



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
RE-ADVERTISEMENT VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO UNDP /SSA /2008/040

Post Title	SEX CRIMES UNIT PROSECUTOR Sexual and Gender Based violence (SGBV) Sex Crimes Unit victim
Level	SSA (SC NO- A equivalent)
Organizational Unit	UNDP
Duty Station:	Monrovia, Liberia
Duration:	One (1) Year
Start Date:	Immediately
Salary	Attractive
Date of Issue:	10 November 2008
Closing Date:	24 November 2008

This vacancy is open to Liberian applicants of either sex. Preference will be given to equally qualified women candidates.

BACKGROUND

Government of Liberia acknowledged that long term war and insecurity has led to the disintegration of the legal system. This is clearly articulated in its Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS). The United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP) is partnering with the Government of Liberia to provide support under its Governance Programmes in strengthening the Rule of Law and Administration of Justice in Liberia. UNDP is currently working with the Ministry of Justice to establish a Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Unit as part of efforts to strengthen the Ministry's capacity in Public prosecution. Sexual and Gender-based Violence has been one of those overlooked areas of prosecution. Gender issues must be mainstreamed in the administration of justice to ensure that adequate and ethical prosecutors are deployed to areas in need, especially the outlying counties where there is a dearth of prosecutors. This will expedite the processing of caseloads while ensuring that due process is respected and justice is rendered in a fair manner for all.

The Government of Liberia in Partnership with UNDP is working to recruit experienced and professional legal practitioners to staff a Prosecution Unit in the Ministry of Justice entirely devoted to receiving and investigating complaints and setting in motion an expeditious prosecution process that ensures the rights and protection of victims and prosecution of perpetrators under the Liberia's criminal statute. Thereby addressing the culture of impunity in cases involving crimes against females and promoting respect for basic rights relating to violence against women throughout the Country.

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Sex Crimes Unit is a division of the prosecution department of the Ministry of justice headed by the Solicitor General

The Prosecutor assigned to the Ministry of Justice Sex Crimes Unit work under the direct supervision of the Sex Crimes Unit Chief Prosecutor

Prosecutors assigned to the Ministry of Justice Sex Crimes Unit will have the following duties:

- Assist investigators from the Ministry of Justice Sex Crimes Unit and the Liberian National Police with legal aspects of investigations into sexual assault, abuse and exploitation.
- Review investigation case files prepared by the Ministry of Justice Sex Crimes Unit Investigators and Liberian National Police to determine whether sufficient evidence exists to make an arrest. If evidence is insufficient, provide direction and guidance as to what evidence is needed to strengthen the case and obtain probable cause to make an arrest.
- Prepare sexual assault and abuse cases for presentation in court and for trial by:
- Opening a case file and assembling all reports, statements and other documents related to the case
- Review all documentation related to the case presented by the police, witnesses, victims and other sources and preparing a summary of the facts; a list of witnesses and victims with contact information, a summary of their statements and evidence to be introduced through them.
- Meeting with case investigators to review the case file and prepare them to testify
- Meeting with victims and witnesses to explain the prosecution and court process; explain their rights; provide information about victim services; and prepare them to testify.
- Researching relevant statutory, constitutional and case law
- Preparing and filing motions
- Complying with legal requirements for providing discovery to the defense
- Notifying witnesses and victim (s) of the schedule for trial and assisting them with arrangements to appear in court
- Keeping victims apprised of court proceedings
- Representing the Government of Liberia at court proceedings, including trials and appeals
- Attending and participating in training programs approved by the Ministry of Justice
- Complying with Ministry of Justice directives, policies and procedures ethics standards, attendance requirements, record keeping, reporting and filing requirements
- Supervising support staff and interns
- Coordinating with other governmental and international agencies and organizations
- Presenting the Ministry of Justice sex crimes Unit at meetings related to sexual and gender based violence per instructions from the sex Crimes Unit chief Prosecutor
- Providing training as directed by the Sex Crimes Unit chief Prosecutor
- Working in partnership with international advisors to the Ministry of Justice
- Other duties as specified by the Sex Crimes Chief prosecutor

Qualifications:

- Counselor-at-Law or Attorney with a degree in law from a recognized Law School
- Fluent in English, fluency in other languages helpful
- At least 3 years' work experience in the field of Law
- Detailed knowledge familiarity of reconstruction process in Liberia with specific focus on the area of rule of law and human rights protection;
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Strong work ethic

Application process

Interested candidates should send an E-mail application to vacancies.lr@undp.org. Please insert Vacancy Announcement Number in the Subject of the email or written application. Applications without the Vacancy Announcement Number or with the incorrect Vacancy Announcement Number will not be accepted. Attach photocopies of qualifications (i.e. technical certificates and academics) and a one-page cover letter indicating your interest and suitability for the position.

Please note that applications received after the closing date will not be considered. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted for a written test followed by an interview. These vacancies, initially for a six-month period, are open to applicants of either sex. Preference will be given to equally qualified women candidates.

Please forward all written applications to:

Deputy Resident Representative (Operations)
Attention: HR Unit
United Nations Development Programme
Simpson Apartment, Mamba Point
Monrovia, Liberia

cc: All UN Agencies and UNDP Programmes/Projects and All Counties