



# Position: Advocacy Advisor, Human Rights Council, World Health Assembly and UN Agencies

The Sexual Rights Initiative (SRI) is a feminist coalition of six national and regional organizations from all parts of the world with an office in Geneva, Switzerland that has been advocating for the advancement of human rights in relation to gender, reproduction and sexuality at the UN Human Rights Council since 2006.

The SRI aims to advance sexual rights as a particular set of rights and as a crosscutting issue within international law, specifically in the work of the UN Human Rights Council and its mechanisms. The SRI's approach to advocacy combines feminist analysis with important normative advances in the recognition of human rights of women, all marginalized communities and young people. The SRI further aims to create a political space for advocacy on sexual rights by bridging Southern, Northern and Eastern perspectives and incorporating diverse views.

The SRI is currently expanding its Geneva based presence. We are seeking highly motivated, effective and experienced sexual rights advocates with a firm grounding in feminist principles and analysis to play important roles in achieving the goals of the coalition.

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## Terms of Reference

Working closely with the SRI coalition partners and as part of the SRI Geneva-based team, the key objective of this role is to advance human rights related to sexuality, gender and reproduction through work of the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, the World Health Assembly and UN Agencies. In doing so, the Advocacy Advisor will ensure that the diversity of SRI coalition partners' work and analysis is reflected in the work undertaken and will bring visibility to the work of SRI coalition partners as relevant and appropriate.

### Responsibilities

Working closely with the SRI coalition partners and as part of the SRI Geneva-based team and reporting to the Director of the SRI Office in Geneva, the Advocacy Advisor – Human Rights Council, World Health Assembly and UN Agencies will assume the following responsibilities:

*Human Rights Council, World Health Assembly & UN Agencies*

- Identify strategic entry points for the advancement of sexual rights at the Human Rights Council, the World Health Assembly (including the Executive Board and WHO secretariat) and UN agencies;
- Develop and execute advocacy strategies to advance sexual rights at the Human Rights Council, the World Health Assembly and UN agencies that include *inter alia*: direct engagement and collaboration with key stakeholders (particularly UN Permanent Missions); participation in expert meetings; oral and written inputs into UN-led reports, resolutions, UN agencies' strategic plans, and global policy processes (e.g. Global Strategy on Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health);
- Serve as one of the SRI's main points of contacts for diplomats in advance, during and following Human Rights Council sessions;
- Prepare advocacy materials including written submissions, resolution mark-ups, fact sheets, statements, position papers and options papers;
- Build strong relationships with UN Permanent Mission diplomats and experts, UN agency staff and Geneva-based civil society actors;
- Represent the SRI on relevant external panels, committees and meetings as well as at every Human Rights Council session and World Health Assembly session;
- Collaborate with diverse national, regional and international civil society organizations to build intersectional support for the advancement of sexual rights at all levels;
- Develop and deliver seminars, trainings and briefings on sexual rights issues to diverse audiences including diplomats, UN experts and civil society organizations;
- Organize side events at the UN Human Rights Council on key sexual rights issues;
- Develop strong working relationships with the SRI coalition partners and bring attention to the structure of the SRI as a coalition of national and regional organizations.
- Serve as a point of contact in Geneva for the SRI partners on relevant Human Rights Council initiatives, the World Health Assembly and UN Agencies.

### *SRI Teamwork*

All members of the SRI team in Geneva are expected to work collaboratively, to ensure strong communication and linkages between the SRI's streams of work and partners, and to actively support the achievement of the SRI's strategic goals as determined by the SRI partner organizations. Duties in this respect include:

- Support SRI partners' and Geneva-based team's work on the Universal Periodic Review, Treaty Monitoring Bodies and Special Procedures including direct advocacy with States as required;
- Monitor and report to SRI partners and Geneva-based team on developments, opportunities, initiatives, and emerging trends at the Human Rights Council, the World Health Assembly and UN agencies;
- Develop and contribute to public communications from the SRI to different audiences;
- Contribute to the development of SRI digital tools;
- Assist in the development of funding proposals and other fundraising activities;
- Prepare regular activity reports for SRI partners and donors;
- Assist SRI coalition partners in their work to engage the international human rights system
- Assist with planning and running events in Geneva organized by the SRI;
- Participate in SRI Geneva-based team meetings and SRI partner meetings;
- Perform other duties as required.

### **Skills and Competencies**

- Strong understanding and articulation of feminist principles and perspectives, sexual rights, intersectionality and de-colonial social justice movements;

- Demonstrated knowledge of international human rights mechanisms and instruments and how to use them to advance sexual rights;
- Demonstrated knowledge of relevant international organizations especially the United Nations and its specialized agencies;
- Excellent writing, analytical and persuasive skills in English and one other official UN language;
- Fluency in Spanish, French or another UN official language considered an asset
- Flexible and adaptive, able to respond quickly and effectively to changing circumstances;
- Commitment to working as part of a diverse and participatory team;
- Enjoy working collaboratively with a range of stakeholders;
- Ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with people from a range of national and cultural contexts;
- Excellent organizational skills and ability to prioritize work effectively;
- Strategic thinking, sound judgment and a very clear and focused approach;
- Sensitivity and a strong capacity for confidentiality, tact, discretion and diplomacy
- Excellent interpersonal skills

## Experience

- A minimum of 3 years' experience in legal/policy analysis and advocacy on human rights related to sexuality, reproduction and/or gender;
- A minimum of 3 years working with a feminist civil society organization in the Global South;
- A degree in a related field such as Human Rights, Law, Political Science, Women's Studies (an advanced degree would be considered an asset)
- Experience developing and executing successful advocacy strategies to advance sexual rights at the national, regional and/or international level;
- Experience developing persuasive and evidence-based advocacy materials including policy briefs, resolution mark-ups, fact sheets and analysis reports;
- Experience working with UN agencies, government officials, particularly diplomats and foreign ministry officials;
- Experience developing and delivering trainings and briefs to a range of audiences;

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## Application process

Please send cover letter, CV and 3 references to [jobs@srigenewa.com](mailto:jobs@srigenewa.com) with subject line "**SRI Advocacy Advisor – Human Rights Council, World Health Assembly and UN Agencies**" by close of business on **02 February 2018**.

**Please also include where you heard about this opportunity in the body of your email.**

**The SRI encourages applications from individuals from the Global South and members of historically marginalized communities.**

Interviews will be conducted in late January / early February and the position will commence as soon as possible thereafter.

We thank all applicants in advance

**PLEASE NOTE: only those candidates invited for an interview will be contacted.**