



UN YOUTH VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

Preamble:

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that promotes volunteerism to support peace and development worldwide. Volunteerism can transform the pace and nature of development and it benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer. UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for volunteerism globally, encouraging partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing volunteers.

In most cultures volunteerism is deeply embedded in long-established, ancient traditions of sharing and support within the communities. In this context, UN Volunteers take part in various forms of volunteerism and play a role in development and peace together with co-workers, host agencies and local communities.

In all assignments, UN Volunteers promote volunteerism through their action and conduct. Engaging in volunteer activity can effectively and positively enrich their understanding of local and social realities, as well as create a bridge between themselves and the people in their host community. This will make the time they spend as UN Volunteers even more rewarding and productive.

1. **UNV Assignment Title:** UN Youth Volunteer in Human Rights
2. **UNV Programme Strategy Outcome:** Delivery of Basic Services (Outcome 2)
3. **Type of Assignment:** International UN Youth Volunteer
4. **Project Title:** N/A
5. **Duration:** 12 months
6. **Location, Country:** Tunis, Tunisia
7. **Expected Starting Date:** March 2016
8. **Brief Project Description:**

In January 2011, Tunisia became the first country in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region to change its autocratic regime through a largely peaceful revolution, paving the way to the region-wide movement that has become known as the "Arab Spring." Following this historic transformation, an assessment mission was rapidly dispatched to Tunisia by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The mission presented the Transitional Government of Tunisia with a number of recommendations on how OHCHR could assist national efforts in the establishment of an open and democratic society. On 13 July 2011, in response to the request by the Government of Tunisia, OHCHR established a Country Office with a full mandate to protect and promote human rights.

9. **Host Agency/Host Institute:** OHCHR

10. **Organizational Context:**

The Tunisia Office programme focuses on three of OHCHR's thematic priorities: (1) combating impunity and strengthening accountability, the rule of law, and democratic society; (2) pursuing economic, social and cultural rights and combating inequalities and poverty; and (3) increased compliance with international human rights mechanisms. The selection of these priority areas has been made while taking into account the preliminary assessment of the human rights situation by OHCHR and based on a more specific sector analysis and the assessment of the recommendations by human rights mechanisms such as the UN treaty bodies, the Human Rights Council's special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review.



The Tunisia Office has been making an impact on the abovementioned thematic priorities during 2011 and 2012. Further, the Office is also working on a number of expected accomplishments and results for 2013 which include reforms of the national laws, policies and institutions; increased ratification of international human rights instruments and review of reservations; increased compliance and engagement by the country with UN human rights mechanisms and bodies; increased number of measures taken to improve access of discriminated groups and particularly women to justice and basic services; and increased use of the national protection systems by rights-holders, especially discriminated groups and particularly women.

Throughout its various activities, the Office is supporting the Tunisian authorities, civil society organizations (CSOs) and other relevant actors in the building of an effective national human rights protection system, including through the provision of technical cooperation, training, and advocacy. This role is undertaken with an inclusive approach that ensures the participation of all stakeholders, in close cooperation with the United Nations Country Team (UNCT). Whenever possible, the Office also aims to reach out to groups living and working in the country's rural areas, which suffered severe marginalization in the past. Alongside much-needed capacity-building activities, the Office undertakes regular monitoring and reporting activities on a host of human rights issues.

The Tunisia Office seeks to accomplish five main results: (1) increase compliance of the justice system, law enforcement, correction and prison administration with international human rights standards; (2) ensure that the Tunisian National Human Rights Institution is compliant with the Paris Principles; (3) support the establishment of a transitional justice mechanism in accordance with international human rights standards to monitor and investigate human rights violations and promote accountability; (4) strengthen national protection systems and support the development and monitoring of public policies for the protection of vulnerable groups including women, youth and migrants; and (5) ensure increased compliance with UN human rights mechanisms and bodies (UPR, Treaty Bodies, and Special Procedures).

11. Type of Assignment Place: Assignment without family

12. Description of tasks:

Under the direct supervision of the OHCHR Head of Office in Tunis, the UN Youth Volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

- Research and collect information pertaining to human rights matters from a variety of data sources (e.g. field visits, communications, publications, the press) to keep abreast of issues/events and provide up-to-date information;
- Assist in the analysis of information, to include the impact on the countries and thematic mandates on the human rights situation in assigned area.
- Draft a variety of reports and correspondence relating to human rights matters.
- Support awareness raising on current human rights issues, to include relevant political and legal developments in the country.
- Participate and serve in human rights training programmes for national officials, national human rights institutions and representatives of civil society in order to promote national capacity building.
- Review human rights issues, including gender considerations, and work with relevant partners in the integration of these issues into political, humanitarian and economic efforts and programmes.
- Assist in drafting specific programmes to strengthen capacities for implementing a rights-based approach to development for national, regional and UN partners.
- Assist the Human Rights Officers in guiding government bodies and human rights institutions in domesticating regional and international human rights norms and standards into national legislation.
- Participate with the Human Rights Officers in discussions with relevant authorities and other actors with the aim of stopping or preventing human rights violations or seek other remedial action by the authorities to prevent similar violations occurring in the future.
- Contribute to the design and monitoring of a database to track project progress.
- Perform other related duties as required.



Furthermore, UN Youth Volunteers are encouraged to:

- Strengthen their knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and external publications and take active part in UNV activities (for instance in events that mark IVD);
- Be acquainted with and build on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host country;
- Reflect on the type and quality of voluntary action that they are undertaking, including participation in ongoing reflection activities;
- Contribute articles/write-ups on field experiences and submit them for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
- Assist with the UNV Buddy Programme for newly-arrived UN Volunteers;
- Promote or advise local groups in the use of online volunteering, or encourage relevant local individuals and organizations to use the UNV Online Volunteering service whenever technically possible.

13. Results/Expected Output:

- Updated information on human rights issues in Tunisia provided on a regular basis to concerned actors.
- Human rights violations are stopped or prevented by authorities in the country.
- Human Rights Based Approach implemented by national, regional and UN partners.
- A final statement of achievements towards volunteerism for development during the assignment, such as reporting on the number of volunteers mobilized, activities participated in and capacities developed.

14. Qualifications/Requirements:

- Advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in law, political science, international relations or other disciplines related to human rights.
- At least one year experience of relevant work experience in the areas of human rights, political affairs, international relations, law or related area.
- Good interpersonal skills in relationships with partners: government authorities, UN agencies, NGOs, and others.
- Good computer skills using MS Office applications; knowledge of legal and human rights terminology is an asset.
- Prior experience in one of the following fields would be considered as an asset: Rule of Law; security sector reforms; human rights monitoring and documentation; national human rights institutions, and civil society organizations.
- Knowledge and understanding of human rights-related matters; ability to identify problems, i.e. political, ethnic, gender-based, social, economic, etc., causing civil unrest in a country or geographic area; demonstrated research and analytical skills, including ability to identify and participate in the resolution of relevant human rights issues/problems; basic knowledge of institutional mandates, policies, guidelines, etc., related to human rights; skill in developing sources for data collection.
- Commitment to implementing the goal of gender equality by ensuring the equal participation and full involvement of women and men in all aspects of peace operations.
- Fluency in French and English. Arabic is an asset.
- **UN Youth Volunteers must be between 18 and 29 years for the whole duration of their assignment.**

15. Learning expectations

Learning and development are a central part of the UN Youth Volunteer's assignment and take place before, during and after his or her assignment in the field. Ideally, offering diverse opportunities for learning and development aim to strengthen the volunteer's skills and competences, improve the quality of the assignment and keep the volunteer's motivation high.

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UN Volunteers is administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



Learning elements for the UN Youth Volunteer include the development of:

- Professional skills: including specific competencies and reflection on assignment-related abilities; and on-the-job skills such as time management, problem solving, team building; and career preparedness such as interview skills, CV preparation, job searching.
- Inter-personal skills: including communication and listening skills; multi-cultural awareness and cultural competency; and conflict and stress management.
- Volunteering-related skills: including leadership; civic responsibility; and engagement and active participation.

Beyond the learning opportunities provided by UNV, OHCHR will support knowledge and capacity development in the technical areas that are relevant to the UN Youth Volunteer's assignment. OHCHR will provide, at its expense, UN Youth Volunteers with equal opportunity to participate in training courses and workshops offered to its personnel.

16. Living Conditions:

The UN Youth Volunteer will be based in Tunis.

Geography and climate:

Tunisia has a total population of over ten million, with about 60% living in urban locations. Tunis is the capital of the country and the largest city (population of approximately two million in and outside the city proper). It is located just six miles (ten kilometers) from the Gulf of Tunis, and sits on the shores of a lake that connects with the Mediterranean Sea. Being a small country, all destinations within Tunisia can be reached in a day's drive. Tunisia is bordered in the southeast by Libya and in the west by Algeria.

Tunisia has a Mediterranean climate.

Languages:

The official language of Tunisia is Arabic. French is also widely spoken. Most Tunisians are bilingual and speak both languages. About one percent of the population speaks Amazigh. English is becoming another language spoken by many Tunisians. Other European languages, such as Italian, are also spoken in commercial and tourist areas of the country.

17. Conditions of Service ([International CoS_2015](#))

A twelve month contract; monthly living allowance (MLA) base intended to cover housing, basic needs and utilities, with a base rate of US\$ 1,243, which is adjusted monthly according to the movement (upwards or downwards) of the Post Adjustment Multiplier (PAM), which is established by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) to ensure that international UN Volunteers have comparable purchasing power at all duty stations despite varying costs of living. The applicable MLA is calculated as follows: $MLA = (MLA \text{ base rate} \times PAM) + \text{MLA base rate}$. See ICSC website <http://icsc.un.org> for more information on the applicable PAM rates.

In addition, UN Volunteers are provided a one-time settling-in-grant (if applicable); Well-Being Differential (applicable only in hardship non-family duty stations) life, health, and permanent disability insurance; return airfares (if applicable); resettlement allowance for satisfactory service.



18. How to apply:

Eligible candidates, **born on or after 1st January 1989**, whose previous work experience in areas relevant for the assignment does not exceed two years, should do the following:

If you are not a candidate in the UNV database, please apply by registering your profile through the following link: http://ereta.unv.org/html/index.php?module=myprofile&ad=YTH15FFITA_TUN. The advertisement code **YTH15FFITA_TUN** will appear automatically under the 'Special Recruitment' tab of your UNV profile and can be changed from there if needed.

Important: Once you have created your UNV account and after validating your email address, please complete all sections of your profile. Your application can only be considered once you have clicked on the green 'Submit My Profile' button. As a confirmation of your successful registration, you will receive an email with your UNV roster number.

If you already are a candidate in the UNV database, please update your profile through: <http://MyProfile.unv.org> and select the code of the assignment you wish to apply for from the drop down list in the 'Special Recruitment' tab of 'MyProfile'.

Should you wish to be considered for more than one UN Youth Volunteer assignment, you can express your interest in other Descriptions of Assignments in the 'Additional Remarks' section of your profile by entering there the corresponding code. Please note however that your profile will be proposed to the host agency for only one UN Youth Volunteer assignment.

Closing date: You must be fully registered in the UNV database of candidates not later than **8th November 2015** (applications received after that date will not be taken into consideration).

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.