



The Regional Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Canberra invites applications for the full-time national officer position of Associate Legal Officer.

Applicants must have a university degree in law, at least four years professional experience, strong communications skills, and a demonstrated ability to analyse international and domestic refugee law.

For copies of the job description and selection criteria, please contact:

UNHCR  
3 Lyons Place  
Lyons ACT 2606

Phone: 02 6260 3411  
Fax: 026260 3477  
Email: [aulca@unhcr.org](mailto:aulca@unhcr.org)  
Web: [www.unhcr.org.au](http://www.unhcr.org.au)

Applications must be submitted in writing by 22 May 2009.



# UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

## **ASSOCIATE LEGAL OFFICER**

### SELECTION CRITERIA

- Highly developed oral and written communication skills. Experience in consultation and liaison with Government and NGO representatives.
- Strong organisational and work planning skills and the ability to work in a high volume work environment.
- Demonstrated ability to analyse international and domestic refugee law and to make recommendations based on an understanding of UNHCR's mandate and policies.
- An understanding of UNHCR and its role as a humanitarian organization, including its protection and resettlement mandate.
- A university degree in law/international law and at least four years relevant professional job experience is essential.

### JOB DESCRIPTION

- Identifying, researching, and providing advice and position papers for UNHCR on refugee law matters.
- Monitoring and analysing country specific practices, approaches and legislation, including administrative regulation and procedures on determination of refugee status, to ensure that these are consistent with international refugee laws and standards.
- Conducting refugee status determination and, where warranted, reviewing individual case of persons who are of concern to UNHCR, including to ensure fair and efficient admission arrangements and status determination procedures as well as to prevent refoulement. Liaising with NGOs and legal representatives, and making timely well-argued recommendations with the relevant authorities, if and when appropriate.
- Monitoring the treatment of asylum-seekers in detention and upon arrival by conducting visits and by liaising with government officials, NGOs, asylum-seekers and refugees.
- Assisting in preparation of, and participation in, training of refugee and human rights law to selected groups such as national immigration, customs, police and military officials, local authorities NGOs, and refugee communities in the countries in RO Canberra's area of responsibility.
- Supporting legal initiatives in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Pacific Island countries.
- Other tasks as required.