



## Announcement for Fellowship

Legal Affairs Division

Deadline for application	Announcement number	Expected date for entry on duty	Duration of appointment	Duty Station
12 August 2022	22/FP02/LA	As soon as possible	One year with possibility of extension	Bonn, Germany

Publication date: 05 July 2022

**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, its Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement through a range of activities, including substantive and organizational support to meetings of the Parties and the implementation of commitments. It is a dynamic organization working in a politically challenging environment to help resolve one of the defining environmental issues of our time.

Thanks to funding from the Government of Italy, the UNFCCC secretariat is launching a new round of the Capacity Award Programme to Advance Capabilities and Institutional Training in one Year (CAPACITY) Fellowship Programme with the aim of developing capacity of negotiators and therefore increasing the level of implementation of the Paris Agreement. The CAPACITY Fellowship Programme contributes to building capacity for addressing climate change in Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), through the development of local professional expertise by:

- Supporting innovative analytical work on climate change in the context of sustainable development;
- Promoting a network of experts who can bring creative and innovative options to bear on questions of climate change;
- Encouraging the leadership potential of young and promising professionals in their fields.

The Programme target group consists of mid-career professionals who are already in a government's employment and who are nationals of and working in a SIDS or LDC Party. While Fellowships are awarded to individuals, the need for development/training, as described below, must occur within the context of the organization for which an applicant works. The training must help the organization to develop its capacity.

### **Where you will be working**

This position is located in the Legal Affairs division of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The incumbent reports to the Director of the Legal Affairs division and works closely with the relevant Legal Officer(s).

The Legal Affairs division is accountable for providing legal and procedural advice and services to support (1) the intergovernmental negotiation process, (2) the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, and (3) the administration and operations of the secretariat.



### **What you will be doing**

Expertise is sought in the following:

- Conducting legal research on a diverse range of assigned issues in international law and other area(s) of specialization using multiple research sources; selecting relevant material, analyzing information and presenting findings for internal review;
- Assisting Legal Officers in the review of legal documents, instruments, or other material; identifying important issues, similarities and inconsistencies, etc.;
- Assisting in the preparation of drafts of background papers, studies, reports, etc.;
- Assisting in the preparation of legal opinions/advice on a wide range of international public and private law issues, including the United Nations Charter, General Assembly resolutions and decisions, the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement and decisions of the governing bodies thereof involving, inter alia, issues relating to privileges and immunities, institutional questions, treaty law and practice, procedural issues arising during meetings of the relevant governing and subsidiary bodies, etc.;
- Assisting Legal Officers in servicing meetings of the subsidiary and governing bodies, including supporting Legal Officers in respect of substantive agenda items under negotiation or consultation. This will also involve the preparation of background materials, summaries of issues and views of delegations, etc.;
- Supporting the development of legal capacity-building materials, such as webinars and other e-learning products, presentations for in-person delivery, policy briefs and other publications, as well as updating such materials based on lessons learned and to tailor these to a specific audience(s), where applicable;
- Engaging with stakeholders to identify knowledge gaps and to present proposals on how the Legal Affairs division can support capacity building in such areas;
- Liaising with other organizations within the United Nations system as well as other international and non-governmental organizations for the joint development and presentation of events, webinars and other legal capacity-building products.

### **What we are offering for the Fellow**

At the end of the Fellowship, the Fellow will be able to:

- Demonstrate a clear understanding of substantive, legal, procedural and institutional issues relating to the climate change process;
- Apply enhanced knowledge of intergovernmental processes;
- Service meetings in an intergovernmental process;
- Carry out legal research and prepare background information for the meetings of the COP, CMP, CMA and subsidiary bodies;
- Liaise with Parties, delegates and members of expert bodies and work with partner United Nations Agencies and Programmes.



## **What are we looking for**

### **Educational background**

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Required: Master degree in law or a related field, ideally with a specialization in international law. A combination of a first-level university degree and an additional two years of relevant work experience may also be accepted in lieu of an advanced degree.

### **Experience**

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Required: At least three years of experience in legal analysis, research and writing. Experience in climate change and sustainable development would be a strong asset.

### **Language skills**

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Required: Proficiency in written and spoken English.

Desired: Knowledge of another UN official language.

### **Others**

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1. The Fellowship Programme is open to individuals who are
  - a. Currently employed in a governmental organisation (national, regional, provincial or local) including educational institutions, research institutes and ministries.
  - b. A national of an eligible LDC and SIDS country as listed in the following links (<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/least-developed-country-category/lDCs-at-a-glance.html>) and <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sids/list> (UN members only).
  - c. Maximum of 40 years of age at the closing date of Fellowship Opportunity notice;
2. The secretariat values inclusiveness, diversity and gender equity.

## **The selection process**

You may be invited for assessment of your technical/professional knowledge. If successful, you will be invited for the final stage of the selection process, which consists of an interview to assess the skills and aptitudes required to successfully perform the functions of the post.

At a certain point and as part of the selection process, each candidate will be requested to provide the following information:

- a. Obtain permission from their employer for leave of absence for the term of the Fellowship, and provide written certification that s/he will return to the Party's governmental institution for at least six months after her/his Fellowship;
- b. Obtain a written letter of intention by their employer that the new knowledge acquired during the fellowship will be integrated in the climate change activities of the government;
- c. Obtain written certification from their employer that the subject of the applied position is relevant to the needs of the organization.

Please note that you should not provide this information at this stage of application.



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**How to apply:**

Candidates from SIDS and LDCs, whose qualifications and experience match what we are looking for, should use the online application system available at <http://unfccc.int/secretariat/employment/recruitment>

**Please note:**

1. This Programme is not intended for students, nor to provide support for an advanced degree, such as fieldwork for a PhD degree
2. We will confirm receipt of your application. However, only candidates who have been confirmed for an interview will receive notice of the outcome of the selection process.
3. The monthly stipend including allowances is EUR 4500.
4. The UNFCCC Secretariat will organise the return trip to Bonn.