



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Legal Officer in Yei, South Sudan

Malteser International (MI) is the international humanitarian relief agency of the Sovereign Order of Malta. Since 1956, our core task has been to improve the health and well-being of suffering and displaced people around the world. We provide emergency and disaster relief in the immediate aftermath of acute disasters and work towards the rehabilitation and reconstruction of afflicted communities. Christian values and humanitarian principles form the foundations of our work. In over 30 countries in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Middle East, we support people in need – regardless of gender, political belief, origin, or faith.

To support the peaceful solution of conflicts by offering legal advice to individuals and communities as part of a multi-sectoral transitional aid project in Yei, South Sudan, MI is looking for a: **Legal Officer**

Background information

MI has been actively engaged in today's geographic area of South Sudan since 1996. Our current programming focuses on Central Equatoria and Western Bahr el Ghazal States. The main thematic sectors are Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), Food & Nutrition Security / Livelihoods (FNSL), Health & Wellbeing, and peacebuilding and strengthening social cohesion. MI aims to implement its projects in accordance with the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus for a sustainable impact of our interventions. To continue our engagement in peacebuilding and contribute to a culture of peaceful coexistence in Yei County, MI seeks to engage a Legal Officer to support peaceful conflict resolution between warring individuals.

Through its Transitional Development Assistance project, MI provides assistance to vulnerable populations in Yei County, incl. internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, returnees, and host communities. The project covers multiple sectors, incl. food security, nutrition, livelihood support, Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and peacebuilding. As part of the peacebuilding component of the project, a legal aid clinic was established during the previous project cycle to ensure the availability of peaceful conflict resolution services by providing free legal advice, mediation between warring parties, and legal counselling to individuals visiting the legal aid clinic. The availability of the legal aid clinic is advertised through, among other means, regular radio programmes, another activity under the project's peacebuilding component. Previous experience with the legal aid clinic shows that there is a strong demand for such services in Yei River County, particularly in regard to land disputes, such as illegal occupation and/or cultivation of land, disputes about land ownership, and compensation issues. In order to ensure the continued provision of legal services through the legal aid clinic, MI is looking for a Legal Officer who will run the clinic and advise individuals seeking legal advice.

Core responsibilities.

- Provide mediation services, legal advice, and counselling in line with South Sudanese law as a peaceful means of conflict resolution, with a focus on (but not limited to) land disputes.
- Conduct regular visits to statutory and local courts, legal administration, police stations, prisons, gender desks, and protection desks as well as residential areas to provide free legal aid to the most vulnerable people of Yei River County
- Where feasible, refer individuals to other services provided by MI, such as psycho-social counselling.

- Explore opportunities of expanding the geographical reach of the clinic
- Regularly (at least monthly) provide a report detailing the activities of the aid clinic.
- Consult with the peacebuilding and project management teams to continuously improve the services provided under the peacebuilding component.
- Act as the focal person for the peacebuilding activities in Yei River County by representing Malteser International in the Technical Peace Working Group, Cluster meetings, etc.
- Other tasks as required.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate should possess the following profile:

- Certified lawyer in South Sudan
- Previous work experience as a mediator, legal advisor and/or counsellor solving disputes, ideally in connection to land disputes.
- Familiarity with the context of displacement in and around Yei and the issue of land disputes
- Cultural sensitivity and excellent communication skills
- Proficiency use of common computer software (esp. MS Word, Outlook, Teams, Excel)
- Fluency in English and one of the following languages is required: (Juba) Arabic, Bari (or dialects thereof), Kaliko. Other languages are considered an additional asset.

How to apply

In order to apply, candidates should submit their application to fabian.halfpap@malteser-international.org with simaya-ladu.james@malteser-international.org in CC, or to Malteser International Yei Office, Lasu Road, Former GIZ Compound, including at least the following documents:

- Motivation letter (one page max.)
- CV outlining previous experience and education
- Copies of academic transcripts/diplomas
- Details of at least one professional reference



Applications should be received by closure of business on the 19th of May 2024. MI aims for the successful candidate to start working as soon as possible. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and shortlisted candidates will be contacted in due time.

Malteser International is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from all people, regardless of gender, confession, or origin.

Malteser International is committed to safeguarding people within our programmes from exploitation, abuse and sexual harassment and has specific policies on this commitment (including a Code of Conduct) which outlines the expected behaviour and the responsibility of all staff, consultants, and other organisational representatives. Malteser International conducts reference and background checks for all staff (including criminal records check for specific roles). Any candidate offered a job with Malteser International will be expected to sign MI's Code of Conduct as an appendix to their contract of employment and agree to conduct themselves in accordance with the provisions of these documents.

Whether you work as a specialist on overseas service or in one of our regional offices - we offer you a challenging working environment in an experienced international team. More than 1,000 national and international staff are currently deployed in various crisis and disaster areas around the world as well as in our regional offices in Cologne and New York City. For more information, please click [here](#).