

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Senior Legal Officer

Project Title: Project 2019
Organisation: UNHCR - RAUECA
Job Title: Senior Legal Officer
Duty Station: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Duration: 01 July 2018 – 15 December 2019
Contract Type: UNHCR- Consultant

Background Information:

UNHCR has had long-standing cooperation with the African Union and its predecessor body, the Organization of the African Union (OAU). The 1969 OAU Convention on the Protection and Assistance to Refugees and the 2009 AU Convention on the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, which entered into force in December 2012, are key AU instruments concerning persons under UNHCR's mandate. In addition to these and within the framework of the long-term vision encapsulated in Agenda 2063, the African Union's (AU) Assembly of Heads of State and Government adopted a Common African Position on Humanitarian Effectiveness (CAP) in 2016 and called for a ten-year period of transformation to strengthen humanitarian action on the continent. The CAP defines Africa's new humanitarian architecture, which also emphasizes addressing root causes and achieving durable solutions, as well as bolstering the capacity of States and other stakeholders to tackle the challenges of forced displacement on the continent.

The year 2019 will mark the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the 1969 Organization of African Unity Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa (OAU Refugee Convention) as well as the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the 2009 AU Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention). To mark these events on the Continent, the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government (The Assembly) decided to declare 2019 the Year of Refugees, Returnees and IDPs. The Assembly also requested the AU to work with the Office of the Secretary General of the United Nations, UNHCR and other stakeholders to organize a series of activities to commemorate the anniversaries.

In order to ensure the implementation of all commemorative activities in a coordinated manner, a temporary Secretariat is established by the African Union and hosted within the AU Commission Department of Political Affairs. The Secretariat will be responsible for providing the overall administrative and planning support to the African Union in the implementation of the activities.

The Senior Legal Advisor is a member of the Secretariat and will work under the supervision of the Senior Project Advisor, Head of the Secretariat.

II. Rationale for Senior Legal Officer

Under the supervision of the Senior Project Advisor and in close coordination with UNHCR staff at RAUECA and Headquarters,, the Senior Legal Officer is responsible for achieving the following

- Draft policy papers, background notes, reports and other relevant documents as required;
- Support the Editorial Board that will be responsible for producing an academic legal commentary on the 1969 OAU Convention;
- Contribute to the writing of an academic legal commentary on the 1969 OAU Convention
- Support the editors, the Project 2019 mémoire book;
- Support the development and implementation of the ‘Livingston Syllabus’;
- Draft, as part of the team, Regional Consultative Meetings’ concept notes, background documents, preparatory material, outcome documents and Action Plans;
- Support the organisation and delivery of Project 2019 side events held at regular and extraordinary AU summits.

Outputs and Results

Project 2019 has following two outputs and results:

Output 1: Initiatives to enhance joint advocacy & mutual understanding with partners developed.

Activity Result 1.1: Commemoration of the 1969 OAU & 2009 Kampala Conventions – Special Pan-African Parliamentary Session on root causes of displacement. ROUNDTABLE COMPONENT: Topic 1: Addressing mixed migration through a comprehensive and protection sensitive approach in Africa.

Expected Outcome: *The roundtable will assess lessons learned from processes supported by the African Union in addressing mixed migration and develop multi-stakeholder approach in addressing refugee protection and mixed migration in within the African Union Framework on Migration.*

Activity Result 1.2: ROUNDTABLE COMPONENT: Topic 2: Strengthening Monitoring and Implementation Mechanism of the 1969 OAU Convention.

Expected Outcome: *The objective of this roundtable is to review the challenges of monitoring the implementation of the 1969 OAU Convention and develop a 10 year implementation action plan which aims to strengthen the role of the AU Policy Organs, the Banjul Commission, the African Court Human and Peoples Rights, the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Children in monitoring the implementation by Member States of the 1969 OAU Convention.*

Activity Result 1.3: ROUNDTABLE COMPONENT: Topic 3: Lifting barriers to social inclusion by improving access to livelihoods and education for refugees.

Expected Outcome: *This roundtable aims to identify factors behind the social exclusion of refugees; and provides opportunities to Member States, humanitarian and development actors and refugees*

share approaches experiences to improve refugees' social and economic inclusion. Member States will not only share experiences but make concrete actionable and specific pledges and commitments to expand access to education, skills and knowledges.

Activity Result 1.4: ROUNDTABLE COMPONENT: Topic 4: Solidarity and Responsibility Sharing: resettlement and complementary pathways within the framework of the Global Compact on Refugees.

Expected Outcome: The roundtable will seek to generate concrete commitments and pledges of solidarity to increase resettlement and complementary pathways by traditional resettlement countries and stimulate interest from AU member states to give tangible support to frontline states, especially with regard complementary pathways in education related initiatives as was the case for refugees in the 1960s, 70s and 80s.

Activity Result 1.5: ROUNDTABLE COMPONENT: Topic 4: Solidarity and Responsibility Sharing: resettlement and complementary pathways within the framework of the Global Compact on Refugees

Expected Outcome: The roundtable will seek to generate concrete commitments and pledges of solidarity to increase resettlement and complementary pathways by traditional resettlement countries and stimulate interest from AU member states to give tangible support to frontline states, especially with regard complementary pathways in education related initiatives as was the case for refugees in the 1960s, 70s and 80s.

Output 2: Advocacy and technical advice provided directly to key stakeholders.

2.1: DIP Activities:

Activities to be undertaken through DIP with respect to IDP issues in Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Niger, Somalia, and South Sudan include:

Promotion of IDP engagement; law and policy development; durable solutions; and peace-building. Particularly, the activities include:

Activity Result 2.2: AU extra-Ordinary Summit on addressing rootcauses and achieving durable solutions to forced displacement in Africa

III. Duties and Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the Senior Project Advisor and in close coordination with UNHCR staff at RAUECA and Headquarters,, the Senior Legal Officer is responsible for achieving the following:

- Protection principles and international and regional law as relevant to persons of concern to UNHCR and the African Union are promoted.
- The commemoration activities are implemented in accordance with and guided by a coherent strategy to provide quality protection advice.
- International and regional policies, standards and doctrine are consistently and coherently applied, and adapted in the context of the implementation of the activities of under Project 2019.

- Initiate, design and negotiate legal and policy documents supporting the implementation of activities under Project 2019.
- Represent the Secretariat in the Editorial Board for the Commentary of the 1969 OAU Convention and the Memoire Book

Knowledge Management and Advocacy

- Promote the exchange of best practices and innovative approaches.
- Ensure that information materials, tools and advocacy publications are produced and effectively disseminated through the UNHCR channels.
- In collaboration with AUC actively identify and contribute to the project advocacy and outreach.

IV. Recruitment Qualifications and Experience:

- Graduate degree (equivalent of a Master's) in Law/International Law, Political Science, Social Science or other related fields plus minimum 8 years of previous work experience relevant to the function. Undergraduate degree (equivalent of a BA/BS) plus 9 years or Doctorate degree (equivalent of a PhD) plus 7 years of previous relevant work experience may also be accepted.
- Minimum 5 years in international capacity.
- English and another relevant AU language.
- Good diplomatic skills.
- Strong negotiation skills.
- Excellent writing skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Strategic thinking.
- General understanding of UN/UNHCR reforms and the priority agenda of the organization.
- Good grasp of the political, social and economic landscape of the continent.
- Good knowledge of the structure, objectives, and work culture of the African Union and European Union.
- Previous experience working with the AU or/and the UN/UNHCR.
- Previous liaison positions and functions

Development and Operational Effectiveness

- Ability to use sound judgment to ensure the effective and timely completion of tasks, including the ability to prioritize
- Ability to write accurately, and concisely

Management

- Builds strong relationships with partners
- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude
- Demonstrates good oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities

Language requirements: Fluency (written / oral) in English

Remuneration:

- Monthly fee may vary according to the educational qualification and years of experience.
- Monthly fee ranges from USD 9,600 to USD 11,200.
- Daily subsistence allowance will be payable as applicable.

To apply:

Interested applicants should submit their letter of motivation and a Curriculum Vitae+P11 form via email to ETHADHR@unhcr.org. This vacancy is an international one, as such Ethiopian nationals are not entitled to apply. Additionally, selected candidate should be ready to start the evaluation within a maximum of 2 weeks upon receipt of offer.

The deadline for applications is 24 June 2018.