

AFRICAN UNION

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

HIRING OF A CUSTODIAN BANK FOR THE AFRICAN UNION PEACE FUND

Procurement No: AUC/PFS/C/001

BIDDER CHECKLIST PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF BID DOCUMENT

No	Description	Tick ✓
1	Duly filled and signed Technical Proposal and forms	
2	Duly filled and signed Financial Proposal and forms	
3	Bid validity (90 days)	
4	Read and understood the Terms of Reference	
5	Read and understood the bid data	
6	Attached copies of relevant and valid Firm Registration documents to the technical proposal	
7	Separate Documents for Financial and Technical Proposal	
8	Password-protected Technical and Financial Proposals	
9	Correct Procurement Number and Title on all documents	
10	CVs and Statements of Availability for the proposed experts	
11	Deadline for submission of Bid on <u>20 May 2025 at 15:00 hours Addis Ababa Time</u>	
12	Certified / Notarized Copies of Academic Qualifications and Professional Certifications of all Key Experts is a mandatory requirement. Failure to provide these mandatory documents will result in disqualification of the offer at the preliminary evaluation stage.	
13	To ensure the integrity of the bidding process, financial proposals must be password-protected. Bidders who meet the minimum technical pass mark shall officially be requested to provide password for their financial proposal. The Commission will not accept any claim of password malfunctioning or corrupted file as a basis for the replacement of the financial proposal with a new financial submission	

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Section I: Letter of Invitation

22 April 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

REF: SELECTION OF A CUSTODIAN BANK FOR THE AFRICAN UNION PEACE FUND

Procurement No: AUC/PFS/C/001

1. The African Union Commission would like to engage the services of a **Custodian Bank Who Shall Provide Fund Custody and Fund Administration Services to the AU Peace Fund.** The African Union Commission invites interested and eligible bidders to submit separate technical and financial proposals for the assignment as per attached Terms of Reference (TOR).

2. A **firm** will be selected under the *Quality and Cost Based Selection Method* procedures described in this RFP. The weight for technical and financial scores shall be 80% and 20% respectively.

3. The RFP includes the following documents:

- Section 1 - This Letter of Invitation
- Section 2 - Information to Consultants
- Section 3 - Data Sheet
- Section 4 - Terms of Reference
- Section 5 - Technical Proposal - Standard Forms
- Section 6 - Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
- Section 7 - Standard Form of Contract

4. The **TECHNICAL** and **FINANCIAL** offers must be delivered as **TWO SEPARATE documents** to the email address mentioned below. **The financial proposals must be password-protected.** Bidders who meet the minimum technical pass mark shall officially be requested to provide password for their financial proposal.

5. Bidders who meet the minimum technical pass mark shall officially be requested to provide password for their financial proposal.

6. Bidders shall ensure that their electronic submissions are fully functional. The Commission **will not accept any claim of password malfunctioning or corrupted file as a basis for the replacement of financial proposal with new submissions.**

7. The **deadline for submission of proposals is 23 May 2025 at 15:00hrs Addis Ababa Time.** Late bids will be rejected. **The subject of the e-mail shall be the title of the procurement, the procurement number and name of bidder.**

8. **Bid opening will be held on 23 May 2025 at 15:00 hours Addis Ababa Time,** immediately after the deadline for submission.

9. Bidders may request for clarifications, no less than 7 days from the deadline for submission, from **The Chairperson, Internal Tender Committee, African Union Commission, Telephone number (+251) 11 5517700, Ext 4341, Email: tender@africa-union.org.**

10. Complaint by bidders regarding bidding process shall be addressed to: InvestigationOIO@africa-union.org

11. Bidders must submit the following mandatory documents in their Technical Proposal:

- (i) Certified copy of Certificate of incorporation (Company Registration).
- (ii) At Least 3 Contactable references for work done on similar assignment in the past 3 years.
- (iii) Company profile demonstrating at least 20 years' experience on similar assignment.
- (iv) CVs of proposed experts with their certified copies of academic and professional qualifications;
- (v) Signed Statements of Availability for the proposed experts and
- (vi) Duly signed Bid Submission Forms.

12. The address for bid submission is: **The Chairperson, Internal Tender Committee African Union Commission, tender@africa-union.org**

Section 2: Information to Consultants

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Client named in the Data Sheet will select a consultant from those listed in the Letter of Invitation, in accordance with the method of selection specified in the Data Sheet.
- 1.2 The consultants are invited to submit a Technical Proposal and a financial proposal, or a Technical Proposal only, as specified in the Data Sheet for consulting services required for the assignment named in the Data Sheet. The proposal will be the basis for contract negotiations and ultimately for a signed contract with the selected firm.
- 1.3 The assignment shall be implemented in accordance with any phasing indicated in the Data Sheet. When the assignment includes several phases, the performance of the consultant under each phase must be to the Client's satisfaction before work begins on the next phase.
- 1.4 The consultants must familiarize themselves with local conditions and take them into account in preparing their proposals. To obtain first - hand information on the assignment and on the local conditions, consultants are encouraged to visit the Client before submitting a proposal and to attend a pre-proposal conference if one is specified in the Data Sheet. Attending any specified pre-proposal conference is optional. The consultants' representative should contact the officials named in the Data Sheet to arrange for their visit or to obtain additional information on any pre-proposal conference. Consultants should ensure that these officials are advised of the visit in adequate time to allow them to make appropriate arrangements.
- 1.5 African Union policy requires consultants to provide professional, objective, and impartial advice, and at all times hold the Client's interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and strictly avoid conflicts with other assignments or their own corporate interests. Consultants shall not be hired for any assignment that would be in conflict with their prior or current obligations to other clients, or that may place them in a position of not being able to carry out the assignment in the best interests of the Client.
 - 1.5.1 Without limitation on the generality of this rule, consultants shall not be hired under the circumstances set forth below:
 - (a) Conflict between consulting activities and procurement of goods, works or services: A firm that has been engaged to provide goods, works, or services for a project, and each of its affiliates, shall be disqualified from providing consulting services related to those goods, works or services. Conversely, a firm hired to

provide consulting services for the preparation or implementation of a project, and each of its affiliates, shall be disqualified from subsequently providing goods, works or services resulting from or directly related to the firm's consulting services for such preparation or implementation (other than a continuation of the firms earlier consulting services for the same project).

- (b) Conflict among consulting assignments: Neither consultants (including their personnel and sub-consultants) nor any of their affiliates shall be hired for any assignment that, by its nature, may be in conflict with another assignment of the consultants.
- (c) Relationship with AUC staff: Consultants (including their personnel and sub-consultants) that have a business or family relationship with a member of AUC staff (or of the Client staff, or of a beneficiary of the assignment) who are directly or indirectly involved in any part of: (i) the preparation of the TOR of the contract, (ii) the selection process for such contract, or (iii) supervision of such contract may not be awarded a contract.

1.6 The African Union requires that Officers of the AU, as well as Bidders/ Suppliers/ Contractors/ Consultants, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of such contracts.¹ In pursuance of this policy the AU:

- (a) defines, for the purposes of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:
 - (i) “corrupt practice”² is the offering, giving, receiving or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence improperly the actions of another party;
 - (ii) “fraudulent practice”³ is any act or omission including a misrepresentation that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation;

¹ In this context, any action taken by a bidder, supplier, contractor, sub-contractor or consultant to influence the procurement process or contract execution for undue advantage is improper.

² “another party” refers to an officer of the AU acting in relation to the procurement process or contract execution. In this context, “officer of the AU” includes staff and employees of other organisations taking or reviewing procurement decisions.

³ a “party” refers to any officer of the AU; the terms “benefit” and “obligation” relate to the procurement process or contract execution; and the “act or omission” is intended to influence the procurement process or contract execution.

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- (iii) “collusive practice”⁴ is an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to influence improperly the actions of another party;
 - (iv) “coercive practice”⁵ is impairing or harming or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence improperly the actions of a party;
 - (v) “obstructive practice” is deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing of evidence material to any investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede any investigation into allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation;
- (b) will reject a recommendation for award of contract if it determines that the bidder recommended for award has, directly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices in competing for the contract in question;
 - (c) will declare a firm ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, to be awarded an African Union financed contract if it at any time determines that the firm has, directly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices in competing for, or in executing, an African Union financed contract.
- 1.7 Consultants shall not be under a declaration of ineligibility for corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices issued by the.

**2. Clarification
and
Amendment of
RFP Documents**

- 2.1 Consultants may request a clarification of any of the RFP documents up to the number of days indicated in the Data Sheet before the proposal submission date. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing by mail, facsimile, or electronic mail to the Client’s address indicated in the Data Sheet. The Client will respond by facsimile, courier or electronic mail to such requests and will send written copies of the response (including an

⁴ “parties” refers to any participants in the procurement process (including officers of the AU) attempting to establish bid prices at artificial, non competitive levels.

⁵ a “party” refers to any participant in the procurement process or contract execution.

explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) to all invited consultants who intend to submit proposals.

- 2.2 At any time before the submission of proposals, the Client may, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by an invited firm, amend the RFP. Any amendment shall be issued in writing through addenda. Addenda shall be sent by mail, facsimile, or electronic mail to all invited consultants and will be binding on them. The Client may at its discretion extend the deadline for the submission of proposals.

3. Preparation of Proposal

- 3.1 Consultants are requested to submit a proposal (paragraph 1.2) written in the language(s) specified in the Data Sheet.

Technical Proposal

- 3.2 In preparing the Technical Proposal, consultants are expected to examine the documents constituting this RFP in detail. Material deficiencies in providing the information requested may result in rejection of a proposal.

- 3.3 While preparing the Technical Proposal, consultants must give particular attention to the following:

- (i) If a consultant considers that it does not have all the expertise for the assignment, it may obtain a full range of expertise by associating with individual consultant(s) and/or other consultants or entities in a joint venture or sub-consultancy, as appropriate. Consultants may associate with the other consultants invited for this assignment only with approval of the Client as indicated in the Data Sheet. Consultants must obtain the approval of the Client to enter into a joint venture with consultants not invited for this assignment. The consultants are encouraged to seek the participation of local consultants by entering into a joint venture with, or subcontracting part of the assignment to consultants who are Nationals of African Union Member States.
- (ii) For assignments on a staff-time basis, the estimated number of professional staff-months is given in the Data Sheet. The proposal shall, however, be based on the number of professional staff-months estimated by the firm. For fixed-budget-based assignments, the available budget is given in the Data Sheet, and the Financial Proposal shall not exceed this budget.
- (iii) It is desirable that the majority of the key professional staff proposed be permanent employees of the firm or have an extended and stable working relationship with it.
- (iv) Proposed professional staff must, at a minimum, have the experience indicated in the Data Sheet, preferably working under conditions similar to those prevailing in the Country specified for Performance of the Services.

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- (v) Alternative professional staff shall not be proposed, and only one Curriculum Vitae (CV) may be submitted for each position.
 - (vi) Reports to be issued by the consultants as part of this assignment must be in the language(s) specified in the Data Sheet.

3.4 The Technical Proposal shall provide the following information using the Standard Forms attached in Section 4:

- (i) A brief description of the firm's organisation and an outline of recent experience on assignments (Section 4B) of a similar nature. For each assignment, the outline should indicate, inter-alia, the profiles of the staff proposed, duration of the assignment, contract amount, and the firm's involvement.
- (ii) Any comments or suggestions on the Terms of Reference and on the data, a list of services, and facilities to be provided by the Client (Section 4C).
- (iii) A description of the methodology and work plan for performing the assignment (Section 4D).
- (iv) The list of the proposed staff team by specialty, the tasks that would be assigned to each staff team member, and their timing (Section 4E).
- (v) CVs recently signed by the proposed professional staff and the authorized representative submitting the proposal (Section 4F). Key information should include number of years working for the firm/entity and degree of responsibility held in various assignments during the last ten (10) years.
- (vi) Estimates of the total staff input (professional and support staff; staff time) needed to carry out the assignment, supported by bar-chart diagrams showing the time proposed for each professional staff team member (Sections 4E and 4G).
- (vii) A detailed description of the proposed methodology, staffing, and monitoring of training, if the Data Sheet specifies training as a major component of the assignment.
- (viii) Any additional information requested in the Data Sheet.

3.5 The Technical Proposal shall not include any financial information.

**Financial
Proposal**

- 3.6 In preparing the Financial Proposal, consultants are expected to take into account the requirements and conditions outlined in the RFP documents. The Financial Proposal should follow the Standard Forms in Section 5. These list all costs associated with the assignment, including (a) remuneration for staff, (foreign and local, in the field and at headquarters); and (b) reimbursable expenses such as subsistence (per diem, housing), transportation (international and local, for mobilisation and demobilisation), services and equipment (vehicles, office equipment, furniture, and supplies), office rent, insurance, printing of documents, surveys, and training, if it is a major component of the assignment. Where appropriate, these costs should be broken down by activity, and, if appropriate, into foreign and local expenditures.
- 3.7 The Financial Proposal shall include all the costs the consultant incurs to provide the services (including travel expenses, translation, printing and the taxes the consultant pays for its business requirements by the law of the domicile country of the consultant), but shall exclude all local taxes levied within African Union Member States on the invoice issued by the consultant (such as local sales tax, services tax or withholding tax).
- 3.8 Consultants may express the price of their services in any freely convertible currency. The consultants may not use more than three foreign currencies. The Client may require consultants to state the portion of their price representing local costs in the Currency of the Country specified for performance of the Services if so indicated in the Data Sheet.
- 3.9 Commissions and gratuities, if any, paid or to be paid by consultants and related to the assignment will be listed in the Financial Proposal submission form (Section 5A).
- 3.10 The Data Sheet indicates how long the proposals must remain valid after the submission date. During this period, the consultant is expected to keep available the professional staff proposed for the assignment. The Client will make its best effort to complete negotiations within this period. If the Client wishes to extend the validity period of the proposals, the consultants who do not agree have the right not to extend the validity of their proposals.

**4. Submission,
Receipt, and
Opening of
Proposals**

- 4.1 The original proposal (Technical Proposal and, if required, Financial Proposal; see paragraph 1.2) shall be prepared in indelible ink. It shall contain no interlineations or overwriting, except as necessary to correct errors made by the firm itself. Any such corrections must be initialled by the persons or person signing the proposal.
- 4.2 An authorised representative of the firm initials all pages of the proposal. The representative's authorisation is confirmed by a written power of attorney accompanying the proposal.

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- 4.3 For each proposal, the consultants shall prepare the number of copies indicated in the Data Sheet. Each Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal shall be marked “Original” or “Copy” as appropriate. If there are any discrepancies between the original and the copies of the proposal, the original will govern.
 - 4.4 The original and all copies of the Technical Proposal shall be placed in a sealed envelope clearly marked “Technical Proposal,” and the original and all copies of the Financial Proposal in a sealed envelope clearly marked “Financial Proposal” and warning: “Do Not Open with the Technical Proposal.” Both envelopes shall be placed into an outer envelope and sealed. This outer envelope shall bear the submission address and other information indicated in the Data Sheet and be clearly marked, “Do Not Open, Except in Presence of the Tender Opening Committee.”
 - 4.5 The completed Technical and Financial Proposals must be delivered at the submission address on or before the time and date stated in the Data Sheet. Any proposal received after the closing time for submission of proposals shall be returned unopened.
 - 4.6 After the deadline for submission of proposals, the Technical Proposal shall be opened immediately by the Bid Opening Committee. The Financial Proposal shall remain sealed and retained securely until all submitted proposals are opened publicly.
 - 4.7 The Firm may withdraw its Proposal after the Proposal’s submission, provided that the written notice of the withdrawal is received by the Client prior to the deadline prescribed for submission of Proposals. The Firms’ withdrawal notice shall be prepared, sealed, marked, and dispatched in accordance with the provisions of clause Deadline for Submission of Proposals. The withdrawal notice may also be sent by telex or fax but followed by a signed confirmation copy. No Proposal may be modified subsequent to the deadline for submission of proposals. No Proposal may be withdrawn in the Interval between the deadline for submission of proposals and the expiration of the period of proposal validity specified by the firm on the Proposal Submission Form.

5. Proposal Evaluation General

- 5.1 From the time the bids are opened to the time the contract is awarded, if any consultant wishes to contact the Client on any matter related to its proposal, it should do so in writing at the address indicated in the Data Sheet. Any effort by the firm to influence the Client in proposal evaluation, proposal comparison or contract award decisions may result in the rejection of the consultant’s proposal.
- 5.2 Evaluators of Technical Proposals shall have no access to the Financial Proposals until the technical evaluation is completed.

Evaluation of Technical Proposals	<p>5.3 The evaluation committee appointed by the Client, as a whole, and each of its members individually, will evaluate the proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference, applying the evaluation criteria, sub-criteria (typically not more than three per criteria), and point system specified in the Data Sheet. Each responsive proposal will be given a technical score (St). A proposal shall be rejected if it does not respond to important aspects of the Terms of Reference or if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in the Data Sheet.</p> <p>5.4 In the case of Quality-Based Selection, Selection Based on Consultant's Qualifications, and Single-Source Selection, the highest ranked firm, or the firm selected on a single-source basis, is invited to negotiate a contract on the basis of the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal submitted in accordance with the instructions given in paragraph 1.2 and the Data Sheet.</p>
Public Opening and Evaluation of Financial Proposals: Ranking (QCBS, Fixed-Budget, and Least-Cost Selection Methods Only)	<p>5.5 After the evaluation of technical quality is completed, the Client shall notify those consultants whose proposals did not meet the minimum qualifying score or were considered non-responsive to the RFP and Terms of Reference, indicating that their Financial Proposals will be returned unopened after completing the selection process. The Client shall simultaneously notify the consultants that have secured the minimum qualifying score, indicating the date and time set for opening the Financial Proposals. The opening date shall not be sooner than one week after the notification date. The notification may be sent by registered letter, facsimile, or electronic mail.</p> <p>5.6 The Financial Proposals shall be opened publicly in the presence of the consultants' representatives who choose to attend. The name of the consultant, the technical scores, and the proposed prices shall be read aloud and recorded as the Financial Proposals are opened. The Client shall prepare minutes of the public opening.</p> <p>5.7 The evaluation committee will determine whether the Financial Proposals are complete (i.e., whether they have cost all items of the corresponding Technical Proposals; if not, the Client will cost them and add their cost to the initial price), correct any computational errors, and convert prices in various currencies to the single currency specified in the Data Sheet. The official selling rates used, provided by the source indicated in the Data Sheet, will be those in effect on the date indicated in the Data Sheet. The evaluation shall exclude those taxes, duties, fees, levies, and other charges imposed that are subject to the African Union exemption on the payment of taxes and duties, and estimated as per paragraph 3.7.</p> <p>5.8 In case of QCBS, the lowest priced Financial Proposal (Fm) will be given a financial score (Sf) of 100 points. The financial scores (Sf) of the other Financial Proposals will be computed as indicated</p>

in the Data Sheet. Proposals will be ranked according to their combined technical (*St*) and financial (*Sf*) scores using the weights (T = the weighting for the Technical Proposal; P = the weighting for the Financial Proposal as indicated in the Data Sheet. T + P = 1); The firm achieving the highest combined technical and financial score using the formula below would be invited for negotiations

$$S = St \times T\% + Sf \times P\%$$

- 5.9. In the case of Fixed-Budget Selection, the Client will select the firm that submitted the highest ranked Technical Proposal within the indicated budget price. Proposals that exceed the indicated budget will be rejected. In the case of the Least-Cost Selection, the Client will select the lowest evaluated cost proposal among those that passed the minimum technical score. The selected firm will be invited for negotiations.

6. Negotiations

- 6.1 Negotiations will be held at the address indicated in the Data Sheet. The aim is to reach agreement on all points and sign a contract.
- 6.2 Negotiations will include a discussion of the Technical Proposal, the proposed methodology (work-plan), staffing, and any suggestions made by the firm to improve the Terms of Reference. The Client and firm will then agree final Terms of Reference, staffing, and bar charts indicating activities, staff, periods in the field and in the home office, staff-months, logistics, and reporting. The agreed work plan and final Terms of Reference will then be incorporated in the “Description of Services” and form part of the contract. Special attention will be paid to getting the most the firm can offer within the available budget and to clearly defining the inputs required from the Client to ensure satisfactory implementation of the assignment.
- 6.3 Financial negotiations will reflect agreed technical modifications in the cost of the services and will include a clarification of the firm’s tax liability (if any) in the Country specified for performance of the Services, and the manner in which it will be reflected in the contract. The financial negotiations will not normally involve either the remuneration rates for staff (no breakdown of fees), or other proposed unit rates under QCBS, Fixed-Budget Selection, or the Least-Cost Selection methods. For other methods of selection, an Appendix will be provided for the firm to explain the required information on remuneration rates.
- 6.4 Having selected the firm on the basis including an evaluation of proposed key professional staff, the Client expects to negotiate a contract on the basis of the experts named in the proposal. Before contract negotiations, the Client will require assurances that the proposed experts will be actually available. The Client will not consider substitutions during contract negotiations unless both parties agree that undue delay in the selection process makes such substitution unavoidable or that such changes are critical to meet

the objectives of the assignment. If this is not the case and if it is established that key staff were offered in the proposal without confirming their availability, the firm may be disqualified.

- 6.5 The negotiations will conclude with a review of the draft form of the contract. On completion of negotiations, the Client and the firm will initial the agreed contract. If negotiations fail, the Client will invite the firm whose proposal received the second highest score to negotiate a Contract.

7. Award of Contract

- 7.1 The contract will be awarded following negotiations. After negotiations are completed, the Client will promptly notify other consultants on the shortlist that they were unsuccessful and return the unopened Financial Proposals of those consultants who did not pass the technical evaluation (paragraph 5.3).
- 7.2 The firm is expected to commence the assignment on the date and at the location specified in the Data Sheet.

8. Confidentiality

- 8.1 Information relating to the evaluation of proposals and recommendations concerning awards shall not be disclosed to the consultants who submitted the proposals or to other persons not officially concerned with the process, until the winning firm has been notified that it has been awarded the contract.

Section 3: Data Sheet

ITC Clause Reference

ITC Clause 1.1 The name of the Client is: **African Union Commission**

The method of selection is: **Quality and Cost Based Selection Method**
The Weights shall be 80% quality and 20% Cost.

ITC Clause 1.2 The name, and Procurement Number of the assignment are: **HIRING OF A CUSTODIAN BANK FOR THE AFRICAN UNION PEACE FUND.**
Procurement Number: AUC/PFS/C/001

ITC Clause 1.5 The Client will provide the following inputs:

Terms of Reference in English and French are attached with this bid document.

ITC Clause 2.1 Clarifications may be requested not less than Seven (7) days before the submission deadline.

The address for requesting clarifications:

tender@africa-union.org

(+251) 11 5517700, Ext 4341

ITC Clause 3.1 **Proposals should be submitted in English or French Language.**

ITC Clause 3.3(iv) The minimum required experience of proposed professional experts is:
Refer to the **Terms of Reference**

ITC Clause 3.3(vi) **Reports under the assignment shall be submitted in all AU Six Languages** as mentioned in the **Terms of Reference.**

ITC Clause 3.4(viii) Additional information required in the Technical and Financial Proposals are: *Refer to Terms of Reference (TOR)*

ITC Clause 3.10 **Proposals must remain valid for ninety (90) days after the submission date.**

ITC Clause 4.3 **Consultants must submit the Technical and Financial proposals separately** to the email address mentioned in the Invitation to Bid. To ensure the integrity of the bidding process, **the financial proposals must be password- protected.** Bidders who meet the minimum technical pass mark shall officially be requested to provide password for their financial proposal.

Bidders shall ensure that their electronic submissions are fully functional. **The Commission will not accept any claim of password malfunctioning or corrupted file as a basis for the replacement of the financial proposal with new submission.**

ITC Clause 4.4 The address for submission of proposals is: tender@africa-union.org

ITC Clause 4.5 Proposals must be submitted no later than: **15:00 hours Addis Ababa time on 20 May 2025. Late bids will be rejected.** The subject of the e-mail shall be the title of the procurement, the procurement number and name of bidder. **Bid opening will be held, immediately after the deadline for submission.**

ITC Clause 5.1 The addresses for communications to the Client are:
Supply Chain Management Division, African Union Commission, Building C, 3rd Floor, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. e-mail: tender@africa-union.org +251 11 551 7700 Ext. 4341

ITC Clause 5.2 Preliminary Technical and Financial evaluation shall be based on the following **mandatory documents submitted:**

- (i) Certified copy of Certificate of incorporation (Company Registration);
 - (ii) At Least 3 Contactable references for work done on similar assignment in the past 3 years.
 - (iii) Company profile demonstrating at least 20 years' experience
 - (iv) CVs of proposed Experts with their Certified copies of Academic and professional Qualifications
 - (v) Statements of Availability for the proposed experts for assignment period.
 - (vi) Duly signed Technical and Financial Proposal Standard Forms.
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ITC Clause 5.3: The number of points to be given under each of the technical evaluation criteria are:

Area	Points
<p><u>Institutional Experience and Reputation</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Custodian Bank shall have at least 20 years of experience in providing custodial services to institutional investors, sovereign funds, pension funds, or multilateral organizations. 2. The Custodian Bank shall submit the listing of individuals in each of the below job Functions (number of employees, average years of experience, and average years of tenure) and the certified academic credentials and curriculum vitae of key dedicated personnel for the custody service: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Compliance Personnel 2.2. Research Analysts 2.3. Traders 2.4. Economists 2.5. Clients Services 2.6. Marketing 2.7. Others Staff 2.8. Total Firm Employees 3. The Custodian Bank shall have a track record of robust and competent management of at least \$5 billion Assets Under Custody (AUC). 4. Presence in at least five major financial markets, with capabilities to safeguard multi-currency investments across different jurisdictions. 5. The Custodian Bank to include written references from at least 3 current large institutional clients who have been using their custodial service for a minimum of five years. 	30
<p><u>Registration</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. The Custodian should be Fully licensed and regulated under any of all African Member States jurisdiction, and international financial bodies such as Basel III, IFRS, IPSAS. 	7
<p><u>Regulatory Compliance</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. The Custodian Bank shall provide the following policies: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7.1. AML/KYC Policy; 7.2. Compliance and Risk Management Policy; 7.3. Conflict of Interest; 7.4. Personal Account Trading Policy; 7.5. Proxy Voting Policy; 7.6. Adherence to Client Guidelines Policy, International Financial Regulations; 7.7. ESG Criteria Policy; and 7.8. Alignment with FATF recommendations ensuring strict compliance for all clients. 8. No major regulatory fines or unresolved compliance issues in the last five years. 9. Investment Policy Compliance Monitoring: Real-time compliance tracking with automated alerts for breaches. 	13
<p><u>Financial Soundness and Risk Management</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Credit rating: A minimum Investment-grade credit rating (BBB or higher) from Moody's, S&P, or Fitch, Preferably A- rated or above. 	10

11. Risk Management Framework: A comprehensive risk management framework covering counterparty risk, market risk, operational risk, and liquidity risk. 12. Internal Audits and Reconciliations: Internal audits should be conducted at least quarterly , with full transparency on findings. 13. Fraud Prevention Mechanism: Use of IT-based fraud detection system, multifactor authentication, and real-time transaction monitoring.	
Methodology 14. Coordination with Multiple Fund Managers: Ability to handle at least 4 Fund managers under one custodial structure while ensuring operational efficiency 15. Trade Settlement Timeline: T+2 or faster for equities and fixed income. Same-day settlement for FX transactions. 16. Corporate Actions Processing: A fully automated system for handling corporate actions, dividends, interest payments, and proxy voting. 17. Custodial Technology Platform: A secure, web-based custody platform with real-time separate access for AUPFS and Fund Managers to portfolio holdings, trade, reconciliations, and investment reporting, valuation on book and market value basis (daily, monthly, quarterly, and annually) 18. Cash & Liquidity Management: Real-time cash flow forecasting and ability to optimize liquidity across multiple accounts . 19. Dedicated Relationship Manager & 24/7 Support: Assignment of a dedicated account manager with 24/7 global support via phone, email, and online platform. 20. Cybersecurity Measures: Compliance with ISO 27001(Information Security Management System) and multi-layered encryption for data protection. 21. System Integration with Fund Managers: Ability to seamlessly integrate with multiple fund managers' platforms via API or secure data feeds. 22. Data Backup and Disaster Recovery: Automated Backups every 24 hours and a disaster recovery site with failover mechanisms ensuring 99.99% uptime. 23. Automated Compliance Tracking: The system should have built-in alerts for breaches of investment policies, risk limits, and regulatory thresholds. 24. Assisting in Financial Statement Preparation: Contributing in preparation of monthly, quarterly and annually financial statement providing accurate data for accounting and finance.	40
TOTAL	100

NOTE: The minimum technical score (St) required to pass is: 70%

ITC Clause 5.7 The single currency for price conversions is: **United States Dollars**

The source of official exchange rates is: prevailing UN rate.

The date of exchange rates is **the deadline for bid submission**

ITC Clause 5.8 The Final Score shall be computed as: **80% Quality and 20% Cost**

ITC Clause 6.1 Negotiations, if required will be held at:
The African Union Commission,
P. O. Box 3243,
Roosevelt Street, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

ITC Clause 7.2 The assignment is expected to commence immediately after contract signing.

Section 4:
Terms of Reference / *Terme de référence*

See attached files

Section 5: Mandatory Technical Proposal - Standard Forms

- 5A. Technical Proposal submission form.
- 5B. References.
- 5C. Comments and suggestion of Consultants on the TOR.
- 5D. Description of the Methodology and Work Plan.
- 5E. Team composition and Task Assignments
- 5F. Format of Curriculum Vitae (CV)

5A: Technical Proposal Submission Form

{*Location, Date*}

To: {*Name and address of Client*}

Sir / Madam:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for {*Title of consulting services and Procurement Number*} in accordance with your Request for Proposals dated {*Date*} and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our technical Proposal,

If negotiations are held during the period of validity of the Proposal, i.e., before {*Date*} we undertake to negotiate on the basis of the proposed staff. Our Proposal is binding upon us and subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations.

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

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature:
Name and Title of Signatory:
Name of Firm:
Address:

5B. REFERENCES

Relevant Services Carried Out in the Past Five Years That Best Illustrate Qualifications

Using the format below, provide information on each assignment for which your firm/entity, either individually as a corporate entity or as one of the major companies within an association, was legally contracted.

Assignment Name:		Country:
Location within Country:		Professional Staff Provided by Your Firm/Entity(profiles):
Name of Client:		No. of Staff:
Address:		No. of Staff-Months; Duration of Assignment:
Start Date (Month/Year):	Completion Date (Month/Year):	Approx. Value of Services (in Current US\$):
Name of Associated Consultants, If Any:		No. of Months of Professional Staff Provided by associated Consultants:
Name of Senior Staff (Project Director/Coordinator, Team Leader) Involved and Functions Performed:		
Narrative Description of Project:		
Description of Actual Services Provided by Your Staff:		

Firm's Name: _____

**5C. COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS OF CONSULTANTS ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND
ON DATA, SERVICES, AND FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE CLIENT**

On the Terms of Reference:

- 1.
- 2.

On the data, services, and facilities to be provided by the Client:

- 1.
- 2.

5D. DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODOLOGY AND WORK PLAN FOR PERFORMING THE ASSIGNMENT

5E. TEAM COMPOSITION AND TASK ASSIGNMENTS

1. Technical/Managerial Staff		
Name	Position	Task

2. Support Staff		
Name	Position	Task

5F. FORMAT OF CURRICULUM VITAE (CV)

Proposed Position: _____

Name of Firm: _____

Name of Staff: _____

Profession: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Years with Firm/Entity: _____ Nationality: _____

Membership in Professional Societies: _____

Detailed Tasks Assigned: _____

Key Qualifications:

{ Give an outline of staff member's experience and training most pertinent to tasks on assignment. Describe degree of responsibility held by staff member on relevant previous assignments and give dates and locations. Use about half a page. }

Education:

{ Summarize college/university and other specialized education of staff member, giving names of schools, dates attended, and degrees obtained. Use about one quarter of a page. }

Languages:

{ For each language indicate proficiency: excellent, good, fair, or poor in speaking, reading, and writing. }

Employment Record:

{Starting with present position, list in reverse order every employment held. List all positions held by staff member since graduation, giving dates, names of employing organizations, titles of positions held, and locations of assignments. For experience in last ten years, also give types of activities performed and client references, where appropriate. Use about two pages.}

Certification:

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, these data correctly describe me, my qualifications, and my experience.

Date: _____

{Signature of staff member and authorized representative of the firm} Day/Month/Year

Full name of staff member: _____

Full name of authorized representative: _____

Section 6: Mandatory Financial Proposal - Standard Forms

- 6A. Financial Proposal Submission Form.
- 6B. Summary of Costs.
- 6C. Breakdown of price per activity.
- 6D. Reimbursable per activity.
- 6E. Miscellaneous expenses.

6A. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

{Date}

To: {Name and address of Client}

Sir / Madam:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for {Title of consulting services and Procurement Number} in accordance with your Request for Proposals dated {Date} and our Proposal (Technical and Financial Proposals). Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of {Amount in words and figures}. This amount is exclusive of the local taxes which shall be identified during negotiations and shall be added to the above amount.

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations, up to expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, i.e., {Date}.

Commissions and gratuities, if any, paid or to be paid by us to agents relating to this Proposal and Contract execution, if we are awarded the Contract, are listed below:

Name and Address of Agents	Amount and Currency	Purpose of Commission or Gratuity
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature:
Name and Title of Signatory:
Name of Firm:
Address:

6B. SUMMARY OF COSTS

Cost Elements	Currency(ies) ⁶	Amount(s)
Total Amount of Financial Proposal		

⁶ Maximum of three currencies in addition to the Currency of the Country specified for performance of the Services.

6C. BREAKDOWN OF PRICE PER ACTIVITY

Activity No.:_____

Description:_____

Price Component	Currency(ies)	Amount(s)
Remuneration		
Reimbursables		
Miscellaneous Expenses		
Subtotal		_____

6D. REIMBURSABLE PER ACTIVITY

Activity No: _____

Name of Activity: _____

Item No.	Description	Unit	Quantity	Currency	Unit Price	Total Amount
1.	International flights	Trip				
2.	Miscellaneous travel expenses	Trip				
3.	Subsistence allowance	Day				
4.	Local transportation costs ⁷					
5.	Office rent/accommodation/ clerical assistance					
	Grand Total					_____

⁷ Local transportation costs are not included if local transportation is being made available by the Client. Similarly, in the project site, office rent/accommodations/clerical assistance costs are not to be included if being made available by the Client.

6E. MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

Activity No. _____

Activity Name: _____

Item No.	Description	Unit	Quantity	Currency	Unit Price	Total Amount
1.	Communication costs between _____					
2.	and _____					
3.	Drafting, reproduction of reports					
4.	Equipment: vehicles, computers, photocopiers, etc.					
5.	Software					
	Other (specify)					
	Grand Total					_____ _____

Section 7. Standard Form of Contract

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1. Form of Contract

COMPLEX LUMP-SUM PAYMENT

This CONTRACT (hereinafter called the “Contract”) is made the [day] day of the month of [month], [year], between, on the one hand, [name of client] (hereinafter called the “Client”) and, on the other hand, [name of consultants] (hereinafter called the “Consultants”).

[Note: If the Consultants consist of more than one entity, the above should be partially amended to read as follows: “...(hereinafter called the “Client”) and, on the other hand, a joint venture consisting of the following entities, each of which will be jointly and severally liable to the Client for all the Consultants’ obligations under this Contract, namely, [name of consultants] and [name of consultants] (hereinafter called the “Consultants”).]

WHEREAS

- (a) the Client has requested the Consultants to provide certain consulting services as defined in the General Conditions of Contract attached to this Contract (hereinafter called the “Services”);
- (b) the Consultants, having represented to the Client that they have the required professional skills, and personnel and technical resources, have agreed to provide the Services on the terms and conditions set forth in this Contract;
- (c) the Client has received funding towards the cost of the Services and intends to apply a portion of this funding to eligible payments under this Contract;

NOW THEREFORE the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

1. The following documents attached hereto shall be deemed to form an integral part of this Contract:
 - (a) The Special Conditions of Contract;
 - (b) The General Conditions of Contract;
 - (c) The following Appendices: *[Note: If any of these Appendices are not used, the words “Not Used” should be inserted below next to the title of the Appendix and on the sheet attached hereto carrying the title of that Appendix.]*

Appendix A: Description of the Services

Appendix B: Reporting Requirements

Appendix C: Key Personnel and Sub-Consultants

Appendix D: Breakdown of Contract Price in Foreign Currency

Appendix E: Breakdown of Contract Price in Local Currency

Appendix F: Services and Facilities Provided by the Client

Appendix G: Form of Bank Guarantee for Advance Payments

2. The mutual rights and obligations of the Client and the Consultants shall be as set forth in the Contract, in particular:

- (a) The Consultants shall carry out the Services in accordance with the provisions of the Contract; and
- (b) the Client shall make payments to the Consultants in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Contract to be signed in their respective names as of the day and year first above written.

For and on behalf of *[name of client]*

[Authorized Representative]

For and on behalf of *[name of consultants]*

[Authorized Representative]

[Note: If the Consultants consist of more than one entity, all these entities should appear as signatories, e.g., in the following manner:]

For and on behalf of each of the Members of the Consultants

[name of member]

[Authorized Representative]

[name of member]

[Authorized Representative]

2. General Conditions of Contract

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 Definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms whenever used in this Contract have the following meanings:

- (a) “Applicable Law” means International Law;
- (b) “Contract” means the Contract signed by the Parties, to which these General Conditions of Contract (GCC) are attached, together with all the documents listed in Clause 1 of such signed Contract;
- (c) “Contract Price” means the price to be paid for the performance of the Services, in accordance with GCC Clause 6;
- (d) “Country specified for performance of the Services” means the Country specified in the SCC;
- (e) “Effective Date” means the date on which this Contract comes into force and effect pursuant to GCC Clause 2.1;
- (f) “Foreign Currency” means any currency other than Currency of the Country specified for performance of the Services;
- (g) “GCC” means these General Conditions of Contract;
- (h) “Local Currency” means the Currency of the Country specified for performance of the Services;
- (i) “Member,” in case the Consultants consist of a joint venture of more than one entity, means any of these entities; “Members” means all these entities, and “Member in Charge” means the entity specified in the SCC to act on their behalf in exercising all the Consultants’ rights and obligations towards the Client under this Contract;
- (j) “Party” means the Client or the Consultants, as the case may be, and “Parties” means both of them;
- (k) “Personnel” means persons hired by the Consultants or by any Sub-Consultant as employees and assigned to the performance of the Services or any part thereof. “Foreign Personnel” means such persons who at the time of being so hired had their domicile outside the Country specified for the performance of the Services. “Local Personnel” means such persons who at the time of being so hired had their domicile within the Country specified

for performance of the Services. “Key Personnel” means the Personnel referred to in GCC Clause 4.2(a).

- (l) “SCC” means the Special Conditions of Contract by which the GCC may be amended or supplemented;
- (m) “Services” means the work to be performed by the Consultants pursuant to this Contract, as described in Appendix A hereto;
- (n) “Sub-Consultant” means any person or entity to whom/which the Consultants subcontract any part of the Services in accordance with the provisions of GCC Clauses 3.5 and 4.
- (o) “Third Party” means any person or entity other than the Client, the Consultants or a Sub-Consultant.

- 1.2 Law Governing the Contract**

This Contract, its meaning and interpretation, and the relation between the Parties shall be governed by the Applicable Law.
- 1.3 Language**

This Contract has been executed in the language specified in the SCC, which shall be the binding and controlling language for all matters relating to the meaning or interpretation of this Contract.
- 1.4 Notices**

Any notice, request, or consent made pursuant to this Contract shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been made when delivered in person to an authorised representative of the Party to whom the communication is addressed, or when to such Party at the address specified in the SCC.
- 1.5 Location**

The Services shall be performed at such locations as are specified in Appendix A and, where the location of a particular task is not so specified, at such locations as the Client may approve.
- 1.6 Authorized Representatives**

Any action required or permitted to be taken, and any document required or permitted to be executed, under this Contract by the Client or the Consultants may be taken or executed by the officials specified in the SCC.
- 1.7 Taxes & Duties**
 - 1.7.1 African Union Exemption from Taxes & Duties**

The African Union and its organs are exempted from all direct taxes and are exempted from customs duties in respect of articles imported or exported for its official use in conformity with the General Convention on Privileges and Immunities. Accordingly, the Consultant authorizes the Commission of the African Union (AUC) to deduct from payments any amount representing such taxes or duties charged to the African Union by the Consultant. In the event that any taxing authority

refuses to accept the African Union's exemption from such taxes or duties, the Consultant shall immediately consult with the AUC.

**1.7.2 Consultant
Obligations on
Taxes &
Duties**

A Consultant shall be responsible for obtaining exemption for the African Union of all such taxes, duties, license fees, and other impositions incurred within African Union Member States, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the AUC.

Consultants, Sub-Consultants, and their Personnel shall pay such other taxes, duties, fees, and other impositions as may be levied by the law of their domicile country.

2. COMMENCEMENT, COMPLETION, MODIFICATION, AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

**2.1 Effectiveness of
Contract**

This Contract shall come into force and effect on the date (the "Effective Date") of the Client's Letter of Acceptance instructing the Consultants to begin carrying out the Services. This notice shall confirm that the effectiveness conditions, if any, listed in the SCC have been met.

**2.2 Commencement of
Services**

The Consultants shall begin carrying out the Services thirty (30) days after the date the Contract becomes effective, or at such other date as may be specified in the SCC.

**2.3 Expiration of
Contract**

Unless terminated earlier pursuant to Clause 2.6, this Contract shall terminate at the end of such time period after the Effective Date as is specified in the SCC.

2.4 Modification

Modification of the terms and conditions of this Contract, including any modification of the scope of the Services or of the Contract Price, may only be made by written agreement between the Parties.

2.5 Force Majeure

2.5.1 Definition

- (a) For the purposes of this Contract, "Force Majeure" means an event which is beyond the reasonable control of a Party and which makes a Party's performance of its obligations under the Contract impossible or so impractical as to be considered impossible under the circumstances. Force Majeure includes, but is not limited to, war, riots, civil disorder, earthquake, fire, explosion, storm, flood or other adverse weather conditions, strikes, lockouts or other industrial action (except where such strikes, lockouts or other industrial action are within the power of the Party invoking Force Majeure to prevent), confiscation or any other action by government agencies.

- (b) Force Majeure shall not include (i) any event which is caused by the negligence or intentional action of a Party or such Party's Sub-Consultants or agents or employees, nor (ii) any event which a diligent Party could reasonably have been expected to both: (a) take into account at the time of the conclusion of this Contract; and (b) avoid or overcome in the carrying out of its obligations under this Contract.
- (c) Force Majeure shall not include insufficiency of funds or failure to make any payment required under the Contract.

2.5.2 No Breach of Contract

The failure of a Party to fulfill any of its obligations under the contract shall not be considered to be a breach of, or default under, this Contract insofar as such inability arises from an event of Force Majeure, provided that the Party affected by such an event: (a) has taken all reasonable precautions, due care and reasonable alternative measures in order to carry out the terms and conditions of this Contract; and (b) has informed the other Party as soon as possible about the occurrence of such an event.

2.5.3 Extension of Time

Any period within which a Party shall, pursuant to this Contract, complete any action or task, shall be extended for a period equal to the time during which such Party was unable to perform such action as a result of Force Majeure.

2.5.4 Payments

During the period of their inability to perform the Services as a result of an event of Force Majeure, the Consultants shall be entitled to continue to be paid under the terms of this Contract, as well as to be reimbursed for additional costs reasonably and necessarily incurred by them during such period for the purposes of the Services and in reactivating the Service after the end of such period.

2.6 Termination

2.6.1 By the Client

The Client may terminate this Contract, by not less than thirty (30) days' written notice of termination to the Consultants, to be given after the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this GCC Clause 2.6.1 and sixty (60) days' in the case of the event referred to in (e):

- (a) if the Consultants do not remedy a failure in the performance of their obligations under the Contract, within thirty (30) days after being notified or within any further period as the Client may have subsequently approved in writing;
- (b) if the Consultants become insolvent or bankrupt;
- (c) if, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultants are unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) days;

(a) if the Consultant, in the judgment of the Client has engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices in competing for or in executing the Contract. For the purpose of this clause:

“corrupt practice”⁸ is the offering, giving, receiving or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence improperly the actions of another party;

“fraudulent practice”⁹ is any act or omission including a misrepresentation that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation;

“collusive practice”¹⁰ is an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to influence improperly the actions of another party;

“coercive practice”¹¹ is impairing or harming or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence improperly the actions of a party;

“obstructive practice” is deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing of evidence material to any investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede any investigation into allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation;

(e) if the Client, in its sole discretion, decides to terminate this Contract.

⁸ “another party” refers to an officer of the AU acting in relation to the procurement process or contract execution. In this context, “officer of the AU” includes staff and employees of other organisations taking or reviewing procurement decisions.

⁹ a “party” refers to any officer of the AU; the terms “benefit” and “obligation” relate to the procurement process or contract execution; and the “act or omission” is intended to influence the procurement process or contract execution.

¹⁰ “parties” refers to any participants in the procurement process (including officers of the AU) attempting to establish bid prices at artificial, non competitive levels.

¹¹ a “party” refers to any participant in the procurement process or contract execution.

2.6.2 By the Consultants

The Consultants may terminate this Contract, by not less than thirty (30) days' written notice to the Client, such notice to be given after the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this GCC Clause 2.6.2:

- (a) if the Client fails to pay any monies due to the Consultants pursuant to this Contract and not subject to dispute pursuant to GCC Clause 7 within forty-five (45) days after receiving written notice from the Consultants that such payment is overdue; or
- (b) if, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultants are unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) days.

2.6.3 Payment upon Termination

Upon termination of this Contract pursuant to GCC Clauses 2.6.1 or 2.6.2, the Client shall make the following payments to the Consultants:

- (a) remuneration pursuant to GCC Clause 6 for Services satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of termination;
- (b) except in the case of termination pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of GCC Clause 2.6.1, reimbursement of any reasonable cost incident to the prompt and orderly termination of the Contract, including the cost of the return travel of the Personnel and their eligible dependents.

2.7 Entire Agreement

This Contract contains all covenants, stipulations and provisions agreed by the Parties. No agent or representative of either Party has authority to make, and the Parties shall not be bound by or be liable for, any statement, representation, promise or agreement not set forth within the Contract or written modifications thereto pursuant to GCC Clause 2.4.

3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CONSULTANTS

3.1 General

3.1.1 Standard of Performance

The Consultants shall perform the Services and carry out their obligations with all due diligence, efficiency, and economy, in accordance with generally accepted professional techniques and practices, and shall observe sound management practices, and

employ appropriate advanced technology and safe methods. The Consultants shall always act, in respect of any matter relating to this Contract or to the Services, as faithful advisers to the Client, and shall at all times support and safeguard the Client's legitimate interests in any dealings with Sub-Consultants or Third Parties.

3.2 Conflict of Interests

3.2.1 Consultants Not to Benefit from Commissions, Discounts, etc.

The remuneration of the Consultants pursuant to GCC Clause 6 shall constitute the Consultants' sole remuneration in connection with this Contract or the Services, and the Consultants shall not accept for their own benefit any trade commission, discount, or similar payment in connection with activities pursuant to this Contract or to the Services or in the discharge of their obligations under the Contract, and the Consultants shall use their best efforts to ensure that the Personnel, any Sub-Consultants, and agents of either of them similarly shall not receive any such additional remuneration.

3.2.2 Compliance with Procurement Rules

If the Consultants, as part of the Services, have the responsibility of advising the Client on the procurement of goods, works or services, the Consultants shall comply with the African Union procurement regulations and at all times exercise such responsibility in the best interest of the Client. Any discounts or commissions obtained by the Consultants in the exercise of such procurement responsibility shall be for the account of the Client.

3.2.3 Consultants and Affiliates Not to be Otherwise Interested in Project

The Consultants agree that, during the term of this Contract and after its termination, the Consultants and their affiliates, as well as any Sub-Consultant and any of its affiliates, 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.

3.2.4 Prohibition of Conflicting Activities

Neither the Consultants nor their Sub-Consultants nor the Personnel shall engage, either directly or indirectly, in any of the following activities:

- (a) during the term of this Contract, any business or professional activities in the Country specified for performance of the Services which would conflict with the activities assigned to them under this Contract; or

- (b) after the termination of this Contract, such other activities as may be specified in the SCC.

3.3 Confidentiality

The Consultants, their Sub-Consultants, and the Personnel of either of them shall not, either during the term or within two (2) years after the expiration of this Contract, disclose any proprietary or confidential information relating to the Project, the Services, this Contract, or the Client's business or operations without the prior written consent of the Client.

3.4 Insurance to be Taken Out by the Consultants

The Consultants (a) shall take out and maintain, and shall cause any Sub-Consultants to take out and maintain, at their own cost but on terms and conditions approved by the Client, insurance against the risks, and for the coverage, specified in the SCC; and (b) at the Client's request, shall provide evidence to the Client showing that such insurance has been taken out and maintained and that the current premiums have been paid.

3.5 Consultants' Actions Requiring Client's Prior Approval

The Consultants shall obtain the Client's prior approval in writing before taking any of the following actions:

- (a) entering into a sub-contract for the performance of any part of the Services,
- (b) appointing such members of the Personnel not listed by name in Appendix C ("Key Personnel and Sub-Consultants"), and
- (c) any other action that may be specified in the SCC.

3.6 Reporting Obligations

The Consultants shall submit to the Client the reports and documents and software specified in Appendix B in the form, in the numbers, and within the periods set forth in the said Appendix.

3.7 Documents Prepared by the Consultants to Be the Property of the Client

All plans, drawings, specifications, designs, reports, other documents and software submitted by the Consultants in accordance with Clause 3.6 shall become and remain the property of the Client, and the Consultants shall, not later than upon termination or expiration of this Contract, deliver all such documents and software to the Client, together with a detailed inventory thereof. The Consultants may retain a copy of such documents and software. Restrictions about the future use of these documents, if any, shall be specified in the SCC.

4. CONSULTANTS' PERSONNEL

4.1 Description of Personnel

The titles, agreed job descriptions, minimum qualifications, and estimated periods of engagement in the carrying out of the Services of the Consultants' Key Personnel are described in Appendix C. The Key Personnel and Sub-Consultants listed by title as well as by name in Appendix C are hereby approved by the Client.

4.2 Removal and/or Replacement of Personnel

- (a) Except as the Client may otherwise agree, no changes shall be made in the Key Personnel. If, for any reason beyond the reasonable control of the Consultants, it becomes necessary to replace any of the Key Personnel, the Consultants shall provide as a replacement a person of equivalent or better qualifications.
- (b) If the Client finds that any of the Personnel have (i) committed serious misconduct or have been charged with having committed a criminal action, or (ii) has reasonable cause to be dissatisfied with the performance of any of the Personnel, then the Consultants shall, at the Client's written request specifying the grounds thereof, provide as a replacement a person with qualifications and experience acceptable to the Client.
- (c) The Consultants shall have no claim for additional costs arising out of or incidental to any removal and/or replacement of Personnel.

5. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CLIENT

5.1 Assistance and Exemptions

Unless otherwise specified in the SCC, the Client shall use its best efforts to ensure that the African Union Commission shall:

- (a) provide the Consultants, Sub-Consultants and Personnel with work permits and such other documents as shall be necessary to enable the Consultants, Sub-Consultants or Personnel to perform the Services;
- (b) arrange for the 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 Country specified for performance of the Services;
- (c) facilitate prompt clearance through customs of any property required for the Services and of the personal effects of the Personnel and their eligible dependents;
- (d) issue to officials, agents and representatives of the African Union Commission all such instructions as may be necessary or appropriate for the prompt and effective implementation of the Services;
- (e) exempt the Consultants and the Personnel and any Sub-Consultants employed by the Consultants for the Services 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 Laws of the Country specified for performance of the Services;

- (f) grant to the Consultants, any Sub-Consultants and their Personnel the privilege, pursuant to the Applicable Law, of bringing into the Country specified for performance of the Services 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

5.2 Modification of Contract Sum

If, after the date of this Contract, there is any change with respect to a failure by the Client to gain exemption from taxes and duties which increases the cost of the services rendered by the Consultants, then the remuneration and reimbursable expenses otherwise payable to the Consultants under this Contract shall be increased accordingly by agreement between the Parties, and corresponding adjustments shall be made to the ceiling amounts referred to in GCC Clauses 6.1 and 6.2.

5.3 Services and Facilities

The Client shall make available to the Consultants, free of any charge, the Services and Facilities listed under Appendix F.

6. PAYMENTS TO THE CONSULTANTS

6.1 Lump-Sum Remuneration

The Consultant's total remuneration shall not exceed the Contract Price and shall be a fixed lump-sum including all staff costs, Sub-Consultants' costs, printing, communications, travel, accommodation, and the like, and all other costs incurred by the Consultant in carrying out the Services described in Appendix A. Except as provided in GCC Clause 5.2, the Contract Price may only be increased above the amounts stated in GCC Clause 6.2 if the Parties have agreed to additional payments in accordance with GCC Clause 2.4.

6.2 Contract Price

- (a) The price payable in foreign currency is set forth in the SCC.
- (b) The price payable in local currency is set forth in the SCC.

6.3 Payment for Additional Services

For the purpose of determining the remuneration due for additional services as may be agreed under Clause 2.4, a breakdown of the lump-sum price is provided in Appendices D and E.

**6.4 Terms and
Conditions of
Payment**

Payments will be made to the account of the Consultants and according to the payment schedule stated in the SCC. Unless otherwise stated in the SCC, the first payment shall be an advance payment made against the provision by the Consultants of a bank guarantee for the same amount, and shall be valid for the period stated in the SCC. Any other payment shall be made after the conditions listed in the SCC for such payment have been met, and the Consultants have submitted an invoice to the Client specifying the amount due.

**6.5 Interest on
Delayed
Payments**

If the Client has delayed payments beyond ninety (90) days after receipt by the Client, interest shall be paid to the Consultants for each day of delay at the rate stated in the SCC.

7. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

**7.1 Amicable
Settlement**

The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably all disputes arising out of or in connection with this Contract or its interpretation.

**7.2 Dispute
Settlement**

Any dispute between the Parties as to matters arising pursuant to this Contract that cannot be settled amicably within thirty (30) days after receipt by one Party of the other Party's request for such amicable settlement may be submitted by either Party for settlement in accordance with the provisions specified in the SCC.

3. Special Conditions of Contract

Number of GCC Clause	Amendments of, and Supplements to, Clauses in the General Conditions of Contract
GCC Clause 1.1 (d)	The Country specified for performance of the Services is:
GCC Clause 1.3	The language of the contract shall be English
GCC Clause 1.4	<p>The addresses for notices are:</p> <p>Client: _____</p> <p>Attention: _____</p> <p>e-mail: _____</p> <p>Facsimile: _____</p> <p>Consultants: _____</p> <p>Attention: _____</p> <p>e-mail: _____</p> <p>Facsimile: _____</p>
GCC Clause 1.6	<p>The Authorized Representatives are:</p> <p>For the Client: _____</p> <p>For the Consultants: _____</p>
GCC Clause 1.7	<p>The Client warrants that the Consultants, the Sub-Consultants and the Personnel shall be exempt from any local taxes, duties, fees, levies and other impositions imposed within the Country specified for performance of the Services on the Consultants, the Sub-Consultants and the Personnel in respect of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="619 1541 1437 1720">(a) any payments whatsoever made to the Consultants, Sub-Consultants and the Personnel (other than nationals or permanent residents of the Country specified for performance of the Services), in connection with the carrying out of the Services; <li data-bbox="619 1753 1437 1962">(b) any equipment, materials and supplies brought into the Country specified for performance of the Services by the Consultants or Sub-Consultants for the purpose of carrying out the Services and which, after having been brought into the country, will be subsequently withdrawn therefrom by them;

- (c) any equipment imported for the purpose of carrying out the Services and paid for out of funds provided by the Client and which is treated as property of the Client;
- (d) any property brought into the Country specified for performance of the Services by the Consultants, any Sub-Consultants or the Personnel (other than nationals or permanent residents of the Country specified for performance of the Services), or the eligible dependents of such Personnel for their personal use and which will subsequently be withdrawn therefrom by them upon their respective departure from the Country specified for performance of the Services, provided that:
 - (1) the Consultants, Sub-Consultants and Personnel, and their eligible dependents, shall follow the usual customs procedures in importing property into the Country specified for performance of the Services; and
 - (2) if the Consultants, Sub-Consultants or Personnel, or their eligible dependents, do not withdraw but dispose of any property in the Country specified for performance of the Services upon which customs duties and taxes have been exempted, the Consultants, Sub-Consultants or Personnel, as the case may be, shall bear such customs duties and taxes in conformity with the regulations of the Country specified for the performance of the Services.

[The issue of local taxes and duties must be discussed and agreed during negotiation in respect of whether the Consultants should have to pay levies of this kind, or should be exempted from any such levies.]

GCC Clause 2.1 The effectiveness of the Contract is subject to the following conditions:
[List any conditions of effectiveness of the Contract. If there are no effectiveness conditions, delete this Clause SCC 2.1 from the SCC.]

GCC Clause 2.3 The time period for expiration of the Contract shall be *[length of time]* or such other time period as the parties may agree in writing.

GCC Clause 3.4 The risks and insurance coverage shall be:

- (a) Third Party motor vehicle liability insurance in respect of motor vehicles operated in the Country specified for performance of the Services by the Consultants or their Personnel or any Sub-Consultants or their Personnel, with a minimum coverage of *[amount]*;
- (b) Third Party liability insurance, with a minimum coverage of *[amount]*;
- (c) professional liability insurance, with a minimum coverage of *[amount]*;

- (d) employer's liability and workers' compensation insurance in respect of the Personnel of the Consultants and of any Sub-Consultant, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Applicable Law, as well as, with respect to such Personnel, any such life, health, accident, travel or other insurance as may be appropriate; and
- (e) insurance against loss of or damage to (i) equipment purchased in whole or in part with funds provided under this Contract, (ii) the Consultants' property used in the performance of the Services, and (iii) any documents prepared by the Consultants in the performance of the Services.

GCC Clause 6.2(a) The amount in foreign currency or currencies is *[insert amount]*.

GCC Clause 6.2(b) The amount in Local Currency is *[insert amount]*.

GCC Clause 6.4 The bank accounts are:

for foreign currency: *[insert account]*

for local currency: *[insert account]*

Payments shall be made according to the following schedule:

[Insert the payment schedule and conditions specifically drafted for this contract.]

Payments shall be made within *[number]* days of receipt of the invoice and the relevant documents specified in Clause 6.4 and within *[number]* days in the case of the final payment.

GCC Clause 6.5 The annual interest rate is *[percentage]*.

GCC Clause 7.2 Settlement of Disputes:

[Note: (a) should always be retained for a Contract with a foreign Supplier (b) is an alternative that may be substituted for a Contract with a Consultant who is a National of the Country specified for the performance of the Services:]

[Example Clauses:]

(a) Contract with a foreign Supplier:

Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Contract, or breach, termination or invalidity thereof, shall be settled

by arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules as at present in force.

(b) Contracts with Consultant firm that is national of the Country specified for performance of the Services:

In the case of a dispute between the Client and a Consultant who is a national of the Country specified for performance of the Services, any dispute shall be settled in accordance with arbitration procedures as agreed between the parties during contract negotiations.

[The arbitration procedures that will apply should be agreed during contract negotiations, and only applicable clauses should be retained in the SCC.]

In any arbitration proceeding hereunder:

- (a) unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, proceedings shall be held in *[location]*;
- (b) the English language shall be the official language for all purposes, with interpretation to other AU working languages when necessary; and
- (c) the decision of the sole arbitrator or of a majority of the arbitrators (or of the third arbitrator if there is no such majority) shall be final and binding.

4. Appendices

APPENDIX A—DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES

[Give detailed descriptions of the Services to be provided, dates for completion of various tasks, place of performance for different tasks, specific tasks to be approved by the Client, etc.]

APPENDIX B—REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

[List format, frequency, and contents of reports; persons to receive them; dates of submission; etc. If no reports are to be submitted, state here “Not applicable.”]

APPENDIX C—KEY PERSONNEL AND SUB-CONSULTANTS

[List under: C-1 Titles [and names, if already available], detailed job descriptions and minimum qualifications of foreign Personnel to be assigned to work in the Country specified for performance of the Services, and staff-months for each.

C-2 Same as C-1 for Key foreign Personnel to be assigned to work outside the Country specified for performance of the Services.

C-3 Same information as C-1 for Key local Personnel.]

C-4 List of approved Sub-Consultants (if already available); same information with respect to their Personnel as in C-1 or C-2.

APPENDIX D—BREAKDOWN OF CONTRACT PRICE IN FOREIGN CURRENCY

[List here the elements of cost used to arrive at the breakdown of the lump-sum price—foreign currency portion:

- 1. Monthly rates for Personnel (Key Personnel and other Personnel).*
- 2. Reimbursable expenditures.*

This appendix will exclusively be used for determining remuneration for any additional services.]

APPENDIX E—BREAKDOWN OF CONTRACT PRICE IN LOCAL CURRENCY

[List here the elements of cost used to arrive at the breakdown of the lump-sum price—local currency portion:]

1. *Monthly rates for Personnel (Key Personnel and other Personnel).*
2. *Reimbursable expenditures.*

This appendix will exclusively be used for determining remuneration for additional services.]

APPENDIX F—SERVICES AND FACILITIES PROVIDED BY THE CLIENT

[List Services, facilities, property and counterpart personnel to be made available to the Consultants by the Client.]

APPENDIX G—FORM OF BANK GUARANTEE FOR ADVANCE PAYMENTS

[Note: See Clause GCC 6.4. The Client should insert here an acceptable form of a bank guarantee. An example is set forth below.]

TO: {Name and Address of Client}
{Name of Contract for Consultants' Services}

Sir / Madam:

In accordance with the provisions of Clause GCC 6.4) of the above-mentioned Contract (hereinafter called “the Contract”), {name and address of Consultant}(hereinafter called “the Consultants”) shall deposit with {name of Client} a bank guarantee to guarantee their proper and faithful performance under the said provisions of the Contract in an amount of {amount of Guarantee}, {amount of Guarantee in words}.³

We, the {bank or financial institution}, as instructed by the Consultants, agree unconditionally and irrevocably to guarantee as primary obligor and not as Surety merely, the payment to [name of Client] on his first demand without whatsoever right of objection on our part and without his first claim to the Consultants, in the amount not exceeding {amount of Guarantee}, {amount of Guarantee in words}.

We further agree that no change or addition to or other modification of the terms of the Contract which may be made between {name of Client} and the Consultants, shall in any way release us from any liability under this guarantee, and we hereby waive notice of any such change, addition or modification.

This guarantee shall remain valid and in full effect from the date of the advance payment under the Contract until [state conditionality for discharge of the bank guarantee as indicated in GCC Clause 6.4 and the SCC].

Yours truly,

Name, Signature and Seal

Name of Bank/Financial Institution

Address

Date

³ An amount is to be inserted by the bank or financial institution as specified in SCC Clause GCC 6.4.