**COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND**

**SOUTHERN AFRICA**



**SELECTION OF CONSULTANTS**

**Request for Proposals (Firms)**

Reference Number*:* CS/GEN/50MAWSP/19032025/SM-sm

Request for Consultancy services to develop Sustainability Strategy for the 50 Million African Women Speak Platform (50MAWSP)

**Issued on: 19th March 2025**

For any queries on request for bids or for any question regarding the use of this template, please contact:

Head of Procurement,

COMESA Secretariat

Ben Bella Road, P.O. Box 30051,

Lusaka, Zambia  
Phone: +260 211 229725/32  
Fax: +260 211 225107

**Growing together, for Prosperity**

COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND

**SOUTHERN AFRICA**



**السوق المشتركة**

**للشرق والجنوب الأفريقي**

**MARCHÉ COMMUN DE L’AFRIQUE ORIENTALE ET AUSTRALE**

**Tel : +260 211 229726/29**

**Fax : +260 211 227318**

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**Web : http://www.comesa.int**

**COMESA Centre**

**Ben Bella Road**

**P O Box 30051**

**LUSAKA 10101**

**Zambia**

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

Ref: *CS/GEN/50MAWSP/19032025/SM-sm* Date: 19th March 2025

**Letter of Invitation (LoI)**

1. ***COMESA*** is inviting eligible firms to submit technical and financial proposals for the following services: **Consultancy to develop Sustainability Strategy for the 50 Million African Women Speak Platform (50MAWSP)**to be procured under the Contract reference number**CS/GEN/50MAWSP/18032025/SM-sm** of the Contract.
2. **The Terms of Reference defining the minimum technical requirements for these services are attached as Annex 1 to this RFP.**
3. The maximum budget for this Contract is US $ **20,000*.*** Proposals exceeding this budget will not be accepted.
4. Your proposal must be presented as per Standard Proposal Forms attached as Annex 2 to this RFP in English language and be accompanied by copies of all the indicated supporting documents. If the supporting documents are not in English, these shall be accompanied by a certified translation into English.
5. Submission of the technical and financial proposals must be in a written form to the email addresses below clearly quoting the reference number as stated.
6. Your proposal should be addressed and submitted to: [***tenders@comesa.int***](mailto:tenders@comesa.int) ***and copied to procurement@comesa.int***
7. The deadline for submission of your proposal, to the addressed indicated in Paragraph 4 is: **8th April 2025**
8. Proposal submitted by Fax or hardcopies are notacceptable.
9. The Technical Proposal will be evaluated against the following criteria.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Evaluation attribute** | **Percentage Points** |
| 1 | Firm’s Understanding of the assignment and the Client’s requirements | **15** |
| 2 | Adequacy of the approach and methodology in responding to the Terms of Reference | **10** |
| 3 | Specific Experience of the firm in carrying out similar assignments | **15** |
| 4 | Qualifications and Experience of proposed team  Team Leader 30marks  Support Expert (1) 15 marks  Support Expert (2) 15 marks | **60** |
|  | **Total** | **100** |

The number of points to be given under each evaluation sub criteria for qualifications of Experts are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub-criteria** | **Percentage from Total Number of Points Allocated to the Criteria** |
| (i) Qualifications | 33% |
| (ii) Professional Experience | 67 % |
|  |  |
| **Total** | **100 %** |

1. Your proposal should be submitted as per the following instructions, and in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of the Standard Contract attached as Annex 3 to this RFP:

(i) PRICES: The financial proposal shall be inclusive of all expenses deemed necessary by the Contractor for the performance of the Contract and **must not include**any of the following taxes in Procuring Entity Zambia: value added tax and social charges or/and income taxes on non-resident personnel’s fees and benefits.

(ii) EVALUATION AND AWARD OF CONTRACT: Proposals determined to be administrative and technical compliant to the requirement will be evaluated by comparison of their prices. A proposal is considered compliant to the requirements if: fulfils the formal requirements (see Paragraphs 2,3,4,5 and 6 above), has received minimum 70 points for the technical proposal, and the financial proposal does not exceed the maximum available budget for the Contract.

(iii) VALIDITY OF THE PROPOSAL: Your proposal should be valid for a period of 120 days from the date for deadline for submission indicated in Paragraph 4 above.

1. The assignment is expected to commence five (5) days after contract signing but not later than two weeks from the date of signature of the Contract.
2. Additional request for information and clarifications may be requested, no later than 7 calendar days prior to the deadline indicated in the paragraph 5 above, from:

Procurement Unit

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

Ground Floor, COMESA Centre, Ben Bella Road,

P.O. Box 30051, Lusaka – Zambia,

Telephone: +260 211 2297226/29.

Web: http://www.comesa.int

Email: procurement@comesa.int

**Contact person**: Stellah Mtonga

**Email**: *Smtonga@comesa.int*

**ANNEXES:**

ANNEX 1: Terms of Reference

ANNEX 2: Technical Proposal Submission Forms

ANNEX 3: Financial Proposal Submission Forms

ANNEX 4: Standard Contract/Terms and Conditions

**Sincerely,**

**Signature***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Name:** Silver Mwesigwa

**Title**: Head of Procurement and General services Unit

**ANNEX 1: Terms of Reference**

1. **Background**

As a continent, Africa has high rates of entrepreneurship, with many countries having almost equal participation between men and women. Women business owners in Africa however face gender-specific barriers such as limited access to information and networking opportunities, lower levels of education and business training, weak property rights that deprive them of collateral and tangible assets, legal barriers that impede their economic activities and cultural barriers that discourage women from thriving as entrepreneurs. The consequence is that women have challenges accessing financial and non-financial services and so the size and growth of their businesses suffer.

With support from the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in September 2016 to jointly implement the 50 Million African Women Speak Networking Platform Project (50MAWSP). The objective of the project is to contribute to the economic empowerment of women through the provision of a digital networking platform to enable women to access information on financial and non-financial services.

The platform provides women with a basic information service on aspects such as how to start/register a business, as well as opportunities to access information on business training, mentorship, affordable financial services/products and locally-relevant business information, while allowing them to build their networks, benefit from peer-to-peer learning and create knowledge communities, in their countries and across borders. The platform was officially launched in November 2019 and is accessible at [www.womenconnect.org](http://www.womenconnect.org).

The 50MAWSP initiative is implemented in 38 countries belonging to the COMESA, EAC and ECOWAS regional blocs. Every participating country has set up a Country Team made up of representatives from the public and private sectors as well as civil society. Specifically, the country teams are comprised of representatives from the ministries responsible for Gender, Trade and ICT among others; institutions responsible for enterprise development, financial institutions, women associations and membership-based entities working with women in business. Each country team is supported by a national focal point and it is this structure at the national level that works in tandem with the implementing partners (COMESA, EAC and ECOWAS) to generate content for the platform, as well as sensitize the targeted users about the platform’s existence and benefits.

Since the launch of the digital platform in 2019, 50MAWSP has evolved and in its current shape it facilitates engagements which entail a mix of online and offline interactions for its users, all of which are geared towards the 50MAWSP objective of promoting the economic empowerment of women through provision of business information, facilitating access to finance, access to training and access to business/professional networks.

The first phase of the project closed in March 2021 when support by the funder (AfDB) came to an end. The implementing partners agreed to a cost-sharing arrangement as a short-term intervention to sustain the operations of the platform while long-term funding and sustainability measures for 50MAWSP were sought.

It is in this context that COMESA, as the 50MAWSP lead implementing agency wishes to recruit a consultancy firm to conduct a feasibility study of the platform to identify opportunities for the platform’s growth and/or evolution and design a robust sustainability strategy to inform the 50MAWSP initiative’s direction, its establishment as a household name and leading source of information on market opportunities, finance, capacity building, mentorship, its revenue-generation/mobilization mechanisms, strategic partnerships, and ultimately ensure impact for women in business in the target countries.

**2. Objective of the consultancy**

The overall objective of the consultancy is to develop a comprehensive 50MAWSP sustainability strategy. The strategy will guide on the most ideal positioning for the initiative to register success and impact, highlight the best approaches for transforming into a revenue-generating and sustainable platform, and create/expand strategic partnerships that align with 50MAWSP's objectives.

**3. Scope**

The selected consultant will be required to undertake the following:

1. Conduct a situational analysis and/or desk review of the 50MAWSP initiative from its commencement to date, including undertaking a SWOT analysis and engaging key stakeholders at Member State level, implementing RECs, AfDB and private sector among others
2. Review the technical aspects (online and offline) that have been implemented to date with a view to identifying improvements and position the 50MAWSP initiative to provide most value to women and youth entrepreneurs in the three RECs.
3. Develop a sustainability strategy (including a financial sustainability plan) which entails revenue generation and funding diversification strategies, as well as approaches to mobilizing resources
4. Propose models for leveraging public-private partnerships to support 50MAWSP operations, including detailed draft TORs to operate the PPPs
5. Develop a phased implementation roadmap with clear milestones and key performance indicators.

**4. Deliverables**

The consulting firm will deliver the following key outputs:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Deliverables** | **Timeline** |
| 1 | **An Inception Report** which outlines the methodology, work plan, and stakeholder engagement approach | 15 calendar days from the date of signing the contract |
| 2 | **Situational Analysis Report** presenting findings from the operational and technical review | 20 calendar days after submission of inception report |
| 3 | **Sustainability Strategy (First Draft)** including key recommendations, potential funding mechanisms, and model PPP framework | 15 calendar days after submission of Situational Analysis Report of the draft sustainability strategy |
| 4 | **Sustainability Strategy (Final Draft)** incorporating RECs input/comments on first draft. Final draft to also include: model PPP framework and implementation roadmap | 10 calendar days after validation workshop and no later than 60 calendar days after signing of contract |

**5. Duration and reporting arrangements**

This assignment should be completed within a period not longer than 60 calendar days from the date of contract signature. As the 50MAWSP lead implementing agency, COMESA shall supervise this assignment. The consultant will report to the Director for Gender and Social Affairs. The draft documents will be shared and validated by the key stakeholders. The final document will be submitted to COMESA.

**6. Qualifications and Experience**

The ideal firm should possess the following qualifications and experience:

*Lead Consultant*

**Qualifications**

Master’s degree in one or more of the following fields: Business Administration, Project Management, Gender Economics or Information Technology from an internationally recognized university.

**Professional experience**

i) 7+ years’ experience in strategic advisory services, with at least five years of specific experience in at least two of the following: ICT-driven initiatives, trade facilitation, or women economic empowerment programs

ii) Demonstrable skills in business development, resource mobilization, IT, gender, and project design

iii) Proven experience working with national governments, private sector players, civil society groups and regional economic communities (RECs) such as COMESA, ECOWAS or EAC

iv) Excellent analytical skills

v) Excellent communication and writing skills

vi) Fluency in written and spoken English. Knowledge of either French or Arabic will be an added advantage.

*Expert 1*

**Qualifications**

Bachelor's degree or higher in Information Technology, Business Development, Business Management or related field from an internationally recognized university

**Professional experience**

i) 5+ years of management/leadership experience in ICT development/product development environments.

ii) Strong knowledge of Africa’s trade ecosystem and digital marketplaces

iii) Excellent analytical skills

iv) Excellent communication and report writing skills

v) Fluency in written and spoken English. Knowledge of either French or Arabic will be an added advantage

*Expert 2*

**Qualifications**

Bachelor's degree or higher in Gender, M&E, Social Sciences, Project Management, Public Policy, International Development, Economics, or related field.

**Professional experience**

i) Demonstrable knowledge and/or experience of women's economic empowerment programs

ii) Understanding of how to measure success of projects in the Gender and ICT environments

iii) Excellent communication and report writing skills

iv) 5+ years in monitoring and evaluation, program design, management and evaluation

v) Fluency in written and spoken English. Knowledge of either French or Arabic will be an added advantage.

**7. Application Process**

Interested consultants should submit the following:

• Technical Proposal – Describing the approach, methodology, and work plan.

• Curriculum Vitae (CVs) of the proposed team (minimum of 3 experts).

• References – At least two relevant references from past assignments.

**8. Location**

The consultant will work remotely.

**9. Remuneration**

The budget for this consultancy is USD20,000.00 all-inclusive.

**ANNEX 2: Technical Proposal Submission Proposal Forms**

[*Comments in brackets* [ ] *provide guidance to the Service Providers for the preparation of their Technical Proposals; they should not appear on the Technical Proposals to be submitted.*]

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### **FORM TECH-1: Technical Proposal Submission Form**

[*Location, Date*]

To:

**COMESA SECRETARIAT**

**BEN BELLA ROAD**

**P.O BOX 30051**

**LUSAKA, ZAMBIA**

**Tel: 260 211 229725 – 32**

Dear Sirs,

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for [*insert title of assignment*] in accordance with your Request for Services number *[insert the number],* dated [*insert date*] and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal, and a Financial Proposal.

We are submitting our Proposal in association with: [*insert a list with full name and address of each partner*]1

We hereby declare that all the information and statements made in this Proposal are true and accept that any misinterpretation contained in it may lead to our disqualification.

Our Proposal is binding upon us for the period indicated in the Paragraph 8(iii) of the Request for Services.

We undertake, if our Proposal is accepted, to initiate the consulting services related to the assignment not later than the date indicated in Paragraph 9 of the Request for Services.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature [*In full and initials*]:

Name and Title of Signatory:

Name of Firm:

Address:

1 [*Delete in case no Joint Venture or Consortium is foreseen.*]

### **FORM TECH- 2: COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE, ON COUNTERPART STAFF AND FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY COMESA AND ON STANDARD TERMS OF CONTRACT**

#### A - On the Terms of Reference

[*Present and justify here any modifications or improvement to the Terms of Reference you are proposing to improve performance in carrying out the assignment (such as deleting some activity you consider unnecessary, or adding another, or proposing a different phasing of the activities). Such suggestions should be concise and to the point and incorporated in your Proposal.*]

#### B - On Counterpart Staff and Facilities

[*Comment here on counterpart staff and facilities to be provided by COMESA as indicated in the TORs or include your own requirements of: administrative support, office space, local transportation, equipment, data, etc.*]

**C - On Standard Terms of Contract**

*[Please recommend any change in the standard Terms of Contract clauses you would like to see incorporated in the final Contract. Please indicate which of the proposed changes, if not accepted by COMESA could determine you to reject the Contract for this project. Use maximum 2 pages]*

**FORM TECH-3: DESCRIPTION OF APPROACH, METHODOLOGY AND WORK PLAN FOR PERFORMING THE ASSIGNMENT**

* + 1. Technical approach, methodology and work plan are key components of the Technical Proposal. You are required to present your Technical Proposal divided into the following three chapters:

1. *Technical Approach and Methodology;*
2. *Work Plan; and*
3. *Organization and Staffing.*
   * + 1. Technical Approach and Methodology. In this chapter you should explain your understanding of the objectives of the assignment, approach to the services, methodology for carrying out the activities and obtaining the expected output, and the degree of detail of such output. You should highlight the problems being addressed and their importance, and explain the technical approach you would adopt to address them. You should also explain the methodologies you propose to adopt and highlight the compatibility of those methodologies with the proposed approach.

*b) Work Plan. In this chapter you should propose the main activities of the assignment, their content and duration, phasing and interrelations, milestones (including interim approvals by COMESA), and delivery dates of the reports. The proposed work plan should be consistent with the technical approach and methodology, showing understanding of the TOR and ability to translate them into a feasible working plan. A list of the final documents, including reports, drawings, and tables to be delivered as final output, should be included here. The work plan should be consistent with the Work Schedule of Form TECH-7.*

*c) Organization and Staffing. In this chapter you should propose the structure and composition of your team. You should list the main disciplines of the assignment, the key expert responsible, and proposed technical and support staff.*]

### **Form TECH-4: Team Composition and Task Assignments**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Professional Staff | | | |
| Name of Staff | Area of Expertise | Position Assigned | Task Assigned |
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### **Form TECH – 5: Curriculum Vitae (CV) for Proposed Professional Staff**[[1]](#footnote-1)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Family name:** | *[insert the name]* |
| 1. **First names:** | *[insert the names in full]* |
| 1. **Sex** | *[ ]* |
| 1. **Date of birth:** | *[insert the date]* |
| 1. **Nationality:** | *[insert the country or countries of citizenship]* |
| 1. **Contact Details:** | ***Address****: [insert the physical address]* |
|  | ***Phone:*** *[insert the phone and mobile no.]* |
|  | ***E-mail:*** *[insert the email]* |
| 1. **Education:** |  |
|  |  |
| **Institution:**  **[Date from – Date to]** | **Degree(s) or Diploma(s) obtained:** |
| *[indicate the month and the year]* | *[insert the name of the diploma and the specialty/major]* |
| *[indicate the month and the year]* | *[insert the name of the diploma and the specialty/major]* |

**7. Language Proficiency:** (Indicate competence on a scale of 1 to 5) (1 – excellent; 5 – basic)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Language** | **Reading** | **Speaking** | **Writing** |
| *[insert the language]* | *[insert the no.]* | *[insert the no.]* | *[insert the no.]* |
| *[insert the language]* | *[insert the no.]* | *[insert the no.]* | *[insert the no.]* |
| *[insert the language]* | *[insert the no.]* | *[insert the no.]* | *[insert the no.]* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **8. Membership of Professional Bodies:** | *[indicate the name of the professional body]* |
| **9. Other Skills:** | *[insert the skills]* |
| **10. Present Position:** | *[insert the name]* |
| **11. Years of Experience:** | *[insert the no]* |
| **12. Key Qualifications:** (Relevant to the assignment)  *[insert the key qualifications]* | |

**13. Specific Experience in the Region:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Country** | **Date from - Date to** |
| *[insert the country]* | *[indicate the month and the year]* |
| *[insert the country]* | *[indicate the month and the year]* |
| *[insert the country]* | *[indicate the month and the year]* |

1. **Professional Experience[[2]](#footnote-2):**

| **Date from – Date to** | **Location of the Assignment** | **Company& Reference Person (Name & Contact Details)** | **Position** | **Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *[indicate the month and the year]* | *[indicate the country and the city]* | ***Name of the Company:***  ***Address of the company:***  ***Phone:***  ***Fax:***  ***Email:***  ***Name and title of the reference person from the company:*** | *[indicate the exact name and title and if it was a short term or a long term position]* | ***Title of the Assignment***  ***Beneficiary of the Assignment***  ***Brief description of the Assignment:***  ***Responsibilities:*** |
| *[indicate the month and the year]* | *[indicate the country and the city]* | ***Name of the Company:***  ***Address of the company:***  ***Phone:***  ***Fax:***  ***Email:***  ***Name and title of the reference person from the company:*** | *[indicate the exact name and title and if it was a short term or a long term position]* | ***Title of the Assignment***  ***Beneficiary of the Assignment***  ***Brief description of the Assignment:***  ***Responsibilities:*** |
| *[indicate the month and the year]* | *[indicate the country and the city]* | ***Name of the Company:***  ***Address of the company:***  ***Phone:***  ***Fax:***  ***Email:***  ***Name and title of the reference person from the company:*** | *[indicate the exact name and title and if it was a short term or a long term position]* | ***Title of the Assignment***  ***Beneficiary of the Assignment***  ***Brief description of the Assignment:***  ***Responsibilities:*** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| *[indicate the month and the year]* | *[indicate the country and the city]* | ***Name of the Company:***  ***Address of the company:***  ***Phone:***  ***Fax:***  ***Email:***  ***Name and title of the reference person from the company:*** | *[indicate the exact name and title and if it was a short term or a long-term position]* | ***Title of the Assignment***  ***Beneficiary of the Assignment***  ***Brief description of the Assignment:***  ***Responsibilities:*** |

1. **Other relevant information:** (e.g., Publications)

***[insert the details]***

1. ***Statement:***

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this CV correctly describes myself, my qualifications, and my experience. I understand that any willful misstatement described herein may lead to my disqualification or dismissal, if engaged.

I hereby declare that at any point in time, at the COMESA Secretariat request, I will provide certified copies of all documents to prove that I have the qualifications and the professional experience and indicated at points 8 and 14 above**[[3]](#footnote-3),** documents which are attached to this CV as photocopies.

By signing this statement, I also authorised the COMESa Secretariat to contact my previous or current employers indicated at point 14 above, to obtain directly reference about my professional conduct and achievements.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Date: | 19 March 2025 |

**ATTACHMENTS:** ***1) Proof of qualifications indicated at point No. 8***  
 ***2) Proof of working experience indicated at point No. 14***

### **Form TECH-6: Staffing Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| N° | **Name of Staff[[4]](#footnote-4)** | **Staff Input (in the form of a bar chart)[[5]](#footnote-5)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | **Total staff-month/weeks input[[6]](#footnote-6)** | | |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **n** | **Home** | **Field[[7]](#footnote-7)** | **Total** |
| **Key Experts** | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| [Field] |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Non key experts** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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Full time input

Part time input

### **Form TECH-7: Work Schedule**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **N°** | **Activity[[8]](#footnote-8)** | **Months[[9]](#footnote-9)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **n** |
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**ANNEX 3: Financial Proposal Submission Forms**

[*Comments in brackets* [ ] *provide guidance to the Service Providers for the preparation of their Financial Proposals; they should not appear on the Financial Proposals to be submitted.*]

[Form FIN-1 Financial Proposal Submission Form 15](#_Toc267380419)

[Form FIN-2 Summary of Costs 16](#_Toc267380420)

[Form FIN-3 Breakdown of Remuneration1 17](#_Toc267380421)

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## FORM FIN-1 FINANCIAL Proposal Submission Form

[*Location, Date*]

To: [*Name and address of Procuring Entity*]

Dear Sirs,

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for [*Insert* *title of assignment*] in accordance with your Request for Services number *[insert the number],* dated [*insert date*] and our Technical Proposal. Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [*Insert amount(s) in words and figures*1[[10]](#footnote-10)]. This amount inclusive of all expenses deemed necessary by us for the performance of the Contract in accordance with the Terms of Reference requirements and our Technical Proposal and *[“does” or “does not” delete as applicable]* includeany of the following taxes in Zambia: value added tax and social charges or/and income taxes on non-resident Personnel’s fees and benefits.

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us, subject to the modifications resulting from computation errors or other priced deviations identified during evaluation, up to expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, i.e., before the date indicated in Paragraph Reference 8 (iii) of the Request for Services.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature [*In full and initials*]:

Name and Title of Signatory:

Name of Firm:

Address:

## FORM FIN-2: SUMMARY of Costs

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cost component | **Costs** |
| **(US$)** |
| Remuneration |  |
| Reimbursable Expenses |  |
| Taxes**[[11]](#footnote-11)**[[12]](#footnote-12) |  |
| Total |  |

## Form FIN-3 BREAKDOWN of Remuneration[[13]](#footnote-13)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name[[14]](#footnote-14)** | **Position[[15]](#footnote-15)** | **Input**  **(in staff days)** | **Staff-daily Rate[[16]](#footnote-16)**  **(in US$)** | **Total**  **(in US$)** |
| **Key experts** |  |  |  |  |
| *[name]* | *[position in the contract]* | [*Home*] *[number]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* |
| [*Field*] *[number]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* |
| *[name]* | *[position in the contract]* | [*Home*] *[number]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* |
| [*Field*] *[number]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* |
| *[name]* | *[position in the contract]* | [*Home*] *[number]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* |
| [*Field*] *[number]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* |
| Etc. |  | [*Home*] *[number]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* |
| [*Field*] *[number]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* |
| **Non-Key staff** |  |  |  |  |
| *[name]* | *[position in the contract]* | [*Home*] *[number]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* |
| [*Field*] *[number]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* |
| *[name]* | *[position in the contract]* | [*Home*] *[number]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* |
| [*Field*] *[number]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* |
| *[name]* | *[position in the contract]* | [*Home*] *[number]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* |
| [*Field*] *[number]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* |
| Etc. |  | [*Home*] *[number]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* | [*Home*] *[amount]* |
| [*Field*] *[number]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* | [*Field*] *[amount]* |
| **TOTAL RENUMERATION** | | | |  |

1

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## Form FIN-4: Breakdown of Reimbursable Expenses

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **N°** | **Description[[17]](#footnote-17)** | | **Unit[[18]](#footnote-18)** | **No. of Units** | **Unit Cost**  **(in US$)** | **Total**  **(in US$)** |
| 1 | Per Diem Allowances | | Day |  |  |  |
| 2 | Flights[[19]](#footnote-19) | | Trip |  |  |  |
| 3 | Miscellaneous Travel Expenses[[20]](#footnote-20) | | Trip |  |  |  |
| 4 | Communication Costs | | Lump sum |  |  |  |
| 5 | Drafting and Reproduction of Reports | |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | Equipment, Instruments, Materials, Supplies, etc. (if needed) | |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | Local Transportation Costs | |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | Office Rent | |  |  |  |  |
| 9 | Insurances Cost, Out of which: | | Lump sum |  |  |  |
|  | i) | Life Insurance (including repatriation) | Lump sum |  |  |  |
|  | ii) | Heath Insurance | Lump sum |  |  |  |
|  | iii) | Third Party Liability Insurance | Lump sum |  |  |  |
|  | iv) | Professional Liability Insurance | Lump sum |  |  |  |
| 10 | Other**4** | |  |  |  |  |
| 11 | **Fixed Reimbursable Expenses[[21]](#footnote-21)** | |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL REIMBUSABLES EXPENSES** | | | | | |  |

**ANNEX 3: Standard Terms and Conditions**

**STANDARD CONTRACT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**

THIS Contract is entered into between,

*[name of Procuring Entity]* (hereinafter called the “Procuring Entity”), on the one hand and;

*[name of Service Provider]* (hereinafter called the “Service Provider”) of the other part;

**WHEREAS** COMESA wishes to have the Contractor perform the services hereinafter referred to, and

**WHEREAS** the Contractor is willing to perform these services,

**NOW THEREFORE THE PARTIES** hereby agree as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Services** | (a) The Contractor shall perform the services specified in Annex A, “Terms of Reference and Technical Proposal,” which is made an integral part of this contract (“the Services”).  (b) The Contractor shall provide the personnel listed in Annex B, “Service Provider’s Personnel,” to perform the Services.  (c) The Contractor shall submit to COMESA the reports in the form and within the time periods specified in Annex C, “Service Provider’s Reporting Obligations.” |
| **2. Term** | The Contractor shall perform the Services during the period commencing ***[insert the date]*** and continuing ***[insert the date]*** or any other period as may be subsequently agreed by the parties in writing. |
| **3. Termination** |  |
| **3.1 By COMESA** | COMESA may terminate this contract in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (g) of this Clause 3.1. In case of an occurrence specified in (a) to (g) COMESA shall give not less than seven (7) days’ written notice of termination to the Service Provider  (a) If the Contractor fails to remedy a failure in the performance of its obligations hereunder, within seven (7) days of period after the receipt of a registered mail with acknowledgment of receipt specifying the failure.  (b) If the Contractor becomes (or, if the Contractor consists of more than one entity, if any of its members becomes) insolvent or bankrupt or enter into any agreements with their creditors for relief of debt or take advantage of any law for the benefit of debtors or go into liquidation or receivership whether compulsory or voluntary.  (c) If the Contractor fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration proceedings pursuant to Clause 15 hereof.  (d) If the Service Provider, has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for or in executing this Contract.  (e) If the Contractor submits to COMESA a false statement which has a material effect on the rights, obligations or interests of COMESA.  (f) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Contractor is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than fourteen (14) days.  (g) If COMESA, in its sole discretion and for any reason whatsoever, decides to terminate this Contract.  Early termination shall not prejudice or affect the accrued rights or liabilities of the Parties. |
| **3.2 By the Service Provider** | The Contractor may terminate this contract, by not less than seven (7) days’ written notice to COMESA, in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this Clause 3.2.  (a) If COMESA fails to pay any money due to the Contractor pursuant to this contract (which is not subject to dispute pursuant to Clause 15 hereof) within seven (7) days after receiving written notice from the Contractor that such payment is overdue.  (b) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Contractor is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than fourteen (14) days.  (c) If COMESA fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration pursuant to Clause 15 hereof.  (d) If COMESA is in material breach of its obligations pursuant to this Contract and has not remedied the same within thirty (30) days (or such longer period as the Contractor may have subsequently approved in writing) following the receipt by COMESA of the Service Provider’s notice specifying such breach.  Early termination shall not prejudice or affect the accrued rights or liabilities of the Parties. |
| **4. Payment** | A. Ceiling  For Services rendered pursuant to Annex A, COMESA shall pay the Contractor an amount not to exceed ***US$*** ***[insert the amount in figures and letters]***. This amount has been established based on the understanding that it includes all of the Service Provider's costs and profits as well as any tax obligation that may be imposed on the Service Provider.  B. Schedule of Payments  The schedule of payments is specified below:[[22]](#footnote-22)1  maximum 20% of the contract value upon COMESA's receipt and acceptance of the inception report signed by the Contractor.  50%upon COMESA’s receipt of the draft final report*,* acceptable to COMESA; ***and***  maximum 30% of the contract value upon COMESA’s receipt and acceptance by COMESA of the final report.  **Total: 100%**  C. Acceptance  The Deliverables, meaning Reports or Services submitted to an Acceptance (either formal or not), are listed in the Annex C thereof.  Acceptance means express or tacit acknowledgment that the Deliverables comply with the Contract.  The following principles are always applicable:   1. Unless COMESA makes reservations within fourteen (14) working days from the submission, the Deliverables are deemed accepted; 2. In case of reservations by COMESA during the Acceptance Period, the Deliverables are deemed accepted once the reservations are withdrawn; 3. It is expressly agreed that the use of any Deliverables or any phase of the Contract means the final Acceptance of the phase or the corresponding Deliverables; and 4. The Acceptance is definitive and cannot be doubt for any reason whatsoever.   D. Payment Conditions  Payment shall be made in **US$** no later than 30 days following submission by the Contractor of an acceptable invoice accompanied by prove of Acceptance (implicit or explicit) of Deliverables associated to the invoice, in duplicate, to the coordinator designated in paragraph 4.   * + 1. If the Contractor does not receive payment by the time stated then the Contractor shall be paid interest at the overdraft interest rate the Contractor is charged by its bank calculated from the due date of payment. |
| **5. Payment upon Termination** | Upon termination of this Contract pursuant to Clauses 3.1 or 3.2 hereof, COMESA shall make the following payments to the Service Provider:  (a) The cost of all accepted Deliverables performed prior to the effective date of termination and any interest rate due to the Contractor as a result of previous delays in payment of invoices; and  (b) Except in the case of termination pursuant to paragraphs (a) through (e) of Clause 3.1 hereof, reimbursement of any reasonable out-of-pocket demobilization or other direct costs incidental to the prompt and orderly termination of this Contract, including the cost of the return travel of the Service Provider’s Personnel. |
| **6. Project Administration** | A. Coordinator  COMESA designates the ***[insert de full name, the title, department and organization****]****,*** as Procuring Entity's Coordinator; the coordinator will be responsible for the coordination of activities under this Contract, for acceptance and approval of the reports and of other deliverables by COMESA and for receiving and approving invoices for the payment.  B. Reports  The reports listed in Annex C, “Service Provider's Reporting Obligations,” shall be submitted in the course of the assignment and will constitute the basis for the payments to be made under Clause 4 thereof.   1. Information   COMESA shall timely provide to the Service Provider, free of cost, all information that may be reasonably required for the provision of the Services. The Contractor shall be entitled to rely on the accuracy and completeness of such information furnished by or on behalf of COMESA.  D. Decisions  COMESA shall give his decision on all matters properly referred to him in writing by the Contractor within a reasonable time so as not to delay the Services.  Where there is a misunderstanding between COMESA’s Coordinator and the Service Provider, the Contractor can bring the issue into the attention of the SADC Secretariat Executive Secretary, which is entitled to express COMESA’s final decision on the issue brought into attention.  E. Assistance  COMESA shall co-operate with the Contractor and shall not interfere with or obstruct the proper performance of the Services. COMESA shall as soon as practicable:  (a) Provide the Service Provider’s personnel with work permits and such other documents as shall be necessary to enable them to perform the Services;  (b) Arrange for the Service Provider’s personnel and, if appropriate, their eligible dependents to be provided promptly with all necessary entry and exit visas, residence permits, exchange permits and any other documents required for their stay in the Government’s country;  (c) Facilitate prompt clearance through customs of any property required for the Services and of the personal effects of the Service Provider’s personnel and their eligible dependents;  (d) Issue to officials, agents and representatives of the Government all such instructions as may be necessary or appropriate for the prompt and effective implementation of the Services;  (e) Exempt the Contractor and its personnel from any requirement to register or obtain any permit to practice their profession or to establish themselves either individually or as a corporate entity according to the Applicable Law;  (f) Grant to the Contractor and its personnel of either of them the privilege, pursuant to the Applicable Law, of bringing into the Government’s country reasonable amounts of foreign currency for the purposes of the Services or for the personal use of the personnel and their dependents and of withdrawing any such amounts as may be earned therein by the personnel in the execution of the Services;  (g) Authorize the Contractor and its personnel to act as his agent as may be necessary for the performance of the Services;  (h) Procure the Service Provider’s ready access to the necessary sites; and  (i) Designate in writing a person to act with his complete authority to give instructions for and to receive information on his behalf. |
| **7. Performance Standards** | The Contractor undertakes to perform the Services with the highest standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity. The Contractor shall promptly replace any employees assigned under this Contract that COMESA considers unsatisfactory as a result of their incompetence to render the Services or their misconduct. |
| **8. Confidentiality** | (a) The Service Providers shall not, during the term of this Contract and within two (2) years after its expiration, disclose any proprietary or confidential information relating to the Services, this Contract or COMESA's business or operations without the prior written consent of COMESA.  (b) Where necessary, the parties may enter into a non-disclosure agreement that shall form an integral part of this contract. |
| **9. Ownership of Material** | Any studies reports or other material, graphic, software or otherwise, prepared by the Contractor for COMESA under the Contract shall belong to and remain the property of COMESA. The Contractor may retain a copy of such documents and software but shall refrain from using it without the prior written consent of COMESA. |
| **10. Contractor Not to be Engaged in Certain Activities** | The Contractor agrees that, during the term of this Contract and after its termination, the Contractor and any entity affiliated with the Service Provider, shall be disqualified from providing goods, works or services (other than the Services and any continuation thereof) for any project resulting from or closely related to the Services. |
| **11. Insurance** | The Contractor will be responsible for taking out any appropriate insurance coverage, in the limit indicated in the Clause 14 hereof. |
| **12. Amendments** | Any modification of the Terms and Condition of the Contract shall be through a written Amendment signed by both parties. The procedures for modification of the Contract shall observe the SADC Secretariat principles of modifying contracts as lay down in the SADC Secretariat Procurement Guidelines edition *[insert the edition].*  Only the addition or the replacement of key experts shall be considered a modification of the Contract. In case of replacement of a key expert, this shall be done only with an expert having equal or better qualification than the expert replaced.  The Contractor shall not assign this Contract or sub-Contract any portion of it without COMESA's prior written consent. |
| **13. Law Governing Contract and Language** | The Contract shall be governed by UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts (2011) as developed by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law and the language of the Contract shall be **English**. |
| **14. Liability** | Limitation of the Service Providers’ Liability towards COMESA:  (a) Except in case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct on the part of the Contractor or on the part of any person or firm acting on behalf of the Contractor in carrying out the Services, the Service Provider, with respect to damage caused by the Contractor to COMESA ’s property, shall not be liable to COMESA:  (i) For any indirect or consequential loss or damage;  (ii) For any direct loss or damage that exceeds by two times *the* value of the fees of this Contract (reimbursable expenses will not be taken into consideration for determining the value of Service Provider’s liability); and  (iii) For loss or damage caused as a result of any Force Majeure Event.   1. This limitation of liability shall not affect the Service Providers’ liability, if any, for damage to Third Parties caused by the Contractor or any person or firm acting on behalf of the Service Providers in carrying out the Services.   Any action by either party must be brought within one (1) year after the cause of action arose. |
| **15. Dispute Resolution** | 1. Any dispute arising from, or in connection with the interpretation or operation of this Contract shall be resolved amicably by both parties through a process of negotiation. 2. Where the Parties fail to reach an amicable solution within a period of 30 (thirty) day period, or such longer period as they may agree, the parties have failed to resolve their dispute or differences by any mutual consultation, either party may submit the dispute before the COMESA Court of Justice for arbitration upon written notice to that effect (a “Notice of Arbitration”) and the dispute shall finally be determined in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the COMESA Court of Justice as amended from time to time 3. Each party agrees that any decision or award in any arbitration made by the COMESA Court of Justice shall be final and binding and shall not be subject to appeal to any court of law. |

**Annexes:**

**Annex A:** Terms of Reference and Technical Proposal

**Annex B:** Service Provider’s Personnel

**Annex C:** Service Provider’s Reporting Obligations

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Parties’ representatives, being so duly authorized, have caused this Contract to be signed in four originals in the English language in their respective names as of the day and year first below written:

Signed today ***[insert the date]***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **For COMESA** | **Signature** |  | **For the Contractor** | **Signature** |
| **Name:** *[insert full name]* |  |  | **Name:** *[insert full name]* |  |
| **Title:** *[insert the title]* |  |  | **Title:** *[insert the title]* |  |
| **Place:** *[insert the city and country]* |  |  | **Place:** *[insert the city and country]* |  |
| **Date:** *[insert the date]* |  |  | **Date:** *[insert the date]* |  |

1. **The CV must not exceed eight (8) pages**  [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. **Only key information about the positions and the responsibilities held in various assignments during the last ten (10) years should be included. Experience older than 10 years will be rendered irrelevant.**  [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. ***The proof of stated qualifications shall be in the form of the copies of the degrees and diploma obtained, while for the professional experience the proof shall be either acknowledgement letters from the previous employers or copies of the contract signed with them.***  [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Position held in the Assignment must be indicated as well. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Months/ weeks are counted from the start of the assignment. For each staff indicate separately staff input for home and field work. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Select months or weeks as needed. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Field work means work carried out at a place other than the Service Provider home office. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Indicate all main activities of the assignment, including delivery of reports (e.g.: inception, interim, and final reports), and other benchmarks such as Purchaser’s approvals. For phased assignments indicate activities, delivery of reports, and benchmarks separately for each phase. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Duration of activities shall be indicated in the form of a bar chart [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Amounts must coincide with the ones indicated under Total Cost of Financial proposal in Form FIN-2. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. If requested in the RFP clause 8 (i) ***[delete if not applicable]*** [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Please provide details on taxes applied, the legal ground for application of the taxes and how they have been calculated [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Form FIN-3 shall be filled in for the same Professional and Support Staff listed in Form TECH-6. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Professional Staff should be indicated individually; Support Staff should be indicated per category (e.g.: draftsmen, clerical staff). [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Positions of the Professional Staff shall coincide with the ones indicated in Form TECH-4. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Indicate separately staff-daily rate for home and field work. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Delete items that are not applicable or add other items as the case may be. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Indicate unit cost. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Indicate route of each flight, and if the trip is one- or two-ways. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Provide clear description of what is their exact nature [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. The amount has to be indicated by COMESA and shall be included, without modifications, in the Financial Proposal. It shall cover costs already identified and priced by COMESA. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. 1 Modify, in order to reflect the output required, as described in Annex C. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)