# **TENDER FILE / TERMS OF REFERENCE** (Competitive bidding procedure/ One-off contract)



# Purchase of consultancy services on comparative analysis on specialised anti-corruption courts [Contract N° BO-03-2021-ACC]

The Council of Europe through the Economic Crime and Cooperation Division (ECCD) is currently implementing technical cooperation actions targeting economic crime and particularly corruption in the Council of Europe member states, EU member states, and non-member states and jurisdictions. One of the areas of intervention concerns the functioning of specialised anti-corruption bodes dedicated to fighting and preventing corruption. In that context, the Council of Europe is looking for two Providers for the provision of consultancy services to conduct a comparative analysis of the countries with specialised anti-corruption courts, against countries that have opted for the specialisation of judges and prosecutors across various courts (see Section A of the Act of Engagement).

#### A. TENDER PROCEDURE RULES

This tender procedure is a competitive bidding procedure. In accordance with Rule 1395 of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the procurement procedures of the Council of Europe<sup>1</sup>, the Organisation shall invite to tender at least three potential providers for any purchase between  $\leq 2,000$  (or  $\leq 5,000$  for intellectual services) and  $\leq 150,000$  tax exclusive.

This specific tender procedure aims at concluding a **one-off contract** for the provision of deliverables described in the Act of Engagement (See attached). A tender is considered valid for 120 calendar days as from the closing date for submission. The selection of tenderers will be made in the light of the criteria indicated below. All tenderers will be informed in writing of the outcome of the procedure.

The tenderer must be either a natural person, or a legal person except consortia.

Tenders shall be submitted **by email only** (with attachments) **to the email address indicated in the table below, with the following reference in subject: Consultancy services - BO-03-2021-ACC.** Tenders addressed to another email address **will be rejected.** 

The general information and contact details for this procedure are indicated on this page. You are invited to use the Council of Europe Contact details indicated below for any question you may have. **All questions shall be submitted at least 3**<u>(three) working days before the deadline for submission of the tenders</u> and shall be exclusively addressed to the email address indicated below with the following reference in subject: Questions - BO-03-2021-ACC.

Type of contract >	One-off contract
Duration >	Until complete execution of the obligations of the parties (see Article 2 of the Legal conditions as reproduced in the Act of Engagement)
Deadline for submission of tenders/offers ►	25 June 2021
Email for submission of tenders/offers >	contact.econcrime@coe.int
Email for questions >	contact.econcrime@coe.int
Expected starting date of execution	10 July 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The activities of the Council of Europe are governed by its <u>Statute</u> and its internal Regulations. Procurement is governed by the Financial Regulations of the Organisation and by <u>Rule 1395 of 20 June 2019 on the procurement procedures of the Council of Europe</u>.

## B. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

The expected deliverables are described in Section A of the Act of Engagement (see attached).

# C. FEES

All tenderers are invited to fill in the **table of fees** as reproduced in **Section A of the Act of Engagement**.

# Tenderers **subject to VAT** shall also send **a quote (Pro Forma invoice)** on their letterhead including:

- the Service Provider's name and address;
- its VAT number;
- the full list of services to be provided;
- the fee per type of deliverables (in the currency indicated on the Act of Engagement, tax exclusive);
- the total amount per type of deliverables (in the currency indicated on the Act of Engagement, tax exclusive);
- the total amount (in the currency indicated on the Act of Engagement), tax exclusive, the applicable VAT rate, the amount of VAT and the amount VAT inclusive.

# D. ASSESSMENT

## Exclusion criteria and absence of conflict of interests

(by signing the Act of Engagement,<sup>2</sup> you declare on your honour not being in any of the below situations) Tenderers shall be excluded from participating in the tender procedure if they:

- have been sentenced by final judgment on one or more of the following charges: participation in a criminal organisation, corruption, fraud, money laundering;
- are in a situation of bankruptcy, liquidation, termination of activity, insolvency or arrangement with creditors or any like situation arising from a procedure of the same kind, or are subject to a procedure of the same kind;
- have received a judgment with res judicata force, finding an offence that affects their professional integrity or serious professional misconduct;
- do not comply with their obligations as regards payment of social security contributions, taxes and dues, according to the statutory provisions of their country of incorporation, establishment or residence;
- are or are likely to be in a situation of conflict of interests.

### Eligibility criteria

- At least 5 years of experience in the area of anti-corruption legislative and institutional frameworks, and related judicial reforms;
- University degree in law, political sciences or related field (for legal persons: of the persons allocated to the execution of the contract);
- Fluency in English (written and verbal).

# Award criteria

- Quality of the offer (80%), including:
  - Professional experience in the field of expertise covered by this tender;
  - Quality of sample deliverables produced by the tenderer.
- Financial offer (20%).

Multiple tendering is not authorised.

# E. NEGOTIATIONS

The Council reserves the right to hold negotiations with the bidders in accordance with Article 20 of Rule 1395.

### F. DOCUMENTS TO BE PROVIDED

Tenderers are invited to submit:

# • A completed and signed copy of the Act of Engagement<sup>3</sup> (see attached)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Council of Europe reserves the right to ask tenderers, at a later stage, to supply an extract from the record of convictions or failing that an equivalent document issued by the competent judicial or administrative authority of the country of incorporation, indicating that the first three above listed exclusion criteria are met, and a certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of incorporation indicating that the fourth criterion is met.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Act of Engagement must be completed, signed, scanned in its entirety (i.e. including all the pages) and sent as a compiled document. For all scanned documents, .pdf files are preferred.

- For tenderers subject to VAT <u>only</u>: **a quote, describing their financial offer**, in line with the requirements of section C of the Tender File (see above);
- Copy of a passport for natural persons;
- Registration documents, for legal persons only;
- A list of all owners and executive officers, for legal persons only;
- A detailed CV, preferably in Europass Format, demonstrating clearly that the tenderer fulfils the eligibility criteria;
- A motivation letter demonstrating how the tenderer's knowledge and experience matches the Council of Europe needs stated in the call;
- At least 2 (two) samples of recent deliverables (e.g. reports, discussion papers etc.) relevant to the area covered by this tender (or relevant excerpts of such reports/materials);
- 3 (three) references with full contact details.

All documents shall be submitted in English, failure to do so will result in the exclusion of the tender.

If any of the documents listed above are missing, the Council of Europe reserves the right to reject the tender.

The Council reserves the right to reject a tender if the scanned documents are of such a quality that the documents cannot be read once printed.

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