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Dear CEF team,

I am writing this letter to apply for a four months internship during the spring semester 2020 in your department of finance and risk management. I am currently a senior student at Tunis business school with a major in finance and international political economy. Following my internships in the banking sector, working with different NGOs and assisting with research, I am seeking to enrich my experience through working with microfinance institutions as I believe it combines different experiences both professional and academic that I have been exposed to. I was thrilled to learn that CEF is currently seeking interns in this position and would be honored to be considered for the internship.

This internship will allow me the opportunity to put theory into practice and apply what I learned in finance courses in college in a professional real-life setting. As we studied different finance courses, most notably, management of financial institutions and portfolio risk management, I believe I have the toolkit and ready to apply my skills in professional life. I also worked as a research assistant to professor Leila Baghdadi and took classes in econometrics, statistics and trained to use STATA and prepared to apply these toolkits in the research and development of new risk management strategies within CEF. Besides, this opportunity will build on my previous experiences with business development and support. I had the opportunity to work with an incubator for entrepreneurs both abroad and in Tunisia, the women entrepreneurship initiative and L'Eellethom respectively. I have been able to learn about the challenges and the barriers that business starters in Tunisia face, mainly financial difficulties, and I would be honored to be part of an institution that helps lift these barriers and support businesses grow and flourish. From a microfinance institution's perspective, the question is always how to manage and minimize the risk while optimizing and meeting the responsibility of the institution. Thus, learning and contributing to the decision-making process of microloans allocation at CEF would add great value to my professional development. I also believe that my background and previous experience will add a new perspective to the CEF team that I am going to work hard to contribute to its operations.

I also find it extremely important to implement entrepreneurial thinking in our community to help boost the whole Tunisian economy and it would be a pleasure to be part of an institution that works on that.

The enclosed resume will clearly show my qualifications and abilities.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Rawia Chawali