



## **Internship Assignment**

### **Legal Affairs (LA) Programme**

Announcement number	Application deadline	Internship period	Duration of assignment
18/Intern74/LA	15 January 2019	Between January and December 2019	Three to six months

### **Background**

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC or ‘the Convention’) and its related legal instruments is the focus of the political process to address climate change. The UNFCCC secretariat supports the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement through a range of activities, including substantive and organizational support to meetings of the Parties.

The Legal Affairs (LA) Programme, inter alia, provides legal advice to Parties, Presiding Officers and secretariat staff with respect to the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, the associated intergovernmental process, the operations of the secretariat in accordance with legal, procedural and institutional requirements, and the constituted bodies under the afore-mentioned treaties, including the compliance mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol, and their effective operation.

The LA Programme’s overriding objectives and responsibilities are to protect the integrity of the treaty regime and secure and protect the interests of the secretariat through sound legal advice to Parties, the governing, subsidiary and constituted bodies and UNFCCC secretariat staff, including senior management.

### **Objective of the internship and responsibilities**

Interns are requested to undertake tasks in connection with the ongoing activities and projects in LA under the supervision of a legal officer. This often includes analytical work and research projects, including search in literature and treaty practice/jurisprudence as well as the writing of summaries, briefing notes and background papers on different topics. In determining the intern’s assignments due consideration is given to the nature of the projects currently being undertaken in the Programme.

Assignments may include specific tasks in one or more of the following areas:

- Procedural and substantive legal issues relating to the support of the intergovernmental negotiations, including the work of the COP, the CMP, the CMA, and the subsidiary and constituted bodies, in particular related to any work flowing from any decisions at the UN Climate Change Conference in Katowice (COP 24/CMP14/CMA1.3) and in relation to the UN Climate Change Conferences scheduled for June (SB50) and November 2019 (COP25/CMP15/CMA2);
- Assist the legal officers in conducting research and drafting background and strategy papers with regard to the engagement of non-Party stakeholders (e.g. business entities, IGOs, NGOs,

local communities) in the UNFCCC process and secretariat activities, through partnership arrangements or other modalities;

- Support to any future activities of the Committee to facilitate implementation and promote compliance under Article 15 of the Paris Agreement and/or related follow-up work from any relevant decisions of CMA 1.3;
- Work related to treaty action, including with regard to the Doha Amendment, and treaty implementation, including issues related to reporting, review and transparency under the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement;
- Work related to the development of tools to assist Parties in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), in particular through climate-related law-making and law reforms, in collaboration with partner organizations;
- Legal work on issues related to cooperation among Parties in the implementation of mitigation action, economic instruments and engagement of non-Party stakeholders, including work on the operations of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under the Kyoto Protocol, and the implementation and/or further development of cooperative approaches, such as the mechanism and non-market based approaches as set out in Article 6 of the Paris Agreement;
- Contributing to the preparation for and/or follow-up from meetings of the bodies of the Compliance Committee of the Kyoto Protocol (the plenary, facilitative and enforcement branches), including deliberations and hearings of either branch that may be held during the internship period and other related events, as well as any follow-up of meetings held and/or any relevant decisions by the CMP;
- Work related to the institutional and general legal operations of the secretariat, in particular through review of commercial and procurement contracts, collaboration and partnership agreements;
- Assisting the LA Programme in the day-to-day legal issues arising from the functioning of the intergovernmental process and the operations of the secretariat, including:
  - Systematic collection, organization and accessibility of legal advice provided;
  - Assistance on institutional and general legal contractual matters.

## Requirements

- Candidates must be enrolled in a Graduate or Master's programme at a recognized university at the time of application and for the duration of the internship;
- If the Graduate or Master's programme will not confer a degree in law, candidates must have completed a first level university degree in law;
- Candidates must have a strong working knowledge of English (both oral and written) and strong writing and analytical skills;
- Previous professional legal experience (in a law firm, as a legal clerk, in the legal office of another international organization) is a strong asset;
- Proficiency in using Microsoft Office and other tools (such as Power Point, online search tools) as well as good research skills are required.

## Timeframe

The internship is for a minimum period of three months within the period between 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2019. The maximum duration of the internship is six months, subject to the intern's university enrolment and performance. The exact period of the internship will be determined based on the availability of the intern and the needs of the LA programme.

### Internship conditions

**UNFCCC secretariat internships are not remunerated** and the selected intern will be responsible for all costs before, during and after the internship assignment. Interns of the UNFCCC secretariat are not considered to be staff members. The selected intern will work on a full-time basis (40 hours per week) at the UNFCCC premises in Bonn, Germany. For more detailed information about UNFCCC Internship programme please visit the internship section on our recruitment [webpage](#).

### Application procedure

Candidates who are interested in this assignment and meet the minimum requirements must use the [on-line application system](#) and **include a cover letter, indicating the desired period(s) and maximum time frame(s) of their availability for an internship**. Due to the high number of applications, only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted for a telephone interview.