



Internship Assignment

Legal Affairs (LA) Programme
Intergovernmental and General Legal Counsel Affairs

Application deadline	Announcement number	Duration of assignment	Duty Station
01 February 2017	16/Intern027/LA	Three to six months	Bonn, Germany

Background

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 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 and opinions to the Parties and secretariat staff with respect to the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement¹, the associated intergovernmental process, the operations of the secretariat in accordance with legal, procedural and institutional requirements and the compliance mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol and its 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, subsidiary and constituted bodies and the senior management of UNFCCC secretariat.

Objectives of the internship assignment and particular functions

Interns are normally requested to undertake tasks in connection with the ongoing activities and projects in LA under the supervision of a legal officer. In determining the intern's assignments due consideration is given to the nature of the projects currently being undertaken in the Programme and specific interests of the intern.

Specific tasks may include the following:

- Undertake short-term research projects in aid of the work of the LA programme, including search in literature and treaty practice/jurisprudence and prepare summaries, draft briefing notes and background papers on different topics such as procedural or substantive issues relating to the implementation of the work programme under the Paris Agreement, the work of the COP, the CMP, the CMA, and the subsidiary and constituted bodies (in particular in view of the Climate Change Conferences that will take place in May 2017 and in November 2017, both in Bonn, Germany);

¹ Including decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP), the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement.



- Assist the legal officers in doing 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; and
- Assist the legal officers in the work of the Intergovernmental and General Legal Counsel Affairs, gaining an understanding of the day-to-day legal issues arising from the functioning of the intergovernmental process and the operations of the secretariat.

Timeframe

The internship is for a period of minimum three to maximum six months within the period late February / early March 2017 and the end of December 2017. The exact period will be determined based on the availability of the intern and the needs of the LA programme. There is the possibility of an extension, subject to the intern's on-going university enrolment and performance.

Minimum 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 good research skills are required.

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 internships section on our recruitment webpage:

https://unfccc.int/secretariat/internship_programme/items/2653.php.



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Application procedure

Candidates who are interested in this assignment and meet the minimum requirements are encouraged to send their curriculum vitae and a cover letter to internship@unfccc.int with the subject line: "Application: Internship, Legal Affairs Programme." Candidates are also asked to indicate in their application the desired period(s) or their availability.

Due to the high number of applications, only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted for a telephone interview.

Closing date for application: 01 February 2017.