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Job Posting Title

THE LEGAL ASSOCIATES PROGRAMME

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Job Title

THE LEGAL ASSOCIATES PROGRAMME

Organization

I. Background/General Description

1. The African Union Commission (AUC) invites applications for its Legal Associates Programme (LAP). The programme is a highly competitive capacity building initiative of the Office of the Legal Counsel. Once recruited, the Legal Associates will be part of the Office of the Legal Counsel of the AUC for one (1) year from their assumption of duty.

2. The essence of the LAP is to provide and inculcate professional legal expertise in young African lawyers in the area of international Law and African integration as represented by the ideals, programmes and activities of the AUC, other Organs, Specialised Agencies and Institutions of the African Union. The overarching aim of the LAP is to emphasize the role of law in development and to raise the next crop of African legal armies that are equipped to understand common African legal positions and provide professional service in that regard to both the AUC, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the various Member States.

3. The Legal Associates will be expected to proffer professional legal advice, undertake legal research, conduct comparative legal analysis, draft legal documents and provide legal support to ongoing projects and programs within the AUC, other Organs, Specialised Agencies and Institutions of the African Union.

4. The program will ensure equitable gender representation hence the

Requirements

II. Eligibility Criteria

5. Applicants wishing to apply for the Legal Associates Programme MUST meet the following requirements:

- i. Be a national of a Member State of the African Union.
- ii. Applicants must have already obtained a Master's Degree in Law from a recognised University anywhere in the world. Preference will be given to applicants with expertise in Procedural Law, International Commercial Law, Intellectual Property Law; International Maritime Law; International Trade Law and International Criminal Law, in particular, international justice mechanisms, reparation and other remedies for victims of human rights violations
- iii. Have a minimum of one (1) year relevant legal experience.
- iv. Be between the ages of 25 and 30.
- v. Be fluent in at least one (1) of the African Union working languages. A working knowledge of Arabic/English, French/English and Portuguese/English will be an added advantage.
- vi. Admission to practice law in any Member State of the African Union will be an added advantage.

III. Competencies

6. Applicants wishing to apply for the Legal Associates Programme must satisfactorily demonstrate a strong passion for Africa's development. In addition, each Applicant must have the following competencies:

- i. Knowledge of the African Union's legal framework, policies and procedures and must be able to correctly and consistently apply them.
- ii. Passionate about African integration as part of the vision and mission of the African Union
- iii. Exhibit sufficient professional independence and maturity. Applicants must be able to perform their duties as Associate Legal Officers in an objective manner, with the discretion and sensitivity required for operating in a multi-cultural setting.
- iv. Demonstrate strong legal knowledge with an ability to carry out extensive research and draft legal documents with limited supervision.
- v. Ability to critically analyze legal problems or situations and provide concrete solutions with limited supervision.
- vi. Ability to work as part of a team and contribute productively to the overall work or output of the Office of the Legal Counsel.
- vii. Possess strong communication skills and the ability to present information in a clear and concise manner.

IV. Stipend & other expenses

7. The Legal Associates will receive a reasonable stipend that will account for living expenses, housing and health insurance in Addis Ababa.

8. The Legal Associates will also receive a return economy flight ticket from and to country of residence.

V. How to apply

9. The Legal Associates Program recruits through a highly selective and competitive process. Applicants must submit their applications online at <http://www.aucareers.org> not later than 9 June 2017.

10. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

VI. Deadline for receipt of applications

11. The deadline for submission of applications is one month from the day this vacancy is announced. Applications received after midnight (Addis Ababa time) or on after deadline WILL NOT be considered.

VII. Interviews/Notification of decision

12. Interviews for selection will be both written and oral. Oral interviews will be conducted by Skype, teleconference or videoconference and only successful candidates will be notified.

Contract Type

Short Term

Employment Fraction

Full-time

Branch

Headquarters