Person specification: Legal and Policy Specialist

**Essential**

**Knowledge**
- Degree in law (or other relevant professional experience) with a focus on international law, policy and practice
- Understanding of national and international policy development and implementation, with preference given to environment or human rights
- Knowledge of the UK, EU or international environmental sector and key stakeholders operating in the space

**Experience**
- Professional experience as a legal and policy specialist either in a law firm, non-profit organisation, government or international organisation
- Demonstrated experience in non-profit legal advocacy, whether voluntary or professional
- Proven experience of researching, evaluating, interpreting and accurately representing information from a range of legal and technical sources
- Proven policy and advocacy experience, ideally within the United Nations or European Union system
- Experience in developing close positive working relationships with external contacts to further strategic campaign objectives

**Skills**
- Strong advocacy skills, including the ability to clearly explain and justify with rationale and recommendations
- Ability to analyse and communicate clearly on complex legal, social, political, economic and environmental parameters in ways that inform EIA's work and communications
- Ability to conduct detailed targeted research projects and tasks independently
- Strong interpersonal, communication and time-management skills, including the ability to work closely with others in the team
- Excellent writing skills, exhibiting a high degree of accuracy and fitness for a variety of audiences
- Ability to work flexibly and independently, adjusting tasks and activities according to evolving priorities
- Confidence to quickly draft talking points and policy positions during meetings
- Fluent in English
- Legal right to work in the UK or EU
- Experienced user of Windows-based packages, in particular Microsoft Office
- Strong organisational skills (information and data management, planning etc.)
- Willingness and ability to travel
Desirable

Knowledge

- Knowledge of latest developments in UK, European and international policy institutions and processes, in particular the Basel Convention, International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Environment Assembly and the European institutions
- Knowledge of plastic pollution and its impacts on human rights and health, biodiversity and the climate system, including international policy efforts underway to address these threats
- Knowledge of human rights law, comparative constitutional law, tort, criminal law, finance, criminal liability regimes in common law systems, or other areas relevant to intersecting issues with plastics, the environment and trade
- An existing network or knowledge of key actors (both individuals and organisations) in the international plastics policy space

Experience

- Experience working on advocacy related to issues of public interest, such as plastic pollution or other environmental issues
- Experience working in diverse civil society coalitions
- Experience drafting interventions, submissions and other documents at international policy meetings
- Experience facilitating workshops and other training sessions for policy makers and civil society stakeholders

Skills

- Working knowledge or fluency in additional languages
- Confidence working in a fast-paced, flexible, hybrid working environment
- Comfort working collaboratively on policy positions and submissions with both in-house and external colleagues
- Willingness to spend time with civil society partners to build capacity on legal and technical issues in pursuit of common objectives
- Commitment to environmental and social justice