

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي

UMOJA WA AFRIKA



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

UNIÓN AFRICANA

**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT
CONSULTANCY – SENIOR POLITICAL ADVISOR TO AU HIGH LEVEL PANEL ON SUDAN**

APP Ref: AUC/CMD/PAPS/CS/001

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Context

On 15 April 2023, fighting erupted between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) following weeks of tension. One year later, the war is still raging leading to one of the worst cases of human displacement in history. Several thousand people have also lost their lives while nearly half of the country's population face threat of starvation due to food shortages. To stop the carnage and bring the belligerents to the negotiating table, the Chairperson of the AU Commission, H.E. Mr. Mousa Faki Mahamat on 17 January 2024 constituted a High-Level Panel on Sudan (HLP-Sudan) comprising of three eminent African personalities to lead mediation process in Sudan in line with AU PSC conclusion in communique PSC/Min/Comm.1185 (2023). The work of the Panel is anchored on the AU Roadmap for Conflict Resolution in Sudan and its main pillars.

The Panel has since commenced its work and will be assisted by a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). The TAG is headed by the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission (SRCC) in Sudan, and it will provide advisory services to the Panel and serve as its Secretariat. The AU is now wishing to appoint an expert as Senior Political Advisor to work with the TAG to support the work of the High-Level Panel.

2. Organizational Setting and Reporting Relationships

This post is located in the Political Affairs, Peace and Security Department (PAPSD) of the African Union Commission (AUC). The Senior Political Advisor serves as an advisor to the High-Level Panel on Sudan (HLP-Sudan) reports to Director, Conflict Management Division (DCMD) through the Head of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and Chairperson of the HLP -Sudan.

3. Responsibilities

Within delegated authority, the Senior Political Advisor has the following responsibilities/duties:

- Monitors, assesses, and reports on developments in the conflict in Sudan and advises the HLP-Sudan on the options available to address the conflict.
- Provides background information on the conflict in Sudan including on the main belligerents and other actors and stakeholders for the benefit of the Panel.
- Contributes to the formulation of strategies for addressing the conflict in Sudan, especially on how to bring the main belligerents to the negotiating table.
- Develops a vision or direction for work of the Panel and proposes policy directives and plan of action on matters relating to the activities of the Panel on Sudan; identifies emerging issues and analyses implications and makes recommendations.

- Advises the Panel on the ways to implement the African Union Peace and Security Council (AU PSC) Roadmap for the Resolution of the Conflict in Sudan with a particular focus on achieving a comprehensive ceasefire and convening the two-phase political dialogue among stakeholders in the Sudanese political process, including the belligerents and other stakeholders in the conflict.
- Provides effective backstopping for the Panel on establishing a governing vision for Sudan and a transitional civilian government that would return the country to constitutional order
- Plans and implements the operational activities related to the work of the Panel and incorporates an integrated approach that includes a rights-based dimension and a gender perspective into the process, planning and operational activities of the Panel.
- Does fundraising on behalf of the Panel and liaises with existing donors for continuous support of the work of the Panel.
- Plans, co-ordinates and manages the activities of the Panel with relevant AU Departments, Directorates and Agencies to ensure synergy and effective intra-AU coordination.
- Coordinates Panel's activities with IGAD and other stakeholders such as the League of Arab States.
- Serves as Secretary within the Technical Advisory Group and coordinates the reports of meetings and missions of the Panel.
- Manages, coordinates, organizes, and supervises research on a variety of political issues in a region and or country or major conflict.
- Represents the HLP-Sudan at functions/seminars when requested to by the Panel or head of TAG .
- Responds to/prepares responses to comments, statements, and queries of parties and manages operations involving several components, including civilian, military and humanitarian operations.
- Develops and maintains relations with member states on behalf of the HLP-Sudan.
- Supports the work of the AU Liaison Office in Sudan and provides effective backstopping to the SRCC on issues critical to the office's mandate
- Performs other related duties as required.

4. Competencies

- **Professionalism** –Knowledge of the work of intergovernmental bodies, the work of the African Union and its related agencies concerned with political, economic, social and related matters. Ability to evaluate international political situations in area of assignment. Ability to manage and coordinate many different levels and participants in operations in both the field and AU-wide system. Knowledge of the working methods of the African Union; ability to advance mutual understanding and deepen the strategic partnership between the and regional organizations in the area of peace and security. Shows pride in work and in achievements; demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter; is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines, and achieving results; is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns; shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges; remains calm in stressful situations.
- **Communication:** Speaks and writes clearly and effectively; listens to others, correctly interprets messages from others and responds appropriately; asks questions to clarify and exhibits interest in having two-way communication; tailors language, tone, style and format to match audience; demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.
- **Creativity:** Actively seeks to improve programmes or services; offers new and different

options to solve problems or meet client needs; promotes and persuades others to consider new ideas; takes calculated risks on new and unusual ideas; thinks “outside the box”; takes an interest in new ideas and new ways of doing things; is not bound by current thinking or traditional approaches.

Managerial Competencies

- **Building Trust:** Provides an environment in which others can talk and act without fear of repercussion; manages in a deliberate and predictable way; operates with transparency; has no hidden agenda; places confidence in colleagues, staff members and clients; gives proper credit to others; follows through on agreed upon actions; treats sensitive or confidential information appropriately.
- **Judgement/Decision-making:** Identifies the key issues in a complex situation, and comes to the heart of the problem quickly; gathers relevant information before making a decision; considers positive and negative impacts of decisions prior to making them; takes decisions with an eye to the impact on others and on the Organization; proposes a course of action or makes a recommendation based on all available information; checks assumptions against facts; determines that the actions proposed will satisfy the expressed and underlying needs for the decision; makes tough decisions when necessary.

5. Qualifications

Education: Advanced university degree (Master’s degree) in political science, international relations, public administration, or public international law. A first-level university degree in combination with qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

Experience: A minimum of 15 years of progressively responsible experience in political science, international relations, law, security, development management, conflict resolution and mediation. Experience within a regional or international organization, especially the African Union, will be an added advantage.

Language: Fluency in English is required, and basic knowledge of Arabic is desirable.

6. Duration of the Assignment

The assignment will end by 31 March 2025.

7. Duty station, reporting and administration of the assignment

The duty station is Addis Ababa, with regional travel required. The successful candidate will report to the SRCC for Sudan and be responsible for managing administrative and junior staff in the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Sudan.

8. Consultancy fee

The agreed remuneration for the consultant will be a monthly payment of US Dollars 8,000 (eight thousand dollars per month).

9. Evaluation Criteria

For evaluation of the submission, the following criteria will be applied:

Criteria	Points
Educational Qualifications	25
Experience relevant to the assignment	40
Time and activity schedule/Work plan	25
Language skills	10
Total	100

Minimum score is 70 points (pass mark).

The Individual Consultant will be selected under the Fixed Budget selection method where the Consultant who has scored the highest points within the set pass mark and within the fixed budget stated, will be selected for award of contract.

10. Confidentiality

The information shared with the consultant is confidential and shall not be disclosed to anyone else or used in any other publication. The consultant must refrain from using any of the information shared in other publications. The final product of the consultancy will be submitted to the PAPS for approval by the appropriate policy Organs. The PAPS reserves the right to amend the final documents before their submission for approval and owns the final products.

11. LETTER OF INVITATION:

The African Union Commission now invites eligible Individual Consultants to express their interest to undertake the assignment. Interested candidates must provide information demonstrating that he/she has the required qualifications and relevant experience to undertake the assignment.

Documents required:

- Cover letter - Understanding of the assignment / TOR
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) and certified copies of academic qualifications
- Contacts of three most recent work-based referees.
- Your financial quote

Further clarifications can be obtained at: tender@africa-union.org with Cc: isaacS@africa-union.org during office hours 8:00-17:00 hours Local Time. Always quote the APP Reference.

Proposals should be submitted by email to the address below no later than **3.00 pm** Addis Ababa time on **2nd August 2024**. Proposals received after the deadline will be rejected.

The Head, Procurement, Travel & Stores Unit
African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Building C, 3rd Floor; Tel +251115517700;
Email: tender@africa-union.org
Cc: isaacS@africa-union.org