



**SECRETARIAT OF THE BASEL CONVENTION
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**



INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY – LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE UNIT

The Secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal ("UNEP/SBC"), seated in Geneva, Switzerland, is looking for young post-graduate students in law, or international law, to undertake internships with its Legal and Compliance Unit in the year 2007.

The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal is one the most widely ratified multilateral environmental agreements, with a membership of 169 Parties. The Convention seeks to reduce transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes to a minimum consistent with their environmentally sound management, to treat and dispose of hazardous wastes and other wastes as close as possible to their source of generation in an environmentally sound manner, and to minimize the generation of hazardous wastes and other wastes.

The Secretariat of the Basel Convention, which is administered by the United Nations Environment Programme, serves to administer this international treaty body and provides support to the Parties to help them implement the Convention.

The objectives of the internship programme are:

- To provide current students with important practical experience which complements their field of study, which at the same time will be of benefit to UNEP/SBC.
- To promote among the students a better understanding of major global problems confronting the world and to give them an insight into how the UN attempts to find solutions to these problems.
- To expose the students to the UN and its policies and programmes and have them become ambassadors of good will.
- To enable students from all parts of the world to exchange information during and after the internship so as to appreciate cultural diversity amongst different peoples and have them become ambassadors of peace and good will.

Under the supervision and tutoring of the Senior Legal Officer, the Intern will:

- Gain first hand experience in undertaking research and drafting legal opinions/memoranda on a variety of issues. Such issues may relate to the application of the provisions of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, the on-going negotiations for the development of a new legal instrument on ship recycling, liability and compensation arising out of environmental damage, and national legislation implementing the Basel Convention;
- Assist in the preparation of documents for meetings of the Parties to the Convention and, depending on the period of the internship, assist the Secretariat's in its efforts to support and facilitate such meetings;
- Provide support to the Committee to Administer the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance ("the Compliance Committee"), which may include research on subjects aimed at assisting Parties in meeting their obligations under the Convention, as identified by the Members of the Committee;
- Undertake administrative tasks, as needed.



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Minimum eligibility criteria

Please note that if you do not meet all the minimum eligibility criteria, your application will not be processed. Applicants for internships **MUST**:

- Be currently enrolled in the third or fourth year of an under-graduate (LLB/Licence) law programme, or in a graduate (Masters) or post-graduate (PhD) programme in law, or any other discipline provided that the applicant's prior degree was in law, at the time of application and throughout the internship;
- Be willing to intern, in Geneva, Switzerland, on a full-time basis for a period of not less than three months and not exceeding six months;
- Possess excellent legal drafting and research skills; and
- Possess excellent oral and written English skills.

Applicants **PREFERABLY** possess:

- A working knowledge of a second UN language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish);

Application

Candidates are requested to complete the online application form from the UNEP website (http://www.unon.org/intern_ship/interns.php). There is no need to submit the application electronically, as indicated on the website, please just print off a copy of the application form, and send it by e-mail to legalsbc@unep.ch or by fax to +41 22 797 3454, for the attention of the Senior Legal Officer.

Applications should be accompanied by

- A detailed CV;
- A sample of legal writing in English of approximately 250 words (typewritten);
- An indication of the dates and duration that the candidate would be available to undertake an internship.
- A letter (on official letterhead) from your **CURRENT** University to confirm your enrolment status and expected date of graduation.

Only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted.

Important information

- UNEP/SBC does **NOT** provide financial support for interns. All successful applicants are expected to make their own arrangements for travel and living expenses during the internship period.
- During the internship period, interns must observe all applicable rules, regulations, instructions, procedures and directives of UNEP/SBC, UNEP and the United Nations. The intern will be required to work full-time, in accordance with the working hours of UNEP/SBC. Interns will work at the premises of UNEP/SBC at International Environment House, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Internship at UNEP/SBC is in no way related to recruitment for regular employment and there should be no expectation of such. Interns are not eligible for employment with the United Nations either during their internship or within the six-month period immediately following the expiration of the internship.

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