



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

PROFESSIONAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT N°: IRC4317

Issued on: 27 June 2017

Deadline For Application: 18 July 2017

POSITION TITLE:	Legal Officer	GRADE LEVEL:	P-3/P-4
ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:	Development Law Branch, LEGN	DUTY STATION:	Location to be determined
	Legal Office, LEG	DURATION *:	Fixed term: two years with possibility of extension
		POST NUMBER:	0410950
		CCOG CODE:	1.G2

* The length of appointment for internal FAO candidates will be established in accordance with applicable policies pertaining to the extension of appointments

Qualified female applicants and qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged to apply.

Persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

The incumbent may be re-assigned to different activities and/or duty stations depending on the evolving needs of the Organization.

Organizational Setting

The Office of the Legal Counsel ensures that the Organization's activities are carried out in accordance with its Constitution and the other Basic Texts of the Organization, in a manner consistent with its status as an inter-governmental organization of the United Nations system, and that its relationships with governments, organizations and individuals are on a sound legal basis.

The position is located in the Development Law Branch (LEGN) of the Legal Office. LEGN provides legal advisory services to governments on food and agriculture and natural resources (including land, water, fisheries and aquaculture, plants, animals, food, forestry, wildlife and environment and biodiversity), as well as general agricultural issues (institutions, trade, economic reform).

The successful candidate will be outposted and based in one of the Organization's regional or sub-regional offices, the location of which is to be determined by the Organization. The appointment will be at either the P-3 or P-4 grade. The Organization reserves the right to determine the grade, taking into account the functions of the post, and the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate. It also reserves the right to make an appointment with a modified job description.

Reporting Lines

The Legal Officer reports to the Senior Legal Officer, LEGN, and is under the overall guidance of the Legal Counsel.

Technical Focus

Development Law, including legal and institutional matters pertaining to the Organization's activities and mandate in relation to food and agriculture and management of renewable natural resources.

Key Results

The provision of comprehensive legal support for the planning and delivery of multi-disciplinary legal-related activities, services and advice on questions pertaining to the Organization's mandate, in support to the FAO Strategic Programmes and related Delivery Mechanisms.

Key Functions

- Reviews a wide range of multidisciplinary and complex legal matters involving issues of international, public, private, and development law, including interpretation and application of instruments (both substantive and procedural);
- Provides legal advice to the Members Countries, FAO Technical Units at Headquarters and Decentralised Offices on the legal and institutional aspects of the governance and management of sustainable agriculture and natural resources, involving diverse substantive and procedural questions of considerable complexity which may call for the development of new legal modalities to meet unique needs/circumstances;
- Coordinates with and contributes to the work of relevant Strategic Programmes, Technical Units at FAO Headquarters and Decentralised Offices in order to ensure best synergies between legal, policy and governance related work in support of Member Countries;
- Reviews legal frameworks and prepares recommended texts of laws, regulations and other legal instruments, performs extensive legal research and analysis, and advises on and drafts legal opinions, briefs, reports, correspondence, as well as studies, publications, agreements, international instruments and other legal documents;
- Contributes to the preparation and implementation of field projects, including the conduct of advisory missions and the selection/supervision of consultants, particularly in the region to which the position is assigned;
- Responds to requests for information on national and international law relating to agriculture and the management and development of natural resources;
- Contributes to the implementation of FAO's gender policy including through the above-mentioned areas of work;
- Serves on various standing boards, committees, ad hoc working groups and task forces, as required;
- Promotes the work of LEGN and represents the Organization in meetings, conferences, seminars, etc.

Specific Functions

- Specific functions related to the discharge of the Key Functions outlined above will be determined by the Organization, taking into account the priorities of the region of assignment (to be determined), the FAO Strategic Programmes and other corporate priorities, and the needs of the Legal Office.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced University degree in Law
- Five (P-3) to seven (P-4) years of relevant legal experience in the field of food and agriculture, natural resources or development law
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish, and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Russian, Arabic or Chinese

Competencies

- Results Focus
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Building Effective Relationships
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement

Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions, is desirable
- Extent and relevance of experience in legal and institutional aspects of sustainable agriculture and natural resources
- Extent and relevance of experience in implementing technical assistance projects related to national legislation
- Extent and relevance of experience in conducting legal research and analysis involving considerable complexity, in writing clear and concise reports, and in preparing legal texts (legislative and regulatory instruments)
- Working knowledge of a second FAO official language depending upon the region of assignment

Please note that all candidates should adhere to *FAO Values of Commitment to FAO, Respect for All and Integrity and Transparency*.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All candidates should possess computer/word processing skills.
- Evaluation of qualified candidates may include an assessment exercise which will be followed by a competency-based interview.
- Your application will be screened based on the information provided in your iRecruitment online profile (see “*How to Apply*”). We strongly recommend that you ensure that the information is accurate and complete including employment record, academic qualifications and language skills.
- Please note that FAO will only consider academic credentials or degrees obtained from an educational institution recognised in the IAU/UNESCO list.
- Other similar positions at the same level may be filled from this vacancy notice and the endorsed candidates will be considered for the Employment Roster for a period of 2 years.
- Candidates may be requested to provide performance assessments.

REMUNERATION

A competitive compensation and benefits package is offered. For information on UN salaries, allowances and benefits, click on the following link: http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries_allowances/salary.htm

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, visit the iRecruitment website at <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> and complete your online profile. Only applications received through iRecruitment will be considered.

Candidates are requested to attach a letter of motivation to the online profile.

Vacancies will be removed from iRecruitment at 23:59 Central European Time (CET) on the deadline for applications date. We encourage applicants to submit the application well before the deadline date.

If you need help, or have queries, please contact: iRecruitment@fao.org

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