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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

**CONSULTANCY TO DESIGN AND DEVELOP TRAINING MATERIAL ON HUMAN RIGHTS
ENGAGEMENT INCLUDING WOMEN RIGHTS WITH REGIONAL MECHANISMS**

PROCUREMENT NUMBER: AUC/0/018

SECTION I: LETTER OF INVITATION

6th December 2021

Dear Applicants,

REF: BOOK GRAPHICS DESIGNER CONSULTANCY

1. The African Union Commission wishes to recruit highly qualified African experts to undertake the above assignment. The AUC now invites interested **Individual Consultants** to submit CVs for the assignment as per attached Terms of Reference (TORS).
2. A Consultants will be selected under the Fixed Budget Selection method and the pass mark shall be 70%.
3. The Eols must include the following:
 - (i) A Cover Letter outlining the understanding of the assignment and methodology
 - (ii) CV demonstrating experience with similar assignments.
4. The consultant will be paid a lump sum of (USD 5000) for 20 working days.
5. The Eols must be submitted to the following e-mail address: **tender@africa-union.org with a copy to AidarusH@africa-union.org**
6. The title of the Procurement and Procurement Number must appear as subject of e-mail submissions
7. The Deadline for submission of Eols is 20th December 2021 at 1500 hours Addis Ababa Time. Late applications will not be considered.
8. This call for Request for Expressions of Interest comprise of the following:
 - Section I – This Letter of Invitation
 - Section II - Terms of Reference

Yours sincerely,

Ag OSSD

TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONSULTANCY TO DESIGN AND DEVELOP TRAINING MATERIAL ON HUMAN RIGHTS ENGAGEMENT INCLUDING WOMEN RIGHTS WITH REGIONAL MECHANISMS

I. BACKGROUND

Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) and civil society organisations (CSOs) play a critical role promoting social change and advancing human rights in very different contexts. They work on a wide range of human rights issues in every country in Africa, among others: call for gender equality, stand up for land and environmental rights, press for socioeconomic rights, campaign on social issues, speak out against discrimination, advocate for migrant and refugee rights, demand the right to housing and shelter, struggle to end harmful practices, resist gender-based violence, promote sexual and reproductive health and rights, expand digital rights, combat impunity, advance youth and disability rights, advocate for environmental and climate change issues and participate in peace processes and humanitarian responses.

WHRDs can be civil society actors, feminists, indigenous leaders, community organizers, students, teachers, journalists, bloggers, parliamentarians, judicial authorities, doctors and health care providers. They often include civil society actors/organisations who may not self-identify as human rights defenders or those who work on non-traditional human rights fields. WHRDs and CSOs individual and collective action is crucial to address discrimination and inequality and advance civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of everyone, including in the context of prevention, peace and security and development. Women led CSOs and WHRDs have been using the African human rights organs such as the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR) and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) over many years and have developed insider knowledge and unique ways of maximizing the mechanisms. However, despite their critical work, role on the continent and contribution to the development of the African human rights system, many WHRDs and CSOs in particular young women led CSOs are not familiar with and do not have the capacity to engage with the African human rights mechanisms. Many lack the capacity to understand many technical aspects, procedural steps, ways to engage constructively in lobbying and advocating to draw attention to human rights violations. In addition, WHRDs are often not informed of or familiar with forums and events or have the skills necessary to draft or disseminate statements and communications to give visibility to specific cases or situations and promote the rights of WHRDs.

II. RATIONALE

Against this background, the Political Affairs, Peace and Security Department through its Gender, Peace and Security Programme is seeking to develop a toolkit aimed at building the capacity of WHRDs and women led CSOs as they engage with regional human rights mechanism. The Toolkit is expected to provide guidance for WHRDs on ways of engaging with regional human rights mechanism and to contribute to enhancing the advocacy skills of WHRDs both in national and regional spaces.

III. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The objective of the assignment is to produce a toolkit which will contain a guidelines, approaches and a range of good practices examples on how to use the regional mechanisms at different stages including, draft a written submission, ways to organize your time and develop strategies, ideas on how to conduct successful advocacy, and examples of how to follow-up on recommendations made to countries.

IV. SCOPE OF WORK

The consultant shall perform the following duties:

- Conduct desk review and an assessment of relevant regional documents (such as laws, policy documents, guidelines etc), standard systems, strategies, approaches, best practices on the African human rights system;
- Consult with key stakeholders including at the AUC, AU-ECOSOCC, ACHPR, AfCHPR, ACERWC, OHCHR, civil society and women's groups;
- In collaboration with the Political Affairs and Peace and Security Department, the consultant will co-organize and facilitate consultative meetings with PAPS staff, practitioners, key partners and actors including CSOs, RECs/RMs and WHRDs to assess and to identify good practices, approaches and gaps regarding the modalities of engagement with regional human rights mechanism;
- Conduct a two (2) days validation workshop with all relevant stakeholders to validate the draft toolkit for WHRDs and women led CSOs to engage with regional human rights mechanisms;

V. DELIVERABLES

The consultant will deliver the following outputs:

- Develop a work plan and inception report;
- Report on findings on the various consultations with key stakeholders (including inventory of existing institutional support structures and tools for CSOs to engage with human rights mechanisms)
- Organise a validation workshop and provide a final report .
- Develop a toolkit for WHRDs and women led CSOs to engage with regional human rights mechanisms;

VI. TIMELINE

- **Start date: 27 December 2021**
- **End date: 17 Fevrier 2022**

VII. CONSULTANCY FEE AND SCHEDULE OF PAYMENT

- The consultant will be paid a lump sum of (USD 14,000) for 35 working days.
- The payments will be made in installments based upon outputs/deliverables specified in the TOR and upon certification of satisfactory work as per work plan and endorsed by the AUC.
- The payment schedule is arranged as follows:
 - 20% on signing the contract and submission and approval of an Inception Report;

- 40% on completion of the first draft of the toolkit for WHRDs and women led CSOs to engage with regional human rights mechanisms including inventory of existing institutional support structures and tools for CSOs to engage with human rights mechanisms,
- 40% on submission of the final toolkit for WHRDs and women led CSOs to engage with regional human rights mechanisms

VIII. DUTY STATION

The consultant will undertake the work remotely from their home base

IX. QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree in law, human rights, gender studies, social science, or another relevant field;
- At least 5 years of relevant experience in research and practical engagement with human rights systems;
- Demonstrated experience of conducting similar assignments;
- Strong knowledge on the Africa human rights system;
- Good drafting skills, ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing, ability to clarify information, good organizational skills;
- Skilled and experienced in research, excellent conceptual and analytical skills;
- Fluency in English; knowledge on another AU working language is advantageous.