Responsibilities: The Legal Adviser provides or assists in the preparation of timely and effective legal opinions and advice on a range of legal issues relating to the Mission’s mandate and activities. S/he provides input and contributes to the implementation of innovative approaches and solutions to legal problems/issues that arise in the Mission. S/he is also responsible for providing thorough and accurate legal research, studies, briefs and reports and for preparing correspondence and other legal documents. Under the guidance and supervision of the Police Commissioner, the incumbent will be responsible for:

- Assists in the preparation of or provide legal opinions and advice on a wide range of issues related to constitutional, international, public, administrative and criminal (substantive, procedural and comparative) law, including the interpretation and application of constitutive, legislative and other instruments governing United Nations activities and operations, particularly as it applies to urgent temporary measures and the protection of civilians, in consultation with a senior Mission Legal Affairs Officer.
- Conduct extensive legal research and analysis and prepare studies, comparative studies, briefs, reports and correspondence.
- Support implementation of National Police and Gendarmerie Development Plan through undertaking basic or extensive review of legal documents, instruments, or other material; identifies important issues, similarities, and inconsistencies, etc. in close consultation with the Ministry of Interior, and National Police and Gendarmerie executive leadership.
- Prepare or assist in the preparation of drafts of background papers, studies, reports, legislative texts and comments on those texts, teaching materials in the field of law enforcement and criminal legislation.
- Prepare or assists in the preparation of agreements and contracts with CAR Government, NGOs and other public and private entities.
- Review and advise on the warrants of arrest, indictments or legal motions/submissions in close consultation with MINUSCA Justice and Corrections pillar and other relevant mission components.
- Support and assist UN Police and National Police and Gendarmerie in assessing evidence and procedures regarding evidence and chain of custody for relevance and admissibility within the context of national police operations and police development.
- Assist senior UN Police staff in the preparation of background materials, summaries of issues and views, meeting reports, etc.
- Provide legal advice on human resources matters; reviews administrative matters in support of National Police and Gendarmerie human resource development.
• Provide legal technical assistance.
• Supervise or provide guidance to more junior staff.
• Perform other duties as required by the supervisors within the mandate implementation.

COMPETENCIES:
Professionalism: Knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts and approaches relevant to particular sector, functional area or other specialized field. Ability to identify issues, analyze and participate in the resolution of issues/problems. Ability to conduct data collection using various methods. Conceptual analytical and evaluative skills to conduct independent research and analysis, including familiarity with and experience in the use of various research sources, including electronic sources on the internet, intranet and other databases. Ability to apply judgment in the context of assignments given, plan own work and manage conflicting priorities. Shows pride in work and in achievements; demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter; is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results; is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns; shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges; remains calm in stressful situations. Takes responsibility for incorporating gender perspectives and ensuring the equal participation of women and men in all areas of work.

Planning & Organizing: Develops clear goals that are consistent with agreed strategies; identifies priority activities and assignments; adjusts priorities as required; allocates appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work; foresees risks and allows for contingencies when planning; monitors and adjusts plans and actions as necessary; uses time efficiently.

Client Orientation: Considers all those to whom services are provided to be “clients” and seeks to see things from clients’ point of view; establishes and maintain productive partnerships with clients by gaining their trust and respect, identifies clients’ needs and matches them to appropriate solutions; monitors ongoing developments inside and outside the clients’ environment to be informed and be able to anticipate problems; keeps clients informed of progress or setbacks in projects; meets timeline for delivery of products or services to client; resolves conflicts by pursuing mutually agreeable solutions.

QUALIFICATIONS:
Education: Advanced university degree (Master’s degree or equivalent) in law. A first-level university degree in law in combination with two additional years of qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree. Graduation from a certified police academy or other law enforcement training institution is desirable.

Experience: A minimum of five years (seven years in absence of Master’s Degree) of progressively responsible professional experience in law, including legal analysis, research and writing, with substantive experience in practicing international and/or criminal law - required. Experience in the area of legal support of policing related activities - required. Legal support experience in the context of peacekeeping operations is desirable; knowledge of local legal procedures and understanding of issues related to security sector reform and restructuring and institutional development is an advantage.

Language: For this post fluency in French, (both oral and written) is required; knowledge of a second official UN language (English) is desired.

Preference will be given to equally qualified women candidates.

In accordance with the Policy on Human Rights Screening of UN Personnel, all individuals who seek to serve with the United Nations are requested to make “self-attestation” that s/he has not committed any serious criminal offences and has not been involved in violations of international human rights or international humanitarian law. The exact wording of the self-attestation is outlined in para. 5.2 of the above mentioned Policy. The final decision on the selection of an individual to serve with the United Nations will also be subject to human rights screening.

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