



UNHCR

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

ASSOCIATE LEGAL OFFICER

SELECTION CRITERIA

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

JOB DESCRIPTION

1. Identifying, researching, and providing advice and position papers for UNHCR on refugee law matters.
2. Monitoring and analysing country specific practices, approaches and legislation, including administrative regulations and procedures on determination of refugee status, to ensure that these are consistent with international refugee laws and standards.
3. Reviewing individual cases 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. Conducting refugee status determination, if requested by governments and warranted by the circumstances.
4. 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.
5. Assisting in the 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 the RO Canberra area of responsibility.
6. Supporting legal initiatives in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and South Pacific countries.
7. Other tasks as required.