



## Are you interested in assisting developing nations in the climate negotiations?

### Join our network of legal advisers

The Legal Response International (LRI) is an award-winning charity based in London that provides free legal assistance to negotiators from low income and climate vulnerable developing countries in connection with the international climate negotiations under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

#### Why does legal support matter?

Climate change negotiations are among the most complex multilateral law and policy-making processes ever. Sessions are characterized by the use of technical language, reference to legal principles and procedural norms.

Whilst many wealthy countries have their own legal experts and support staff, developing country negotiators can rarely rely on such backing. By making legal advice and assistance available for free, LRI contributes to a more level playing field between actors.

#### How does LRI work?

LRI works through a global network of lawyers from law firms, barrister chambers and universities who produce legal opinions in response to queries by developing countries and civil society observer organizations. The questions vary considerably. Here are some examples:

What are the legal implications of moving the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage solely to the CMA as opposed to having it under both COP and CMA?

Please prepare a short overview on how human rights are addressed under the UNFCCC.

How is graduation/transition from Least Developed Country status treated under other agreements in terms of timelines, flexibilities and other contexts?

Can the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) directly request the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to do something or is the Conference of the Parties (COP) required to take a decision to this effect?

Does Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement create a new financial obligation, or does it only confirm the existing ones under the Convention? Who has an obligation to provide financial resources under Article 9.1 PA: only countries listed in Annex 2 of the UNFCCC, or all developed countries?

Following the postponement of COP26 (originally planned for November 2020) by when do Parties to the Paris Agreement have to communicate or update their NDCs?

What are the consequences of the Doha amendment's entry into force for AAUs, other Kyoto Protocol credits and the general KP framework?

The bulk of LRI service is delivered during UN climate meetings, when advisers are 'on call' to assist remotely with legal queries that usually need a quick turnaround. Being on call does not necessarily mean advisers will be asked to assist: it will all depend on the subject matter of the queries received at a particular time and whether they match an adviser's areas of expertise and availability. The areas of expertise/experience that are most relevant to our work are:

- Rules and regulations under the UNFCCC/climate change regime
- Treaty drafting and interpretation
- Public international law
- International environmental law/multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)
- Human Rights
- International Trade Law/WTO
- Energy law
- Carbon trading, CDM
- International dispute resolution
- Climate finance
- REDD+/Forests
- Indigenous Peoples' rights
- EU Law and Regulation
- Law of the Sea/ International Maritime Organisation (IMO)
- International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)
- Reporting and review under the UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement

For more information about LRI please visit [www.legalresponse.org](http://www.legalresponse.org)