COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND

### **SOUTHERN AFRICA**



**السوق المشتركة للشرق والجنوب الأفريقى**

###### MARCHE COMMUN

**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST- FIRMS**

**Ref:** **CS/ADMIN/PRO/JM/15.02/21**

**CONSULTANCY SERVICE: DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ONLINE MARKET**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) is a regional grouping of 21 African States which have agreed to promote regional integration through trade development and transport facilitation. More information can be obtained from the COMESA website [www.comesa.int](http://www.comesa.int).

The COMESA Secretariat intends to develop an online market platform to facilitate regional electronic trade for its 21 Member States. The system will be a fully-fledged e-business solution in the COMESA region and beyond. The system is intended to bring over 580 million people to a new virtual market to help residents of COMESA Member States and the rest of the world to buy, sell, market, insure, deliver and receive products and services, wherever they are, in real time at a lower cost and to contribute to poverty reduction. The online market is also expected to take advantage of the COMESA Trade Facilitation instruments developed to ease doing business in the region.

1. **OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The purpose of the consultancy is to design, develop and implement a new virtual market to help residents of COMESA Member States and the rest of the world to buy, sell, insure, deliver and receive products and services, wherever they are, in real time duty free quota free within COMESA member states to contribute to poverty reduction.

The system will be designed to facilitate the following;

1. Traders including SMEs and customer linkages
2. B2C business model
3. Ability to submit one Request for Quotation and receive multiple quotations from different vendors
4. Customer loyalty programmes management
5. Anti-counterfeit campaigns and buyer protection
6. e Payment gateway and e payment channels integration
7. Transport and other shipping logistics management
8. Interfacing of similar official sites for member states to the main COMESA online market
9. Statistical and reporting Module with data analytical tool

The following are key modules and functions: Business Directory, Orders fulfilment, Transport, Tracking, One Request-Multiple Quotations, Customer profiling, Stock management, Security Module, e payment gateway and e-Payments channels,data analytical tool.

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) now invites eligible consultancy **firms** to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc).

1. **How to apply:**

COMESA Secretariat invites interested consulting firms to submit their Expressions of Interest including an updated Company profile demonstrating previous experience in similar assignments, Curriculum vitae of key staff with certified copies of academic and professional certificates and a motivation letter of not more than two pages explaining the consultant’s understanding of the assignment.

The submissions should be clearly marked and email bearing the subject

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“**CONSULTANCYSERVICE: DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ONLINE MARKET*”***, should be emailed to the following address:

[***procurement@comesa.int***](mailto:procurement@comesa.int)

4. **The deadline for submission of your application, to the address indicated is:**

***8th March 2021 AT 16:00 hours Zambian Time***

5.       ***Physical submission of applications is NOT allowed.***

**6.**  The submissions will be evaluated against the following criteria.

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| **No.** | **EVALUATION CRITERIA** |
| 1. | Experience of the firm (Evidence of having carried out similar assignment which should be in the form of (brochures, descriptions of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions etc.) |
| 2. | Availability of appropriately qualified and skilled key staff in relation to the assignment at hand |
| 3. | Core Business of the firm. The firm’s business should be in line of the assignment |
| 4. | Specific experience in software development, design & implementation. |
| 5. | Standard of technology to applied |

**7.** **VALIDITY OF THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:**

Your Expression of Interest should be valid for a period of 90 days from the date of deadline for submission in Paragraph 4 above.

8. Additional requests for information and clarifications can be made until 7 working days

prior to deadline indicated in the paragraph 6 above, from:

The Procuring entity: ***COMESA Secretariat***

Contact person: Joyce M. Mutale

E-mail: **jmutale@comesa.int*;***  [***smwesigwa@comesa.int***](mailto:smwesigwa@comesa.int)***;***

Copy: [**ldorby@comesa.int**](mailto:ldorby@comesa.int); **wosemo@comesa.int**

The answers on the questions received will be sent to the Consultant and all questions received as well as the answers to them will be posted on the COMESA Secretariat’s website at the latest 3 working days before the deadline for submission of applications.

**ANNEXES:**

ANNEX 1: **Terms of Reference**