



P.O Box 6071, ARUSHA, TANZANIA -Tel: +255 27 205 0030- Fax: +255 27 205 0031

Email: auabcregistry@africa-union.org *Website: www.anticorruption.au.int

Request For Proposals: REF. No AUABC/CONS/2022/01

Consultancy Services to Develop a Regional Anti-Corruption Programme with the Regional Economic Communities in Africa

a) Background

The Member States of the African Union adopted the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (The Convention) at the Second Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held in Maputo (Mozambique), on 11th July 2003. The Convention entered into force on 5th August 2006, thirty (30) days after the deposit of the fifteenth (15th) instrument of ratification. To date, forty-eight (48) countries have ratified the Convention and are States Parties to it.

The African Union Advisory Board against Corruption (AUABC) emanated from the Convention, and it was created under Article 22 (1) of The Convention with a mandate to promote and encourage the adoption of measures and actions by State Parties to prevent, detect, punish, and eradicate corruption and related offences in Africa as well as to follow-up on the application of those measures.

The AU Advisory Board against Corruption has the broad mandate to:

1. Document and analyze corrupt activities;
2. Advise the AU and Member States on all matters relating to corruption;
3. Monitor and report on implementation and compliance with the Convention through receipt of State Reports; and
4. Engage in advocacy and outreach to prevent corruption.

In responding to the decision by the African Union¹ on Institutional Reform which recognized the need to establish an effective division of labor and collaboration between the African Union, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Member States and Continental Organizations, the Board dedicated its programming in 2021 to review how it can collaborate and cooperate better with the RECs. The Board conducted a study to review the state of play of anti-corruption efforts at Regional Economic Community levels and also mapped the existing anti-corruption policies, frameworks, laws, and institutions at Regional Economic Community levels. This facilitated the identification of institutional, policy and strategic gaps in anti-corruption programmes at the Regional Economic Community level including the extent of the alignment of regional instruments to the AUCPCC. The study developed some recommendations to strengthen anti-corruption efforts/ measures between and among RECs and the AUABC.

¹ EXT/Assembly/AU/Dec.104(XI)

It is against this background that the Board would like to develop a Regional Anti-Corruption Programme that will address the recommendations from the Scoping Study and Engagement Strategy to enhance the collaboration between regional anti-corruption efforts and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption.

b) Objectives of the Consultancy

Strategic Pillar 3 of the Board Strategic Plan (2018-2022) focuses on enhanced outreach and cooperation activities with the objective of strengthening the AUABC relationships and engagement with internal and external governance institutions and stakeholders. The Scoping Study on anti-corruption efforts by RECs and Engagement Strategy therefore has provided a peek into the work and progress of the RECs which will be utilized in constructing and designing a regional programme.

The objective of the consultancy therefore is to develop a regional anti-corruption programme that will identify key programmes and projects to be implemented by the RECs and the Board in order to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and fight corruption more efficiently and effectively in Africa.

c) Scope of the Consultancy

The Consultant is expected to:

- I. Using findings of the scoping study on REC's Anti-Corruption initiatives as well as the REC Engagement Strategy, elaborate general and specific programmes, activities that can be implemented to deal with the identified challenges;
- II. Specify programme interventions and corresponding activities at Inter-REC and among RECs which can be implemented jointly with the AUABC;
- III. Develop an implementation and costing plan; and
- IV. Develop a Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation framework for the Programme.

The above activities that constitute the scope of work will be carried out mainly using desk research and interviews with stakeholders virtually. The Consultant will work closely with the AUABC Secretariat throughout the process.

d) Deliverables, Reporting Requirements and Time Frames

It is estimated that the consultancy shall take 30 days spread over 60 days. The final deliverable is expected to be submitted by 30th December 2022. The Consultant will be required to submit an inception report including proposed work plan and methodology of work seven (7) days after signing the contract. Once the inception report is approved, the consultant shall proceed to develop the programme and consult all the RECs to identify priority areas that need intervention through the regional anti-corruption programme.

e) Experience and Educational Qualifications

The consultant is expected to have the following educational qualifications and experience.

I. Experience

- At least 10 years demonstrable experience in governance and corruption issues in Africa;
- At least 10 years of track record in programme and project development;
- Good understanding of the working methods of Regional Economic Communities on issues of corruption and governance;
- Good understanding of regional and global legal, policy normative frameworks on Anti-Corruption in Africa;
- At least 5 years' experience in designing programmes and projects in governance areas and those with experience in anti-corruption thematic area will have an added advantage;

- Experience working with the African Union and the RECs on governance issues;
- Verifiable references of previous work of similar nature; and
- Proficiency in English or French language. Knowledge of any other AU language would be an asset.

II. Educational qualifications

Master of Business Administration or Master's Degree in Development Studies, Economics, Law, International Relations, Public Policy, Human Rights or any other social science discipline.

f) Selection Method, Payment and Deliverables

Consultant will be selected under the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method. The first tranche of 20%, will be paid after submitting the inception report. The second tranche of 40 percent will be paid after submitting the first draft of the programme. The 40% of the contract sum shall be paid after the submission and approval of the programme, the M&E framework and the programme cost estimate.

The consultant is expected to submit the following deliverables.

1. Regional Anti-Corruption Programme;
2. Programme Implementation Matrix;
3. Monitoring and Evaluation Framework/Plan; and
4. Programme Cost Estimate.

g) Evaluation Criteria

Selection of a suitable consultant will be based on the following:

- Proposed methodology and understanding of the ToRs: 25
- Experience in governance and anti-corruption: 25
- Experience in working on similar assignments: 30
- Educational Qualifications: 20

Total points is hundred (100) and the minimum technical score required to pass is seventy (70).

h) Submission

Interested Consultants are requested to submit the following documents for the AUABC's consideration:

- Detailed Technical Proposal (including work-plan, technical approach and methodology to carry out the consultancy.
- Financial proposal; and
- Two reference letters from previous clients.
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Request for proposal documents must be submitted to: auabcregistry@africa-union.org with copy to munthalim@africa-union.org

The Title of the Assignment and Procurement reference number should be clearly indicated in the subject matter of the email.

The deadline for submission is 25th October 2022 at 17:00hrs East Africa Time (GMT +3).