



Call for Applications / Terms of Reference

Legal Experts/Fellows at the East African Court of Justice in Arusha, Tanzania

Background

The East African Court of Justice (EACJ) is the judicial arm of the East African Community established under Article 9 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community with the mission to ensure adherence to law in the interpretation and application of and compliance with the Treaty and contribute to the enjoyment of the benefits of Regional Integration by ensuring adherence to justice, rule of law and fundamental rights and freedoms through the interpretation and application of and compliance with the East African Law (see further <http://eacj.eac.int/>).

To enhance the clarity, authority, and ‘implementability’ of its decisions, the Court is seeking the support of Legal Experts/Fellows who will provide high-quality legal research, drafting, and technical assistance in decision-making processes.

The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI) is an independent academic institution established in 1984, at Lund University in Sweden. Since 1990, RWI has carried out a wide range of research, academic education, and institutional capacity development programmes in Africa in the human rights field, mainly with the support of Swedish Development Cooperation. The work of the Institute focuses on five thematic areas: Rule of Law and Access to Justice; Human Rights and the Environment; Business and Human Rights; Non-Discrimination and Inclusion; and International Humanitarian Law. (see further <http://rwi.lu.se/>).

The current RWI Regional Africa Programme builds upon previous regional cooperation in Africa, leveraging the achievements, lessons learned, and partnerships cultivated in previous work. The Programme focuses on increasing implementation of human rights decisions, judgments, provisional measures and recommendations from continental and regional bodies in Africa. The Institute's Regional Office based in Nairobi, Kenya, manages the RWI's regional cooperation in Africa. For further information on the Institute's cooperation in Africa, see <https://rwi.lu.se/africa/> and <https://rwi.lu.se/regional-africa-programme/>

In providing technical support to the EACJ, RWI will attach **two legal experts/fellows** to the EACJ, primarily focused on **undertaking research and providing technical assistance** in decision making processes.

Roles and responsibilities of the legal experts/fellows

The primary role of the legal experts/fellows is to undertake research and provide technical assistance in decision making processes of the EACJ. Additionally, the legal experts/fellows will:

- Support the alignment of jurisprudence with principles of international best practice.
- Develop and maintain databases of jurisprudence, legal briefs, and precedents.
- Summarize key judgments for dissemination to Partner States, legal practitioners, and the public.
- Promote effective compliance and the follow-up on implementation of the court's judgments.
- Contribute to institutional strengthening through research, documentation, and knowledge sharing.
- Contribute to the development or consolidation of relevant international, regional and/or national networks within the justice sector, including maintaining and consolidating regular contact with relevant stakeholders.

The legal experts/fellows will have line supervision by the Registrar, the Principal Judge and the President of the EACJ and report regularly to the Registrar of the EACJ and the Senior Programme Officer at the RWI Regional Office – Africa.

The role may involve travel to East African Community member states to conduct, coordinate and monitor research initiatives. At times, the workload can be high.

Qualifications and experience

- Academic qualifications & professional experience:
 - Must hold a master's degree in law (LLM) from an accredited university with five (5) years' relevant professional experience within a human rights promotion and protection context, preferably in a national, regional, continental or international institution/organization. Litigation experience is necessary.
 - OR
 - Must hold bachelor's degree in law (LLB) from an accredited university with seven (7) years 'relevant professional experience within a human rights promotion and protection

context, preferably in a national, regional, continental or international institution/organization. Litigation experience is necessary.

- Knowledge of human rights law and experience at a national or regional court
- Knowledge of the East African Community law, policies and procedures.
- An in-depth understanding of the EACJ and the African system of human rights protection, including decisions' implementation challenges.
- Previous experience in relation to drafting judgments or litigating on human and peoples' rights before any continental/regional or international court or mechanism will be an added advantage.

Duration

The role is a temporary position lasting twelve (12) months, renewable once for a period not exceeding six (6) months, subject to performance evaluation and availability of funding.

Reporting

The individual will be stationed at the EACJ Secretariat in Arusha, Tanzania, under the supervision of the Registrar.

Compensation

The individual will receive a monthly allowance of \$2,500 (Two Thousand Five Hundred U.S Dollars). Additionally, if relocating from outside Arusha, the individual is entitled to a one-time installation payment of \$1,000 (One Thousand U.S Dollars) and one air return ticket.

Application submission process

Interested persons are invited to submit their application, consisting of a cover letter and curriculum vitae, by **Wednesday 29th October 2025, 23:59 EAT**.

All applications must be sent via email to nairobi@rwi.lu.se with a copy (cc) to eacjregistrar@eachq.org

Questions and inquiries

Questions relating to this role should be sent to gilford.kimathi@rwi.lu.se