

# Secondment to the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) Online Information Session

Ms Linda Lam, Law Officer (International Law)

27 April 2022

# Speakers and Programme

- ▶ Ms Linda Lam, Law Officer (International Law), DOJ
  - ▶ Introduction to the secondment programme
- ▶ Mr Carlo Di Nicola, Senior Legal Officer, UNIDROIT
  - ▶ The work of UNIDROIT
  - ▶ Role of UNIDROIT Secretariat
  - ▶ Professional duties of secondees
  - ▶ Expectations for secondees
- ▶ Ms Michelle Fung & Ms Amelia Lo, Current Secondees, UNIDROIT
  - ▶ Experience sharing
- ▶ Q&A Session

# Introduction

## UNIDROIT

- ▶ An independent intergovernmental organization with its seat in Rome
- ▶ 63 Member States (including the PRC) from 5 continents
- ▶ Purpose:
  - (a) study the needs and methods for modernising, harmonising and co-ordinating private and in particular commercial law as between States and groups of States; and
  - (b) formulate uniform law instruments, principles and rules to achieve the above objectives.

# The UNIDROIT Secondment Programme

- ▶ The standing arrangement was made pursuant to an agreement concluded between the Central People's Government and UNIDROIT and the Memorandum of Understanding between UNIDROIT and the HKSARG of the PRC for the Technical and Administrative Arrangements Relating to the Secondment of Legal Professionals on 12 May 2021
- ▶ Secondment to the Secretariat of UNIDROIT
- ▶ Open to Hong Kong legal professionals in both public and private sectors
- ▶ Secondment period: 6 to 12 months, renewable for a further period subject to the consent of UNIDROIT, the HKSARG and the Secondee

# Secondee's Duties

- (a) carrying out research on particular points of private law, relevant either to the operation of existing UNIDROIT instruments or to the future work of UNIDROIT;
- (b) preparing and taking part in the various meetings organised by the Secretariat; and
- (c) other duties as may be determined in accordance with the needs of the Secretariat and the interests of the Secondee.

# Who can apply?

- ▶ Open to legal professionals from both private and public sectors
  - ▶ Private sector applicants: monthly allowance of HK\$50,000 from UNIDROIT
  - ▶ Civil servants in the employ of the Government: subject to the secondment terms under the relevant Government regulations

# How to apply?

- ▶ Application deadline: 10 May 2022
- ▶ Non-Government applicants
  - ▶ Application form and supporting documents (including CV, written submission, two or more letters of recommendation for the secondment, previous written work, transcripts and employment records, etc.)
  - ▶ “Secondment Programmes to International Organisations” webpage ([https://www.doj.gov.hk/en/miscellaneous/secondment\\_programmes\\_to\\_international\\_organisations.html](https://www.doj.gov.hk/en/miscellaneous/secondment_programmes_to_international_organisations.html))
- ▶ Government applicants
  - ▶ Relevant information and application forms circulated to the legal divisions in DoJ, as well as relevant law-related departments
- ▶ Send applications to the International Law Division of the DoJ via the online portal: <https://eform.one.gov.hk/form/doj007/en/>

# Selection Criteria

- (a) be permanent residents of the HKSAR with Chinese nationality;
- (b) (i) solicitors admitted in Hong Kong; (ii) barristers with the right to full practice in Hong Kong; or (iii) civil servants who are serving at the ranks of the grades as specified in the advertisement circulated to the relevant law-related departments;
- (c) have an advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in law; a first level university degree in combination with qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree;
- (d) have a minimum of two years of legal experience in international law or comparative law;
- (e) have excellent knowledge of both spoken and written English; knowledge of French and/or any other language is considered as asset; and
- (f) have good drafting capabilities (dissertation, academic essay, law review or other publication experience will be taken into account).



# Selection Process

- ▶ Applications will be assessed on the basis of merit

11 April - 10 May 2022 (one month)	Application period
10 May 2022	Close of applications
May 2022	1 <sup>st</sup> round interview
Around mid-2022	2 <sup>nd</sup> round interview
TBC	3 <sup>rd</sup> round interview
Possible start time for secondment	In or after Q4 2022

# The UNIDROIT Secondment Programme

- ▶ For further information, please visit:



[https://www.doj.gov.hk/en/miscellaneous/secondment\\_programmes\\_to\\_international\\_organisations.html](https://www.doj.gov.hk/en/miscellaneous/secondment_programmes_to_international_organisations.html)