



UNITED NATIONS

**HAMILTON SHIRLEY AMERASINGHE MEMORIAL
FELLOWSHIP ON THE LAW OF THE SEA**

GUIDELINES AND RULES



Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
Office of Legal Affairs

OBJECT AND PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

The Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Fellowship on the Law of the Sea was established by General Assembly resolution 36/108 of 10 December 1981, in recognition of the signal contribution of the late Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe to the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea as its President. By resolution 38/129 of 19 December 1983, it was established as an activity to be carried out by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea (which has since become the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs) within the framework of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. The fellowship is intended, primarily, for government officials as well as research fellows or lecturers who are involved in ocean law or maritime affairs, or related disciplines, either in governments or agencies or educational institutions and bodies. The purpose of the fellowship is to assist candidates to acquire additional knowledge of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, in order to promote its wider appreciation and application, and to enhance specialized experience in those fields.

QUALIFICATIONS

2. Candidates must have a degree in Law, Marine Sciences, Political Science, Ocean Management or technical training in Ocean Management, Administration of Ports or in related disciplines; they must have at least five years work-related experience; and they must be between the ages of 25 and 40 years.

FREQUENCY OF AWARD

3. It is anticipated that a minimum of one fellowship, or more than one if there is adequate income, will be awarded each year, special consideration being given to persons who may not otherwise have the means or facilities for acquiring such special knowledge, training or experience through other means or in their own countries.

ADMINISTRATION OF FELLOWSHIP

4. The fellowship will be administered by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, and will be funded from the income received from contributions to the fellowship fund which has been established for the purpose. An annual report on the administration of the fellowship will be made to the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY PANEL

5. An Advisory Panel of eight eminent persons in international relations, the law of the sea and its implementation will be nominated annually by the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, the Legal Counsel, for the purpose of evaluating the candidates and making recommendations for the award of the fellowship or fellowships. The Panel shall be composed of: (a) representatives of Permanent Missions to the United Nations; (b) representatives of educational institutions or organizations of an international character; (c) individuals closely associated with the work of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and its implementation; (d) a nominee of the Legal Counsel.

APPLICATION OF CANDIDATES

6. The annual award of the fellowship will be widely publicized and applications will be received within the time period specified. Applications may be submitted by governments, governmental agencies, institutions or directly by individuals. The applications shall include information concerning the candidate's personal history together with a resume of his/her education and vocation, and transcripts from colleges and universities attended. Applications will also include a one-page description prepared by the candidate as to their proposed area of study. Candidates shall be required to provide information as to their financial means and the facilities available to them for the advancement of their careers or vocations. Prior to the award of the fellowship, the selected candidate would be required to provide confirmation and documentary proof, as appropriate, of all educational qualifications and other

important information.

METHOD OF SELECTION OF FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

7. On the basis of the applications received, a short list of eligible candidates will be established by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea and will be submitted to the Advisory Panel for evaluation. For this purpose, the Advisory Panel will be provided with a summary of each candidate's qualifications; the sponsorship, if any, by any government or governmental agency or other institution; information concerning the means or absence thereof for the advancement of the candidate's career or vocation or for acquiring specialized training or experience in the candidate's country; an explanatory statement from the candidate as to how he expects to benefit from the fellowship and how it would assist in the development of the candidate's career or vocation.

8. In the selection of the fellowship recipient(s), consideration will be given, in principle, to assuring that all countries and geographic regions would benefit from the award of the fellowship. No award will be made in any year or in two successive years to candidates from the same country.

9. The Legal Counsel will award the fellowship(s) on the basis of the evaluation and recommendations of the Advisory Panel.

SECRETARIAT FOR THE FELLOWSHIP

10. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, shall be the secretariat for the award of the fellowship and shall provide all services required in connection with it.

DURATION OF STUDY

11. The duration of the fellowship will be for a minimum of three months (which may be extended at the discretion of the Legal Counsel depending on available income from the fund) followed by a period of at least one month's internship with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs.

INSTITUTION OF STUDY

12. Fellowship recipient(s) will, after consultation with and acceptance by the universities or institutions concerned, be provided facilities to pursue courses, undertake research, receive further training or gain specialized experience in one or more of the universities and educational institutions on the list provided for the programme in any year. Due regard will be given to the preference of a candidate for a particular university or institution, the preferred areas of research and the period during which the fellowship will be implemented.

ACCOMMODATION AND FUNCTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

13. In view of the waiving of fees and levies by the universities and institutions listed as participating in the fellowship, the United Nations will assume responsibility only for all travel connected with the fellowship and the relevant accommodation allowances. During the terms of their awards, fellows will be paid specific allowances which are intended to cover only normal living expenses in accordance with policies and procedures governing the administration of United Nations fellowships.

14. During the period of internship in the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, the fellow will continue to be paid the above allowances.

DISSERTATION BY FELLOW

15. At the end of the period of research study, the fellow shall be required to submit a dissertation or study on an aspect of the law of the sea as may be decided between the fellow, the supervising professor and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs. Such dissertation or study will be considered for inclusion in the official publications of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS/NOMINATIONS

The closing date for applications/nominations for the next award in 2008 is 15 September 2008. Applications/nominations may be submitted to the offices of the United Nations Development Programme or to the United Nations Information Centres by 15 September 2008 for transmission to United Nations Headquarters, New York. Applications sent directly to this Division should be received by 30 September 2008 at the address below.

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