

**United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)**

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 03-10-004
Humanitarian Affairs Associate (*National Position*)
Level (ICS-7)
Gaza/OCHA oPt

Contract: Fixed Term Contract, ICS-7 (GS7)
Duty Station: Gaza
Duration: One year with possibility of extension
Starting Date: As soon as possible

The office in the occupied Palestinian territory has responsibility for inter-agency coordination in complex emergencies and in natural disasters. In the context of the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, the OCHA Office has a specific responsibility for (a) disseminating information and policies to the humanitarian community, authorities and donors, as well as supporting resource mobilization efforts; (b) assisting in the identification of humanitarian priorities and needs and the coordination of resource mobilization efforts; and (c) disseminating information on the impact of natural disasters, response there to and the need for international assistance.

In order to meet the increased requirements for coordination support, humanitarian advocacy and information, the OCHA office in the occupied Palestinian territory has expanded its presence. Through its expanded presence in the field and Jerusalem, the OCHA oPt team will ensure adequate support to area-based operational coordination structures, sectoral coordination in priority areas such as health and food security etc, and nation level coordination, both operational and policy.

Under the guidance and direct supervision of the Humanitarian Affairs Officer (HAO) and in partnership with the Humanitarian Affairs Analyst (HAA) in the OCHA Gaza office, the Humanitarian Affairs Associate (HAA) contributes to the development of field office and headquarters humanitarian strategy and is expected to set deliverable results within the respective Area of Responsibility (AOR).

In support of the Field Coordination Unit (FCU), the Humanitarian Affairs Associate works in close collaboration with various units in the OCHA oPt Jerusalem office, various UN agencies, NGOs, authorities, local communities etc.

The incumbent will be responsible for the following duties:

- **Monitor, assess, report and analysis of general Gaza protection issues and specific issues as identified by the FCU in the AOR.**
- **Support monitoring and assessment of humanitarian developments**
- **Support field and humanitarian needs assessments and coordination mechanisms**
- **Supports OCHA's advocacy role in the oPt**
- **Supports OCHA in the strategic planning of the National Office**
- **Office Administration and Logistics**

1. Monitor, assess, report and analysis of general Gaza protection issues and specific issues as identified by the FCU in the AOR.

- Conduct periodic information analysis in relation to the regular monitoring and coordination of the humanitarian situation and aid in the oPt, specifically in the AOR.
- Prepare regular situation and analytical reports highlighting social, political, economic and other relevant factors affecting the overall humanitarian situation.
- Monitor humanitarian assistance progress and conduct assessments of needs and risks in the AOR.
- Monitor all local sources of protection related information including media, agency reports and through regular contact with governmental and civilian institutions and key informants.
- Triangulation and verification of information including prioritizing and undertaking field trips, meeting with the affected population and representatives of the local communities/authorities.
- Assist in the writing of the weekly Protection of Civilian report in a timely manner.
- Analyse trends, identify emerging areas of concern and ensure that necessary responses are integrated into the Field Unit Programme, cross checked for similar trends in the FCUs and raised for further attention to Jerusalem office as necessary.
- Submit protection issues to be raised with relevant actors to the HAO/HAAAn at district level as necessary.

2. Support monitoring and assessment of humanitarian developments

- Assist the HAO and HAAAn in the development of trend analyses of political, social, economic and security developments in the AOR and provide recommendations on humanitarian action.
- Monitor closures and restrictions imposed on the Palestinian population in the AOR.
- Support the mapping of closures and its impact on Palestinians – specific monitoring of communities worst affected and most vulnerable
- Participate in regular field assessments to gather and verify information needed to understand the impact of the humanitarian crisis.
- Support joint assessments with other UN agencies and local and international NGOs when needed or requested

3. Support field and humanitarian needs assessments and coordination mechanisms

- Carry out field work, including assessments and fact finding field trips, on a daily basis as required as well as guide delegations on field tours in the AOR.
- Meet and maintain contact with various local community groups, including governorate and municipal offices.
- Support HAAAn and HAO in convening coordination meetings at the district level to identify humanitarian issues and seek response mechanisms jointly with other stakeholders. Prepare invitations, coordinate logistics, and write minutes.

- Provide assistance and initiative to liaise with international humanitarian actors, including UN agencies and NGOs in order to monitor humanitarian projects implemented in the AOR.
- Provide assistance in the development of substantive linkages between emergency assistance (a) preparedness/prevention aspects, (b) rehabilitation and recovery projects through the various coordination bodies, humanitarian sector/cluster working groups and the Operational Coordination Group (OCG).
- Liaise with the local authorities on behalf of the FCU as required.
- Liaise with the local authorities and other actors at the request of the HAO and HAAAn.
- Monitor and report on movement and access restrictions experienced by the humanitarian organisations or critical service providers

4. Supports OCHA's advocacy role in the oPt

- Conduct and/or support field briefings for officials, diplomats, decision makers and visiting delegations in order to maintain awareness of current humanitarian affairs and related issues in the AOR.
- Support the HAO in providing inputs for the production of weekly, monthly and ad hoc situation reports (i.e. humanitarian monitor, humanitarian updates, CAP, presentations, etc...).
- Supports the Field Office in disseminating, at the local level, UN and OCHA reports and provide support to local launches of information products.

5. Supports OCHA in the strategic planning of the National Office

- Support OCHA office in the preparation of contingency planning, including the development of scenarios with input from humanitarian actors in the field
- Participate in the periodic planning process of OCHA office
- Support the identification of emergency humanitarian needs and types of assistance required

6. Office Administration and Logistics

- Maintain the FCU electronic filing systems, including picture archiving, as agreed by management in Jerusalem.
- Maintain hard copy archives (e.g demolition, land confiscation orders etc) as agreed with the HAO.
- Maintain and update all contact lists, meeting schedules and activity reports.
- Assist HAO with interpretation and translation work (Arabic/English/Arabic) when required.
- Provide updated security information from the field to the UN operations room. Respond to inquiries about security incidents from the UN Department of Safety and Security as requested. Act as security 'Zone Warden' if required.

Education:

Secondary Education. University Degree or equivalent in Economics, Social Sciences, International Relations, Political Sciences or related field would be desirable , but it is not a requirement.

Experience:

5-7 years of progressively responsible administrative, programme, field or humanitarian relevant experience is required at the national or international level. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc) and advance knowledge of spreadsheet and database packages, experience in handling of web-based management systems.

Language requirements:

Fluency in the UN and national language of the duty station

Corporate Competencies

- Demonstrates commitment to UN Mission, vision and values.
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability.

Technical/Functional Competencies:**Knowledge Management and Learning**

- Shares knowledge and experience from within and outside the UN Country Team.
- Encourages UN staff to share knowledge.

Development and Operational Effectiveness

- Ability to perform a broad range of specialized activities of the UN Coordination Unit including support in data management, design of databases and reporting.
- Ability to provide input to business processes re-engineering, implementation of new systems.

Leadership and Self-Management

- Focuses on result for the client.
- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude.
- Demonstrates strong oral and written communication skills.
- Remains calm, in control and good humored even under pressure.
- Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities.
- Responds positively to critical feedback and differing points of view.
- Solicits feedback from staff about the impact of his/her own behavior.

How to apply:

For a full description of the post please visit the vacancies section on the OCHA – oPt website: www.ochaopt.org

All applicants are requested to email the completed United Nations Personal History Form (UN-P-11) in English providing full details of education, present and past employment, language skills, computer skills, etc. to the OCHA oPt Office by using the following e-mail address: hr@ochaopt.org. The UN P-11 form can be found on OCHA's website: www.ochaopt.org

It would be appreciated your stating your full name and the OCHA vacancy notice number (03-10-004) as the subject in your e-mail application.

Only qualified candidates should apply and only those who have been short listed will be contacted.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 19 March 2010

Applications received after this date will not be considered.

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Women are encouraged to apply