


Vacancy announcement		
UN JPO Programme		
<i>JPO in Human Rights (environmentally sound waste management)</i>		
<i>United Nations Secretariat, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division, Special Procedures Branch</i>		Closing Date 14 August 2017
<u>Vacancy Announcement INT-171-17-P058</u>		
I General information		
Title:	JPO in Human Rights (environmentally sound waste management)	
Sector of Assignment:	Human Rights, environmentally sound management	
Country:	Switzerland	
Location (City):	Geneva	
Agency:	United Nations Secretariat, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division, Special Procedures Branch	
Duration of Assignment:	Initially a one year fixed-term appointment, with the possibility to extend up to 3 years	
Grade:	P1 step 1 or P2 step 1 in the first year, depending on the level of education and relevant working experience	
<p>Note: This post is opened in the context of the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) scheme sponsored by the Government of the Netherlands and is addressed exclusively to candidates from developing Countries (i.e. least developed countries). Candidates MUST BE NATIONALS OF A DEVELOPING COUNTRY THAT APPEARS ON THE FOLLOWING LIST of the Dutch JPO Programme: http://www.nedworcfoundation.nl/pdf/List%20of%20eligible%20developing%20countries%20-%202015.pdf</p> <p>For general information on the Dutch JPO Programme and additional conditions see the website of the Dutch Nedworc Foundation: http://www.nedworcfoundation.nl/Index.htm?hoofdpath=/NL/JPO/General%20Information.htm&hofdhash</p> <p>Please read the criteria and FAQ section carefully before applying.</p>		

II Duties, responsibilities and Output Expectations

General

The objective of this JPO post is to support the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes.

Under the general supervision of the Chief of the Special Procedures Branch and the direct supervision of the Chief of the SHDS, the incumbent will contribute by:

- researching a broad range of issues relating to the sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes including constitutional provisions, legislation, administrative regulations, policies, and practices, and prepare analytical briefs and assessment reports for the Special Rapporteur's review and decisions on follow-up actions;
- drafting of a wide range of documents, notably correspondence with Governments, in follow-up to information submitted to the Special Rapporteur from individuals, groups, and other stakeholders, on the sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, as well as briefing notes and talking points to assist the Special Rapporteur to participate in key events and media releases;
- preparing country visits of the Special Rapporteur, most notably, timely preparation of comprehensive country-assessments, designing the programme of the visit with all parties involved, handling logistics related to interpretation, budget and transport as per UN rules and regulations and accompany the Special Rapporteur as required;
- assist in the organization of consultations and other expert meetings to inform the Special Rapporteur's thematic research;
- ensure that routine correspondence is tracked and responded to as well as maintenance of the Special Rapporteur's outreach tools, most notably its webpage;
- other tasks as required by her/his supervisors in order to ensure comprehensive and effective support of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur and participate in activities carried out by the Branch and Office as a whole.

III Training component: Learning elements and expectations

On completion of the assignment, the JPO will:

- Support a thematic special procedure mandate of the Human Rights Council.
- Research, analyse and draft outputs on issues relating to the sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes;
- Draft formal communications, notably with Governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations or with individuals, in relation to a special procedure mandate.
- Prepare country visits and draft country visits reports
- Design advocacy and awareness raising activities related to the mandate
- Explain to a wide range of stakeholders what the special procedures mechanisms are and what the mandate of the Special Rapporteur is

The JPO Programme includes the following learning elements:

- On-arrival briefing in Geneva, Switzerland
- Possibility to participate in an orientation programme for Junior Professional Officers at United Nations System Staff College
- Possibility to participate in the Organization's learning and development programmes for staff at all levels. Programmes are aimed at developing core values, core and managerial competencies and promoting a shared organizational culture and values
- The JPO position includes a Duty travel and training allowance (DTTA) of \$4000 per year which may be used for learning activities related to the assignment and career development.

IV Supervision

Title of supervisor:

Chief, Sustainable Human Development Section, Special Procedures Branch

Content and methodology of supervision

The incumbent will be under the general supervision of the Chief of the Special Procedures Branch and under the direct supervision of the Chief of the SHDS, in support of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes. Regular periodic information performance will take place as needed. In addition to that, the incumbent will be requested to prepare a personal work plan under the United Nations Performance Appraisal System (PAS), the purpose of which is to encourage a higher level of involvement and staff participation in the planning, delivery and evaluation of work. The PAS evaluation procedure encompasses a detailed work plan, as well as the ongoing evaluation that includes mid-year and end-of-the-year reviews.

Evaluation: The United Nations Performance Evaluation System (e-performance) will serve as a primary platform to evaluate the JPO's performance. In addition, there will be regular supervisory meetings between the supervisor and the staff member as well as regular team meetings to coordinate assignments and manage workload.

V Required Qualifications and Experience

Education:

Advanced university degree or equivalent theoretical knowledge in international law, including human rights law, political science or environmental studies/ waste management. A first-level university degree in combination with two additional years of qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

Working experience:

Minimum 2 to maximum 4 years of relevant working experience in human rights.

Internships and voluntary work may be considered at 50% if deemed relevant.

Languages:

Fluency in English is required; good knowledge of French or Spanish is highly desirable; and good knowledge of another UN official language is an asset.

Other skills:

Good theoretical knowledge of UN human rights mechanisms, preferably including knowledge or experience of standards and mandates relevant to special procedures and knowledge of procedural aspects of United Nations human rights mechanisms is desirable. Knowledge of environmental issues, including issues related to the sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes is an asset.

Key competencies:

Professionalism: good knowledge of human rights and awareness of issues related to trafficking in persons. Basic knowledge of institutional mandates, policies, procedures and guidelines related to human rights, in particular Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council. Excellent analytical and research skills, keen attention to detail, and accuracy and thoroughness of output. Strong analytical, research and drafting skills. Ability to address logistical and politically sensitive matters with regard to country missions. Ability to support and advise independent experts. Ability to incorporate gender perspectives in all areas of work.

Communication: Strong communication skills, including the ability to produce a variety of written reports in a clear, concise style, and to deliver presentations to external audiences as necessary. Demonstrated openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.

Teamwork: Ability to work in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with respect for diversity. Ability to work jointly with other staff in sharing the support for multiple mandates.

Planning and Organizing: Ability to establish priorities and to plan work assignments, respond to competing demands and work under pressure of frequent and tight deadlines.

VI Background information on Agency/Department/Section

The Sustainable Human Development Section of SPB supports the work of eight mandates which include the Special Rapporteurs on water and sanitation; on Food; on Foreign Debt; on Extreme Poverty; on Housing; on the sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes; on environment and on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises.

In 1995, the then United Nations Commission on Human Rights noted that the illicit dumping of toxic and dangerous wastes and products has an adverse effect on the enjoyment of several human rights, and decided to appoint, for a period of three years, a Special Rapporteur with a mandate to examine the human rights aspects of this issue (Commission resolution 1995/81). The Commission and the Human Rights Council thereafter adopted several resolutions extending the mandate. In September 2011, the Human Rights Council decided to strengthen the mandate so as to cover not only the movement and the dumping of hazardous substances and waste, but also the whole life-cycle of hazardous products, from their manufacturing to their final disposal (cradle-to-grave approach). Accordingly, the title of the Special Rapporteur has been changed to the “Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes”. (Human Rights Council resolution 18/11). In view of the worryingly increasing trend of victimization, harassment, arbitrary detention and even killings of persons who advocate the environmentally sound management and disposal of these hazardous substances and wastes, the Human Rights Council further extended the scope of the mandate and in its resolution 21/17 of September 2012 included the issue of the protection of the environmental human rights defenders. On the basis of resolution 21/17, the Special Rapporteur has the task to monitor the adverse effects that the generation, management, handling, distribution and final disposal of hazardous substances and wastes may have on the full enjoyment of human rights, including the right to food, adequate housing, health and water. In addition, resolution 27/23 adopted in 2014 requested the Special Rapporteur to develop, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, a guide to best practices on the human rights obligations related to environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and waste. Since its creation the mandate has been held by three consecutive experts.

VII How to apply

Candidates who would like to apply should do so by e-mail only, indicating the Number of the Vacancy announcement in the subject heading of the e-mail to tcrcruit@un.org

Applications must include a letter of motivation and the [United Nations Personal History Statement](#). This form can be downloaded from <https://www.un.org/development/desa/jpo/jpo-vacancies/>
Please do NOT attach any other documents to your application.

Applications must be received no later than COB **14 August 2017**.

Applications received after this date will not be considered. Applicants will receive a confirmation of receipt.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted thereafter for further assessment.

Evaluation of qualified candidates may include a written assessment exercise followed by competency-based interviews.