This is to Certify that this office has reviewed the above-referenced legislation and found it to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call Karuna Seshasai, Deputy General Counsel, Executive Office of the Mayor, at 202-724-1303, or me at 202-724-7681.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'.

Elizabeth Cavendish