UNHCR-DRC Investigation Specialist Roster (ISR)

Since December 2014, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is managing on behalf of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) a UNHCR-DRC Investigation Specialist Roster (ISR). The roster comprises persons with substantial and specialized investigative background and experience, available on short notice to carry out investigations into allegations of staff misconduct. It is available to UNHCR, UNHCR’s NGO implementing partners and NGO’s in the humanitarian assistance environment in order to secure that allegations of misconduct are expeditiously pursued, and the necessary investigations are carried out. Close cooperation, coordination and consultation will be maintained with the UNHCR Investigation Service, the Inspector General’s Office (IGO) in Geneva.

With almost 1000 implementing partners across the globe, UNHCR through its Investigation Service in the Inspector General’s Office (IGO) is committed to further developing the capacity of its implementing partners in investigation. The ability and will to investigate and discipline misconduct is a key to the credibility of humanitarian action in general and to the reduction of misconduct in particular.

The ISR is to provide Investigation Specialist available to UNHCR, its implementing partners and other NGO’s at short notice in order to secure that allegations of misconduct are expeditiously pursued, and the necessary investigations are carried out. The Specialists will be called upon to carry out investigations into allegations of staff misconduct in cases such as sexual exploitation and abuse, fraud, corruption, programme management and procurement, etc. The overall aim is to strengthen the accountability and quality of performance of UNHCR’s implementing partners and other NGO’s.

The ISR is also expected to positively impact on implementing partners’ own investigation procedures and capacity, and possibly provide a forum for refining NGO investigation capacity and procedures.

There are eleven specialized investigators on the roster, with four additional French and Arabic speakers currently under recruitment. They are able to conduct investigations and can undertake travel for field assignments at short notice. It is the responsibility of the requesting organization to make all administrative and contractual arrangements for the consultant investigator, and to provide the corresponding terms of reference. Requests for access to the Roster services can be made to: lotta.ljunggren@drc.dk.

Requests that deal with protection / assistance or staff administration / management issues (such as promotion, contractual terms) will not be processed. These should be submitted to appropriate local field offices through established channels.

Complaints involving possible misconduct of UNHCR staff should be reported directly to the IGO, UNHCR at: inspector@unhcr.org.

For additional information on the ISR, please visit our web page on: http://www.drc.dk or contact Lotta Ljunggren, Roster Coordinator at the Danish Refugee Council at: lotta.ljunggren@drc.dk.