VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

April 2022

Legal Adviser,
Africa Regional Programme

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) is a worldwide network of judges and lawyers united in affirming international law and rule of law principles that advance human rights.

We are recruiting a Legal Adviser to assist with the implementation of ICJ's ESC Projects through leading the ICJ Africa's work on the Right to Education and assisting in implementing its work on Disability Rights and Access to Justice regionally and globally. The ideal candidate will be a dedicated human rights lawyer with a comprehensive knowledge of international human rights, in particular of socio-economic rights, and practical experience of human rights legal advocacy and the legal system of the region.

This is a full-time, short-term position, starting in June 2022 and ending on 31 December 2022. The position is ideally based in Johannesburg, other locations in Southern Africa will be considered.

The ideal candidate will have a university degree in Law, with extensive knowledge of policy formulation, domestic human rights law, international human rights law, and 3-5 years of legal experience at the national, regional, or international levels. The candidate needs to have demonstrable experience working for or extensively engaging with justice sector actors and/or human rights NGOs. We are looking for someone who is a potential leader with strong interpersonal skills, passionate about human rights, with a strong commitment to gender and racial equality and diversity. The candidate must be a team player who is keen to engage in public advocacy, and work in a collaborative way to deliver high-quality work on time.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Reporting directly to the Director of Africa Regional Programme, the Legal Adviser holds the following responsibilities:

- Contribute to the execution of research and advocacy on ESCR and Disability and Access to Justice in Africa and globally;
- Interact with existing and potential funders on work relating to ESCR, Disability and Access to Justice;
- Manage, develop and deepen ICJ's relationships with partners organizations in Lesotho and Eswatini in particular;
- Develop materials for the training of Judicial officers in Africa on the right to education with a focus on the Abidjan Principles and the impact of privatization of education on human rights;
- Liaise with judiciaries and judicial training institutes to host training events on the Right to Education in Uganda and Lesotho;
- Liaise with civil society organizations working on the right to education in African countries, with a particular focus on Uganda and Lesotho, in order support strategic litigation on the right to education;

- Alongside the ICJ's Legal Advisers and Africa Director develop a concept note for, plan and implement an inaugural global symposium on "Global Legal Reform in Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities";
- Alongside the ICJ's Legal Advisers and Africa Director conduct advocacy on Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities in selected African countries and globally;
- Support the ICJ's Legal Advisers and Africa Director in completion of advocacy activities and events on a wide range of areas relating to promotion of human rights and the rule of law;
- With reasonable notice, be available to travel to programme events;
- Work closely with ICJ staff and partner organisations in the region, as designated by the ICJ;
- Contribute to the domestication and contextualization of ICJ publications;
- Provide sound and timely legal advice on specific regional and national human rights and rule of law issues;
- Represent the ICJ at meetings and dialogue platforms with various stakeholders;
- Organize and participate in ICJ missions, trial observations and seminars;
- Provide research, drafting and editing reports, briefings, press releases, opinion pieces, web stories, advocacy papers, publications and other written material as required;
- Inform and mobilize the ICJ Network in support of the work of the Africa Regional Programme;
- Contribute to fundraising and assist in managing the Programme resources and budget;
- Carry out other, appropriate responsibilities as requested by the Africa Regional Director.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will have:

Education

- University degree in law, Master's degree desirable.

Work experience

- A minimum of 3-5 years of relevant legal experience at national or international level including with non- or inter-governmental organizations;
- A minimum of 3 years demonstrable experience working in the field of ESCR (and in particular the right to education), Rule of law (and in particular access to justice) and disability rights with civil society, disabled persons organizations, lawyers, judicial officers and government officials and other justice sector actors are required;
- Litigation experience is an added advantage.

Language skills

- English, Desirable to have French, Portuguese.

Other competencies

- Demonstrated commitment to human rights, equality and non-discrimination and the rule of law;
- Excellent legal, political judgment and proven ability to develop and carry out innovative legal advocacy strategies;

- Demonstrated excellent analytical and writing competency;
- Strong research and analytical skills;
- Sound organizational skills and the ability to manage conflicting demands and to meet deadlines;
- Excellent interpersonal skills;
- Ability to work with senior government officials and judicial officers;
- Strong motivator for colleagues;
- Openness and flexibility, capacity to adapt to changing priorities and needs
- Willingness to travel regularly.

APPLICATIONS close on **30 05 2022** and should be addressed with your resume, a cover letter and the names and contact details of at least two referees to:

Ref: **ARP Legal Adviser**
By email: **recruitment@icj.org**

Please appreciate that due to the volume of applications, only short-listed candidates will be contacted. The ICJ is unable to respond to phone enquiries. We thank you for your understanding.

The ICJ is committed to the principle of equal employment opportunity and value a diverse workforce. The ICJ's policy is to practice a fair and non-discriminatory recruitment and selection procedure and to strive for and maintain international and multi-cultural personnel. Applications are encouraged from all qualified candidates without distinction on grounds of race, colour, sex, national origin, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity.