

AFRICAN UNION

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**AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS
COUR AFRICAINE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME ET DES PEUPLES**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Development of an Electronic Library Platform

Procurement Number: AFCHPR/PTS/2024/057

Date of issue: 14 March 2024
Submission deadline: 10 April 2024
at 1700 hours Arusha, Tanzania local time

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Section 1. Information to Consultants

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Client named in the Data Sheet will select a firm 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, 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.
- 1.4 The consultants must familiarise themselves with local conditions and take them into account in preparing their proposals. To obtain firsthand information on the assignment and on the local conditions, consultants are encouraged to contact the Client before submitting a proposal. The consultants' representative should contact the officials named in the Data Sheet to obtain additional information.
- 1.5 The Client will provide the inputs specified in the Data Sheet, assist the firm in obtaining licenses and permits needed to carry out the services, and make available relevant project data and reports.
- 1.6 Note that: (i) the costs of preparing the proposal and of negotiating the contract, including a visit to the Client, are not reimbursable as a direct cost of the assignment; and (ii) the Client is not bound to accept any of the proposals submitted.
- 1.7 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.
 - 1.7.1 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 African Union staff: Consultants (including their personnel and sub-consultants) that have a business or family relationship with a member of AU 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.

1.7.2 As indicated in paragraph 1.7.1 (a) above, consultants may be hired for downstream work, when continuity is essential, in which case this possibility shall be indicated in the Data Sheet and the factors used for the selection of the consultant should take the likelihood of continuation into account. It will be the exclusive decision of the Client whether or not to have the downstream assignment carried out, and if it is carried out, which consultant will be hired for the purpose.

1.7.3 In the event of 1.7.2. and in order to ensure fairness and transparency in the selection process, it is required that consultants or their affiliates competing for a specific assignment do not derive a competitive advantage from having provided consulting services related to the assignment in question. To that end, all information that would in that respect give a consultant a competitive

advantage shall be made available to all the short-listed consultants together with the request for proposals.

1.8 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;
 - (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;

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.*

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.*

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.

1.9 Consultants shall not be under a declaration of ineligibility for corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices issued by the AU in accordance with the above sub-paragraph 1.8.

1.10 Consultants shall furnish information as described in the Financial Proposal submission form (Section 3A) on commissions and gratuities, if any, paid or to be paid to agents relating to this proposal, and to execute the work if the firm is awarded the contract.

1.11 Consultants shall be aware of the provisions on fraud and corruption stated in the Standard Contract under the clauses indicated in the Data Sheet.

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.

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 advertised. The Client may at its discretion extend the deadline for the submission of proposals.

- 3. Preparation of Proposal**
- Technical Proposal**
- 3.1 Consultants are requested to submit a proposal (paragraph 1.2) written in the language(s) specified in the Data Sheet.
- 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. 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) 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 3:
- (i) A brief description of the firm's organisation and an outline of recent experience on assignments (Section 3B) 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 3C).
 - (iii) A description of the methodology and work plan for performing the assignment (Section 3D).
 - (iv) 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.
 - (v) Any additional information requested in the Data Sheet.

- Financial Proposal**
- 3.5 The Technical Proposal shall not include any financial information.
- 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 4. These lists 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 4A).
- 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**
- 4.1 The original proposal (Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal; see paragraph 1.2) shall be prepared in indelible ink. It

Opening of Proposals

- shall contain no interlineations or overwriting, except as necessary to correct errors made by the firm itself. Any such corrections must be initialed 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.
 - 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 Bids 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.
 - 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 electronic mail 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.

- 4.8 Bids submissions can be done in hard copies directly to the Court address or in soft copies by email as per the provisions of the Section 2.

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

- 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, 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.
- 5.4 In the case of Quality-Based Selection, the highest ranked firm, 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.

Opening and Evaluation of Financial Proposals: Ranking

- 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.
- 5.6 During the opening of the Financial Proposals, the name of the consultant, the technical scores, and the proposed prices shall be read aloud and recorded. The Client shall prepare minutes of the opening.
- 5.7 The evaluation committee will determine whether the Financial Proposals are complete (i.e., whether they have costed 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 2.7.

- 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 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:

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

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 method.
- 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 2 - Data Sheet

ITC Clause Reference

ITC Clause 1.1 The name of the Client is: The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

The method of selection is: Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS).

ITC Clause 1.2 Technical and Financial Proposals are requested.

The name, and Procurement Number of the assignment are: Development of an Electronic Library Platform

Procurement number AFCHPR/PTS/2024/057.

ITC Clause 2.1 Clarifications may be requested up to 10 days before the submission deadline.

The address for requesting clarifications is: The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, P.O. Box 6274, Arusha, Tanzania
Tel: +255732979509, Fax: +255732979503
E-mail : procurement@african-court.org ;
Facsimile: saifeddine.rouis@african-court.org

ITC Clause 3.1 Proposals should be submitted in the English language.

ITC Clause 3.3(vi) Reports that are required under the assignment shall be submitted in the English language.

ITC Clause 3.4(viii) Additional information required in the Technical Proposal is: "*none*"

ITC Clause 3.10 Proposals must remain valid for 90 days after the submission date.

ITC Clause 4.3 Consultants must submit an original and 2 (two) copies of each proposal (physical submissions only).

ITC Clause 4.4 The address for submission of proposals is: The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, P.O. Box 6274, Arusha, Tanzania
Email: tender@african-court.org

ITC Clause 4.5 Proposals must be submitted no later than 1700 hours on 10 April 2024 (Arusha, Tanzania local time).

ITC Clause 5.1 The address for communications to the Client is: The African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights, P.O. Box 6274, Arusha, Tanzania

Telephone: Tel: +255732979509; email: procurement@african-court.org

ITC Clause 5.3 The number of points to be given under each of the technical evaluation criteria are:

	Points
1. Proposed methodology and understanding of the TOR	(Total: 50)
a) Clearly defined project management methodology	7
b) Content proposed for the E-library	6
c) Information retrieval and Search options	5
d) Mode of access and usage	4
e) Multiple access	5
f) Link with the existing Koha database	6
g) Multi-language support	5
h) Connectivity and capacity	4
i) Email notification	4
j) Compliance with the time schedule	4
2. Qualification criteria	(Total: 15)
a) Qualifications in Library Information Technology or system development	6
b) Library science/studies qualifications	5
c) General ICT qualifications in areas like security, database management, Programming, workflow management etc.	4
3. Experience in working on similar assignments	(Total: 25)
a) Developing full text searchable library databases	10
b) Developing other library softwares	8
c) Developing other databases (non-library)	7
4. Experience with International Organizations	(Total: 10)
a) Developing full text library databases for international organisations	4
b) Developing other library software for international organisations	3.5
c) Developing other databases for international organisations (non-library)	2.5

Total Points: 100

The minimum technical score required to pass is 60 (sixty) points.

ITC Clause 5.7 The single currency for price conversions is: USD (United States Dollars).

The source of official selling rates is the United Nations Operational Rates of Exchange.

ITC Clause 5.8 The formula for determining the financial scores is: $S_f = 100 \times F_m/F$
Where S_f is the financial score, F_m is the lowest price and F the price of the proposal under consideration.

The weights given to the technical and Financial Proposals are:
Technical = 70%, and
Financial = 30%.

ITC Clause 7.2 The assignment is expected to commence in April 2024

Section 3. Technical Proposal - Standard Forms

- 3A. Technical Proposal submission form.
- 3B. Firm's references.
- 3C. Comments and suggestions of consultants on the Terms of Reference and on data, services, and facilities to be provided by the Client.
- 3D. Description of the methodology and work plan for performing the assignment.
- 3E. Activity (work) schedule.

3A. 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 Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal, and a Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

We declare that we have no conflict of interest as defined by Section 1.7 of the Information to Consultants in relationship to performance of this assignment.

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,

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

3B. FIRM'S REFERENCES

Relevant Services Carried Out in the Last 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: _____

3C. 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.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

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

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

**3D. DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODOLOGY AND WORK PLAN FOR
PERFORMING THE ASSIGNMENT**

3E. ACTIVITY (WORK) SCHEDULE

A. Field Investigation and Study Items

	<i>[1st, 2nd, etc. are months from the start of assignment.]</i>												
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	
Activity (Work)													

B. Completion and Submission of Reports

Reports	Date
1. Inception Report	
2. Interim Report (a) First Status Report (b) Second Status Report	
3. Draft Final Report	
4. Final Report	

Section 4. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms

- 4A. Financial Proposal submission form.
- 4B. Summary of costs.
- 4C. Breakdown of price per activity.
- 4D. Miscellaneous expenses.

4A. 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,

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

4B. SUMMARY OF COSTS

Cost Elements	Currency(ies) ⁶	Amount(s)
Total Amount of Financial Proposal		<hr/>

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

4C. BREAKDOWN OF PRICE PER ACTIVITY

Activity No.: _____

Description: _____

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

4D. MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

Activity No. _____

Activity Name: _____

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

Section 5. Terms of Reference

1. Background

Digital libraries are also known as online libraries, internet libraries, digital repositories, or a digital collection. They are online databases of digital objects that can include text, still images, audio, video, digital documents, or other digital media formats or a library accessible through the internet.

Objects can consist of digitized content like print or photographs, as well as originally produced digital content like word processor files or social media posts.

In addition to storing content, digital libraries provide means for organizing, searching, and retrieving the content contained in the collection. Digital libraries can vary immensely in size and scope, and can be maintained by individuals or organizations. The digital content may be stored locally, or accessed remotely via computer networks. These information retrieval systems are able to exchange information with each other through interoperability and sustainability

2. Introduction

The Court has steadily developed its library collection and now boasts of one of the best collections on human rights and related areas.

This Library collection is made up of two main parts:

- a) **Printed books:** these are library books in print format. Their metadata (bibliographic information) is maintained in a library database based on the Koha platform. The online public access catalogue (OPAC) of the database has been made available through the library webpage of the Court's website.
- b) **Items in electronic format:** These items in electronic format (e-books, e-journals and AU documents and others). There are also audio-visual formats such as audio recordings and videos. They are maintained in computer folders and are not accessible on a common platform. Their numbers and demand are also increasing. This is due to various developments that include rise of e-publishing, lessons learned from restrictions due to Covid-19 pandemic and an increasing number of users with access to the Internet. More items continue to be added to these folders as they are received or downloaded.

There is therefore a need to make these existing resources, and others that will be acquired in future, available in an electronic platform where users can access them from within and without the premises of the Court. It is for this purpose that an African Court Electronic Library (E-library) is required.

3. The African Court Electronic Library (E-library)

The purpose of this system is to ensure comprehensive electronic storage, further expansion and access to the different knowledge resources available, for the benefit of the African Court users. The platform will enable remote access to current and future electronic resources by the Court's users. It will also expand its current resource and client base and simplify access.

The project will involve the collection and sharing of human rights and related resources thereby making the Court's E-library an online research hub on the African human rights system and others.

However, in time and through negotiated partnerships with universities and publishers and "open access" arrangements, the objective is to make as many resources as possible publicly and freely available.

4. Content of the E-library

The E-Library will contain the following in **full text**;

- a) E-books (uploading capacity on PDF, epub, txt, etc.)
- b) E-journals/articles (uploading capacity)
- c) African Union documents
- d) Doctoral theses and other relevant documents
- e) It should have the ability to redirect to contents of other collections of E-books
- f) Audio-visual content will be an added advantage.

5. Information retrieval and Search options

The user is able to use any search term (word, phrase, title, name, subject) to search the entire collection. It should provide user-friendly interfaces that enable users to search the database using various search options:

- a) Boolean logic (ability to deploy Boolean operators in searches).
- b) Author
- c) Title
- d) Key words
- e) Publisher
- f) Year of publication
- g) Etc.

6. Mode of access and usage

- a) **Registration:** Users must be able to create Patron accounts by registering online. A suitable registration page or pages should be provided.
- b) **Access platforms:** access to the E-library will be made available through the library webpage of the African Court website as follows:
 - i) Freely available resources
 - ii) Resources with restricted access (copyright, sensitivity etc.)
- c) **Multiple access:**
 - i) Free resources should be used simultaneously by at least 5 concurrent number of users.

ii) For copyrighted material, a digital rights management capability should be available where an agreed number of copies can be lent out at a time. These then become inaccessible after expiration of the lending period or after the lender chooses to make it inaccessible (equivalent to returning the resource).

iii) Downloading capacity:

- ability to download full text or partial versions of the free resources.
- Ability to download authorised extent for copyrighted books.

7. Link with the existing Koha database

The Court currently has a library management system called Koha. This holds meta data (bibliographic information) only and is not full text. Items in the proposed E-library will be referenced and made searchable in the existing Koha bibliographic database, with links directing users to the full text versions in the repository. The proposed system should also allow all the metadata from the current Koha system to be uploaded in the new system.

8. Availability

The database should be available round the clock. Users should be able to gain access 24/7 to the information.

9. Multi-language support

Ability to take documents in all the official languages of the African Union, with their respective alphabets and accents. These are Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, Spanish and Swahili.

The system should have a multi-lingual interface in at least English and French Languages.

10. Connectivity and capacity

An in-depth study must be carried out in order to advise on the capacities of the server to be used for such a project. The server should be able to have several users connected simultaneously, at least 100 users. The study should also define the capacities of the server in terms of storage requirements.

11. Setting and Database seeding

The system must be provided with all the necessary configurations for its proper functioning according to the African Court needs. All digital, physical documents and metadata currently available at the Court, and on Koha must be transferred to the system.

12. Training and handover

Training and knowledge transfer must be provided to enable the various members of the Court involved in the management of this system to better understand it, and to be able to manage it independently.

Source code of the system has to be provided to the technical team of the African Court..

13. Trial period

A period of six months must be observed after the deployment of the software during which the Court reserves the right to request changes without incurring additional costs.

14. Email notification

The system should be able to send email notifications such as addition of new items, return reminders and information reservation.

15. Project outputs

A human rights full text electronic library available to African Court judges and staff of the African Court, other African Union organs, and other authorised users.

16. Requirements

- a) Methodology of implementation and suitability of the Base/Core system in response to the Terms of Reference;
- b) Company profile and CVs of personnel assigned to the project;
- c) Demonstration of previously installed similar system.

17. Available budget

The cost for this activity should not go beyond USD 10,000.00.

18. Proposed Timeline

It is envisioned that the system will be fully functional within two months from the date of the contract signature.