To: Junsen Ohno  
From: Emilia Liu  
Re: Summer Internship at ICJ-Kenya Section

About ICJ

Kenya Section of International Commission of Jurists (ICJ Kenya) is a non-governmental organization of the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists. It is ICJ-Kenya’s objective to develop, strengthen and protect the principles of the rule of law; to develop, maintain, strengthen the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession; to promote and protect the enjoyment of human rights; to keep under review all aspects of the rule of law and human rights in Kenya. It was founded in 1959, and it draws members from the Kenya Bar and Bench. ICJ-Kenya focuses on four programmatic areas: Access to Justice; Democratization; Human Rights Protection; and International Cooperation. You can get more information from their website: http://www.icj-kenya.org.

Legal Intern Position

The responsibility of the position varies, depends on which program the intern is assigned to, and might also work in different programs.

Generally, the intern will have opportunities to conduct legal research on international human rights law and/or international criminal law issues; attend meetings with other organizations in Kenya; organizing events; work with clients; participate in ongoing litigations.

I worked with International Cooperation Program. Among other topics, I conducted legal research on IDP issues, reparation of victims of the post-election violence, Kampala Convention, etc. In gender and sexual based violence (SGBV) litigations, I worked with the lawyers who represented the victims and the psychologists as expert witnesses. I reviewed the expert reports and other supporting documents.

I also drafted press releases, programs, project proposals, etc.

The working language is English, but some understanding of Swahili would be very helpful. Dress code is business casual.

Reparation

Courses, work experience and study in international law, international humanitarian law, international human rights, and regional human rights mechanism would provide a good foundation to the work.
It would be very helpful to learn about Kenyan cultures, community dynamic, and histories, but avoid generalization at the same time. Be aware of the difference that might exist between U.S and Kenya, without making an assumption that it must be different.

Checklist

- Paperwork from law school and the university
- Visa, if you need one and other travel documents
- Notice the embassy of your travel and stay
- Obtain necessary medications and examsines from the university medical clinic.
- Travel insurance, if you want one
- Adaptor(s)
- Some cash

Logistics

The price of housing and food varies substantially from neighborhood to neighborhood and city to city. It is advisable to secure a housing near the office, and it is much easier to find housing information once you are there, if you want to find a different apartment. Taxi and bus is generally available Nairobi. Some work might require travel outside the city. Lunch is available at work when I was there.

Note that internet connection and electric power is not always stable.

Upon arrival

- Find transportation from airport to your stay, there are taxi companies offer airport pickup service
- Make exchange at bank
- Purchase a local SIM card
- Notice the office of your arrival
- Make copies of your IDs

Nairobi, and Kenya in genera, is developing fast. The information above is based on my experience in the summer of 2015 and might have changed since then. Future applicants and interns are always welcome to contact me if they have questions about the position and experience. My email is lius4@seattleu.edu