



## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### Director and Principal Legal Adviser, D-1

Legal Affairs (LA) Programme

Deadline for application	Announcement number	Expected date for entry on duty	Duration of appointment	Duty Station
19 October 2016	VA 16/030/LA	As soon as possible	One and half years with possibility of extension	Bonn, Germany

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**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 historic Paris Agreement by 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.

**The Legal Affairs Programme (LA)** is responsible for the provision of legal advice and support on all legal issues regarding the implementation of the Convention, its Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, the implementation of decisions adopted by UNFCCC Governing Bodies, as well as the operations of the secretariat. The work of LA is organized in three main work streams: Intergovernmental and General Legal Counsel Affairs; Reporting, Review and Compliance; and Flexible Mechanisms.

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

As the Director of the Legal Affairs Programme and Principal Legal Adviser in the UNFCCC secretariat, you will provide strategic direction and guidance to the work of the Programme relating to legal advice and support to the implementation and further development of the international climate change regime, the conduct of the UNFCCC intergovernmental process and the operations of the UNFCCC secretariat. You will report directly to the Senior Director for Intergovernmental Affairs.

#### **You will have the following responsibilities:**

1. You will lead, coordinate, oversee and carry-out, as appropriate, the management and implementation of the work programme, activities and resources of the Legal Affairs Programme. As such, you will formulate and implement annual and long-term objectives, ensuring the provision of high quality legal advice to Parties and the secretariat and guide and motivate staff as well as monitor and evaluate staff performance;
2. You will provide legal advice to Convention, Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement bodies and their elected officers on a wide range of legal issues relating to the further development of the climate change regime, the implementation of the Convention, its Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, and the conduct of the intergovernmental process; you will also provide direct legal advice to the head of the organization as required;
3. You will provide legal advice and support on managerial, administrative, personnel and contractual matters in order to facilitate the efficient administration and operation of the secretariat;



4. You will undertake legal analyses and formulate and negotiate solutions in a politically sensitive environment with respect to a wide range of multidisciplinary and complex legal matters for which no precedents exist and which involve major questions of interpretation and application of law, including United Nations Regulations and Rules, and which have a direct impact on the policies, administration and operations of the secretariat.

### **What are we looking for:**

#### **Educational background**

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Required: Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in law with specific training in public international law or international environmental law. A combination of relevant academic qualifications and extensive experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

Asset: Training in administrative or commercial law.

#### **Experience**

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Required: A minimum of twelve years of progressively responsible and relevant legal experience with at least four years in an international environment, preferably in a United Nations common system organization or other intergovernmental organization.

Asset: Experience relating to intergovernmental negotiations, treaty implementation or compliance.  
Experience in administrative law.

#### **Language skills**

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Required: Fluency in written and oral English.

Asset: Knowledge of another UN official language.

#### **Specific professional knowledge**

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Required: Demonstrated knowledge of public international law or international environmental law.

Asset: Knowledge of the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.  
Knowledge of UN Regulations and Rules from a legal perspective.

#### **Job related skills**

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Required: Ability to manage a diverse range of highly complex and novel legal issues; demonstrated negotiation skills; demonstrated planning, management and leadership skills; ability to remain calm in stressful situations; excellent written and oral communication skills. Proven ability to provide strategic direction.

### **What is the selection process:**

You may be invited for assessment of your technical/professional knowledge. If successful you may be invited for the final stage of the selection process, which consists of a competency-based interview to assess the skills and aptitudes required to successfully perform the functions of the post. The following set of competencies for this particular post will be applied: Applying professional expertise,



thinking strategically and building the vision, being responsive to clients and partners, communicating with impact, and exercising sound judgment and decision-making.

**A great place to work:**

The UN offers a professional, diverse and innovative workplace with a competitive compensation and benefits package. A newly recruited staff member at the D-1 level with a recognized spouse/partner and no children assigned to Bonn might expect to receive:

- Indicative net annual salary and allowances:  
US\$ 97,583 to 104,389 (without dependents)  
US\$ 105,572 to 113,430 (with dependents)  
(plus variable post adjustment, currently 26.7% of net salary);
- Installation and assignment benefits at the time of recruitment would be approximately USD\$36,700;
- Health and dental insurance;
- Thirty days of annual leave and 10 paid holidays per year;
- Home leave travel paid for staff and eligible family members;
- Tuition assistance for children of up to 75% of eligible expenses;
- An employment contract for 18 months, extendable;
- Rental subsidy;
- A generous UN pension scheme.

**How to apply:**

Candidates, whose qualifications and experience match the vacancy profile, should use the on-line application system available at <http://unfccc.int/secretariat/employment/recruitment>.

**Please note:**

1. Qualified women candidates and candidates from developing countries are especially encouraged to apply.
2. Service is limited to the UNFCCC Secretariat.
3. We will confirm receipt of your application. However, only candidates under serious consideration and contacted for an interview will receive notice of the final outcome of the selection process.