



## Are you interested in supporting developing nations in the UN climate change negotiations?

### Why legal support matters

**Legal Response International (LRI)** is an award-winning charity based in London that provides legal assistance free of charge to low-income developing countries and civil society observer organisations in connection with the international climate change negotiations under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Climate change negotiations are among the most complex multilateral law and policy-making processes ever. Sessions are characterised 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. As a result, they are regularly outgunned by the larger delegations of industrialised countries.

By making legal advice and assistance available for free, LRI contributes to a more level playing field between actors in the negotiations. You can support our work during climate conferences as a volunteer.

### Volunteering with LRI

A small team of LRI lawyers attend “Conference of the Parties” (COPs) and smaller Subsidiary Bodies meetings every year. They meet delegates and discuss legal issues. Their work is supported by a global network of lawyers from law firms, barrister chambers and universities with expertise in many different areas of law. In response to queries raised by delegates the experts produce legal opinions free of charge.

The volunteers’ role is to undertake preliminary research on some legal queries and produce an update of the negotiations during these UNFCCC meetings. Volunteers operate from the ‘Situation room’ which is normally based in the offices of a City law firm in London. Remote volunteering is also possible. The Situation room acts as a conduit between the LRI team on the ground and our network of expert advisers.

In the past, volunteers have for example put together a table on climate legislation and policies in African countries, done research on the Global Pact for the Environment or on how the term “punitive” is defined in international law.

For more information about LRI please visit <https://legalresponse.org/> or contact us at [enquiries@legalresponse.org](mailto:enquiries@legalresponse.org).