

## **UN ENVIRONMENT JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICER REQUEST**

### **General Information**

Post Title: Associate Programme Manager Officer - Pesticides  
Office/Division/MEA: Industry and Economy Division, Chemicals and Health Branch  
Unit: Knowledge and Risk Unit  
Location: Nairobi  
Duration: 2 years

### **Background information on UN Environment and the requesting Unit**

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

The overall objective of the UNEP's Industry and Economy Division is to encourage decision makers in governments, local authorities and industries to develop and adopt policies, strategies, practices and technologies that promote sustainable patterns of consumption and production, make efficient use of natural resources, ensure safe management of chemicals and contribute to making trade and environment policies mutually supportive. It promotes the development, use and transfer of policies, technologies, economic instruments, managerial practices and other tools that assist in environmentally sound decision making and the building of corresponding activities.

The Knowledge and Risk Unit of the Chemicals and Health Branch promotes scientific approaches and knowledge for the sound management of chemicals including through implementation of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolutions. The Knowledge and Risk Unit gathers, compiles and analyses state of the art information and data, including through monitoring activities, inventories and assessments, to allow policymakers to make informed decisions on the sound management of chemicals and waste. The Unit executes projects and covers topics related to the reduction of hazardous chemicals in sectors through the application of sustainable chemistry. The sectors the unit currently focusses on are textile/fashion, construction, electronic, agriculture and cosmetics. The Unit also addresses topics highlighted by governments, such as pharmaceutical pollutants, antimicrobial resistance, endocrine disruptors, pesticides and their management, and assists in implementing mandates received through UNEA.

The Unit contributes to the pesticides management related work in the context of the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) Joint Meeting on Pesticides Management (JMPPM). The Unit also assists in implementing the mandates received through International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) under the Global Framework on Chemicals. Subject to availability of funding, the Unit supports the implementation of the Synthesis Report on Environmental and Health Impacts of Pesticides and Fertilizers and Ways of Minimizing Them recommendations.

### **Why is the Junior Professional Officer requested/needed?**

The Junior Professional Officer is needed to complement the existing work on pesticides linked to the FAO/WHO JMPPM, to implement the recommendations of the Synthesis Report on Environmental and Health Impacts of Pesticides and Fertilizers and Ways of Minimizing Them and to support new activities related to the establishment of the Global Alliance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides and the development and implementation of the action plan on highly hazardous pesticides, as well as activities in the context of sustainable food systems strategy

and projects. In this work, extensive cooperation is expected within UNEP with the sustainable food systems team and with a broad range of stakeholders, including those that will contribute to the alliance including, inter alia Governments, civil society, the private sector through the International Chemicals Companies Association but also directly with international and national pesticides manufacturers, farming organization, inter-governmental organizations (e.g. FAO, ILO, WHO, UNDP). This increased support is expected to be required over the next 24 months until the organization of the next ICCM.

### **Supervision**

As described above, the Junior Professional will be in the Knowledge and Risk Unit and will directly report to the Programme Management Officer in charge of the pesticides topic (P4) as First Reporting Officer (FRO). Additionally, an Additional Reporting Officer (ARO) is proposed as the head of the Pollution and Health Unit (P5) which will ensure a direct connection to the ONE Health team where the sustainable food systems work is located. The Second Reporting Officer (SRO) will be the head of the Knowledge and Risk Unit (P5). The Junior Professional Officer will be appraised through the e-performance system used in UNEP for staff and the report submitted to the donor-government in May of each calendar year.

### **Content and methodology of the supervision**

The Junior Professional Officer will follow an induction and be introduced to the staff, consultants and interns of the Chemicals and Health Branch, as well as to the Secretariat of the Global Framework on Chemicals and Chemicals Conventions Secretariats. During the first 2 weeks of appointment, regular meetings with FRO and SRO will ensure a full introduction to the work of the Unit and the context of the work on pesticides in the Division and the organization at large. A workplan will be established within 10 working days of entry in duty. The workplan will be reviewed after 3 months and thereafter bi-annually unless increased frequency is required by the Junior Professional Officer or the FRO.

As for each team member, the Junior Professional Officer will have a weekly one-to-one meeting with the assigned FRO and a monthly meeting with the assigned ARO and SRO. These meetings are to discuss problems, adjustments that may be needed to the workplan and general discussion on job satisfaction.

The Junior Professional Officer will attend all the Unit's meeting (bi-monthly) and will accompany the assigned FRO to meetings with stakeholders.

First appraising officer: Ms Mihaela Paun

Alternate appraising officer: Ms Maria Cristina Zucca

Second appraising officer: Mr. Ludovic Bernaudat

### **Duties, responsibilities and output expectations**

Terms of reference

- Provide support to the work on FAO/WHO JMPM: reviewing documentation for UNEP participation to the intersessional and annual meetings.
- Support the establishment of the Global Alliance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides and development of action plan on highly hazardous pesticides as per the ICCM 5 Resolution V/11.
- Support the Unit's activities in the context of the sustainable food systems strategy and projects and of the related One Health initiatives as well as the work on indicators for the targets related to pesticides under Global Framework on Chemicals and Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
- Support the development of a strategy to involve pesticides manufacturers and crop protection associations in the work led by UNEP.

- Undertake literature review on the use and cost-effectiveness of alternatives to chemicals in the farming industry.
- Develop a strategy to raise awareness of farmers/farmers associations on the availability of alternatives.

#### Output expectations

- Increased involvement of UNEP in the FAO/WHO JMPM and sustainable food systems related work.
- Enhanced contributions to the Unit's efforts in developing indicators for targets associated with pesticides within the Global Framework on Chemicals and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
- Regular communication with members of the Global Alliance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides.
- Pesticides manufacturers and crop protection associations involved in discussions.
- Farmer associations informed on alternatives to the use of hazardous pesticides.

#### Travel

The Junior Professional Officer will undertake missions and travels related to the Terms of Reference and if applicable.

#### Training and Learning Elements

Junior Professional Officer will be provided with the training available to staff. Additionally, in each work plan, specific trainings will be identified (report writing, project proposal development...)

#### Training

Junior Professional Officer will be provided with mentoring from FRO/ARO/SRO. Additionally, language training available to staff will be also available.

#### Learning elements:

After one year the Junior Professional Officer is able to:

- communicate efficiently and clearly with internal and external institutional stakeholders.
- operate in a multi-cultural international environment.
- understand the sensitivities of communicating with stakeholders.
- develop meeting objectives, agendas and reports.

After two years the Junior Professional Officer is able to:

- develop working documents on technical issues.
- lead technical meetings.
- communicate with external partners.

#### Qualifications and experience

*Qualifications:* Advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in environmental sciences, chemistry or agro-chemicals. A first-level university degree in combination with four years of qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

*Skills:* Strong analytical, problem-solving, and attention to detail skills are required.

*Working experience:* At least 4 years at the national level, or 2 years at the international level in the implementation of environmental related programmes, projects and activities is required.

*Languages:* English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. For the position advertised, fluency in English (oral and written) is required.

## Competencies

Professionalism, Teamwork, Planning and Organising

## Experience

Experience in a field related to agro-chemicals is required.

Experience in international agreements is an asset.

Experience in chemicals risk assessment is an asset.

## Living conditions at duty station

Nairobi: Normal living conditions for developing country in Africa.

## How to apply

### Eligibility

- U.S. citizenship
- academic education equivalent to a master's degree and **three years'** relevant working experience or
- a bachelor's degree and five years' relevant working experience,
- a maximum of 32 years of age,
- fluency in English and working knowledge in one other of the official UN languages.

**Submit** your application via email to [unep-hr-jpo@un.org](mailto:unep-hr-jpo@un.org), including a motivation letter (max. 2 pages), CV (max. 2 pages) and Personal History Profile..

Please use the reference "U.S. UNEP JPO-Program 2024"

**Application Deadline** is Saturday, **June 8, 2024, 00:00 EAT.**