

Request for Quotation (RFQ) for Services

Reference No.: *RFQ-CHN-2018-001*

Provision of a Strategic and Targeted Branding Campaign

28 February 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Request for Quotation (RFQ) for *Provision of A Strategic and Targeted Branding Campaign Service*

1. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) is seeking quotation(s) for the procurement of A Strategic and Targeted Branding Campaign Service as described in the Annex I to this request for quotation.
2. In order to prepare a responsive quotation, you must carefully review, and understand the contents of the following documents:
 - a. This Invitation letter and Quotation Instruction Sheet (QIS)
 - b. [Terms of Reference \(TOR\) \(Annex 1\)](#)
 - c. [Quotation Submission Form and Quotation Format \(Annex 2\)](#)
 - d. [UN Women General Conditions of Contract \(Annex 3\)](#)
 - e. [Voluntary Agreement \(Annex 4\)](#)
 - f. [Model Form of Contract \(Annex 5\)](#)
3. Quotations submitted by email must be limited to a maximum of 10 MB, virus-free or corrupted contents to avoid rejection, and no more than 2 email transmissions.
4. A contract may be awarded to the supplier having submitted a quotation representing the best value for money, i.e. lowest-priced technically-compliant of the proposed offers.
5. The following aspects will be considered for the evaluation;
 - i. Suitability of the approach and methodology including firm's capacity to undertake the services.
 - ii. Qualifications and experience of proposed staff/personnel.
6. It is UN Women's intention to issue the contract as presented herein the RFQ documents. Therefore, offerors should ensure any due diligence regarding the legal review and ability to be compliant to all contract terms and conditions is undertaken prior to the submission of your quotation. Submission of a quotation will be confirmation of accepting UN Women contract included herein.
7. In the case two (2) quotations are evaluated and found to be the same ranking in terms of technical qualification and price, UN Women will award contract to the company that is either women-owned or has a majority women employed. This is in support of UN Women's core

mandate. In the case that both companies are women-owned or have a majority women employed, UN Women will request best and final offer from both suppliers and shall make a final comparison of the competing suppliers.

8. UN Women reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation, and to cancel the process and reject all quotations at any time prior to the award of contract without thereby incurring any liability to the suppliers or any obligation to inform the suppliers of the grounds for such action.
9. At any time prior to the deadline for the submission of quotations, UN Women may, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a supplier, modify the RFQ by way of a written amendment. All suppliers that have received the RFQ shall be notified in writing of any such amendments. In order to offer suppliers reasonable time to take any such amendments into account in preparing their quotations, UN Women may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for the submission.
10. The Quotation Instruction Sheet (QIS) below provides the requisite information for the supplier as guide to respond to this request.

QUOTATION INSTRUCTION SHEET (QIS)

Instruction to Suppliers	Specific Requirements
Deadline for Submission of Quotation	<p>Date and Time: March 30, 2018 6:00PM Beijing, China (for local time reference, see www.greenwichmeantime.com)</p> <p>This is an absolute deadline, Quotation received after this date and time will be disqualified.</p>
Method of Submission	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Personal Delivery/ Courier mail/ Registered Mail</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic submission of Quotation,</p> <p>Please send quotation to <u>unwomen.china@unwomen.org</u></p>
Language of the Quotation	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (pls. specify) _____</p>
Quotation Currencies	Any freely convertible currency: <u>USD</u>
Quotation Validity Period commencing after closing date of RFQ	<p>60 days</p> <p>UN Women may exceptionally request vendor to extend quotation validity beyond the initial period indicated in the RFQ. Request will be communicated in writing.</p>
Payment Terms	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 100% upon completion and satisfactory receipt of service(s)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others See details in the TOR.</p>
Clarifications of solicitation documents	<p>Requests for clarification may be submitted 7 days before the submission date to: <u>unwomen.china@unwomen.org</u></p> <p>If the clarification email is different from the submission email address, please do not submit any official quotes to the clarification email address. Doing so may invalidate your quote and UN Women will not be able to consider it.</p> <p>Clarification requests of this RFQ shall include the following subject header format: "RFQ# Request for Clarification from Vendor Name"</p> <p>Suppliers shall not communicate with any other UN personnel regarding this RFQ.</p>

	<p>UN Women shall endeavor to provide responses to clarifications in an expeditious manner, but any delay in such response shall not cause an obligation on the part of UN Women to extend the deadline date, unless UN Women deems that such an extension is justified and necessary.</p>
Contact for requesting clarifications	<p>Email Address: unwomen.china@unwomen.org</p> <p>E-mail address dedicated for this purpose:</p> <p>Suppliers must not communicate with any other personnel of UN Women regarding this RFQ.</p> <p>UN Women shall have no obligation to confirm receipt or response to query for any form of communication sent to an email other than the designated email address.</p>
Responses to clarification requests will be binding on all Suppliers and will be distributed via:	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Postal Mail</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UN Women Website</p>
Expected Delivery Date and Time.	<p><input type="checkbox"/> days from the issuance of the purchase order</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> As per Service Delivery Schedule attached</p>
Value Added Tax on Proceed Quotation	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Must be inclusive of VAT and other applicable indirect taxes</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Must be exclusive of VAT and other applicable indirect taxes</p>
Evaluation Criteria	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical responsiveness/Full compliance to minimum requirements under Annex I</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Qualifications and experience of proposed staff/personnel</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lowest price offer</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full acceptance of the PO/Contract General Terms and Conditions</p>

Type of Contract to be Signed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchase Order <input type="checkbox"/> Long-Term Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Service Contract <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Type/s of Contract Institutional Services Contract
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11. UN Women’s [vendor protest procedure](#) provides an opportunity for appeal to supplier(s) who believe that they were not treated fairly. This [link](#) provides further details regarding UN Women’s vendor protest procedures.

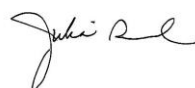
Suppliers, their subsidiaries, agents, intermediaries and principals must cooperate with the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) of the United Nations, UN Women Internal Audit and Investigations Group (IAIG) as well as with other investigations authorized by the Executive Director and with the UN Women Ethics Office as and when required. Such cooperation shall include, but not be limited to the following: access to all employees, representatives, agents and assignees of the supplier; as well as production of all documents requested, including financial records.

Failure to fully cooperate with investigations will be considered sufficient grounds to allow UN Women to repudiate and terminate the contract, and to debar and remove the supplier from UN Women’s list of registered suppliers.

12. UN Women implements a zero tolerance on fraud and other proscribed practices, and is committed to identifying and addressing all such acts and practices against UN Women, as well as third parties involved in UN Women activities. UN Women expects its suppliers to adhere to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct found in this link:
http://www.un.org/depts/ptd/pdf/conduct_english.pdf.

13. This letter is not to be construed in any way as an offer to contract with your organization.

Yours sincerely,



Julie Broussard

Country Programme Manager

UN Women China

ANNEX 1

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

Title	Strategic and Targeted Branding Campaign
Purpose	Promote the work of UN Women and its brand in China, especially among private sector organizations with the aim of building partnerships.
Location	Beijing, China
Contract Duration	April 2018 – November 2018
Contract Supervision	Country Programme Manager, UN Women China

Background Information

In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly established UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, to accelerate progress in promoting gender equality, expanding opportunity and tackling discrimination worldwide.

UN Women is a strong and dynamic UN champion of women's rights, providing a powerful voice for women and girls at the global, regional and local levels. It strengthens UN's ability to provide coherent and timely support to Member States to advance gender equality, in line with national priorities and international norms and policies. Strong and effective collaboration with government entities, private sector companies and civil society partners also helps UN Women reach out to women and men at all levels.

UN Women China provides financial and technical assistance to projects and plans that are strategic and contribute to the achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment. Placing the advancement of women's human rights at the center of our work, UN Women China focuses on the following key areas:

- Women's Economic Empowerment and Poverty Alleviation
- Youth, Gender Empowerment and Leadership
- Ending Violence against Women and Girls
- Mainstreaming Gender into HIV/AIDS Prevention and Response

UN Women China also administers the China Gender Fund for Research and Advocacy (CGF), a multi-donor trust fund programme established in September 2004 with a specific objective of advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in China.

UN Women works with different stakeholders in China, including Chinese government departments, embassies, research institutes, private sector companies, NGOs and the media. Our National Goodwill Ambassadors (Hai Qing and Tong Dawei) and HeforShe advocates (Zhu Yawen, Guan Yue, Zhang Chengdong and Li Guangfu, etc) have been actively engaged in our advocacy and programmatic work in China.

The nature of gender equality as a cross-cutting issue – with economic, political, social, and even environmental implications – requires us to partner with a wide variety of organizations. The private sector has a crucial role to play in advancing gender equality in China. Chinese enterprises are the rising power in the promotion of women’s economic empowerment in the creation of inclusive and sustainable development. There lie great potential for the private sector to work with UN Women to advance women's economic empowerment for the benefit of human development and for the growth and prosperity of markets and society as a whole.

Purpose

UN Women would like to engage a communications agency to develop and deliver a “**low bono**” campaign that promotes UN Women’s work and branding in China and that will translate into meaningful partnerships between UN Women and private sector companies in China. Specific objectives are to:

1. Generate public interest and positive perception about the work of UN Women in China and UN Women’s presence in the country through raising awareness about UN Women's branding and results of our work in China;
2. Generate support for UN Women's gender equality and women’s empowerment projects in China;
3. Explore new private sector partnerships and engage them meaningfully for UN Women China.

UN Women calls this a “low bono” campaign because we can provide a relatively small amount of funding to cover the selected firm’s basic and material expenses only.

Scope of Work /Responsibilities

1. Develop and deliver an action plan and public and private sector partnership strategies to make UN Women’s branding and works known and generate interest among potential private sector partners that have capacity and desire to support UN Women’s work in China;
2. Generate support and referrals from agency’s existing/ potential private sector networks to contribute to UN Women’s works in China.
3. Develop strong and sustainable relationships between UN Women and potential private sector partners.
4. Timely and effective implementation of UN Women branding exercise and outreach for generating support;
5. Monthly meetings with UN Women to review campaign progress, measure image perception, and realign strategies;
6. Develop communications strategy, disseminate and execute effective messaging (including but not limited to narrative and multi-media products and other branding materials) to reach potential private sector partners.

Deliverables

1. Partner mapping strategies and potential-partner list developed in consultation with UN Women;
2. Effective communications strategy for generating interest and support from potential private sector partners;
3. Campaign design and its implementation including online and offline activities as appropriate;
4. Tangible branding materials that support the campaign’s implementation, including but not limited to videos, photographs, images, flyers, or other promotional materials;

5. Monthly reports highlighting campaign progress and summarizing implementation results;

Timeline and Contract Details

The contract will be signed for a maximum of 8 months commencing in mid April, subject to satisfactory performance evaluation, continuing needs and budget availability.

Delivery schedule/ Timeline

Deliverables	Expected delivery date	% Payment
Public and private sector partnership strategies and potential-partner list	15 May 2018	
Draft communications strategy and campaign design for generating interest and support from potential partner, workplan, budget details and timeline		
Final campaign design and strategy for generating interest and support from potential partners, workplan, budget details and timeline, with draft branding materials	15 June 2018	40%
Monthly reports describing campaign implementation progress and highlighting campaign results, and including revised or updated branding materials	15 July 2018 – 15 November 2018	
Final report on Campaign implementation and results with final versions of branding materials	30 November 2018	60%

Qualifications of the Company:

- A registered company with valid company registration certificate;
- Proven experience in developing resource mobilization strategies and organizing relevant events to reach fundraising goals would be an asset;
- Satisfactory proposal on resource mobilization strategies to achieve fundraising goals;
- Rich experience of key personnel working on targeted campaign design and implementation;
- Prior working experience (cases/examples/results) with UN agencies, international organizations, non-profit organizations, and/or civil society partners would be a must;
- Successful experience creating and implementing a communications campaign in the Chinese context is a must.
- Prior experience on campaigning for gender or women's issues would be an asset.
- Prior experience with campaigns targeting the Chinese private sector would be an asset.

ANNEX 2

QUOTATION SUBMISSION FORMS

STATEMENT OF CONFIRMATION

[The supplier shall fill in this form with no alterations or substitutions to its format and content]

To: **UN Women China Office**

Date:

Room 2-8-2 Tayuan Diplomatic Office Building,
14 Liangmahe Nanlu, Chaoyang District,
Beijing 100600, China

We, the undersigned, declare that:

- (a) We (representatives of this company, inclusive of any associated legal representatives) have examined the minimum requirements, terms and clauses and have no reservations to the RFQ including all annexes;
- (b) We agree to abide by this RFQ and in accordance with the UN Women General Conditions of Contract (Annex 4) and will not request any changes to the existing terms, conditions and clauses;
- (c) We offer to supply in conformity with the RFQ, the following **Campaign Service** and undertake, if our offer is accepted, to commence and complete delivery of all services specified in the contract within the time frame stipulated.
- (d) We offer to execute the services for the sum as may be ascertained in accordance with the quotation submitted and with the instructions under the Quotation Instruction Sheet;
- (e) Our offer shall be valid for a period of [**60**] days from the date fixed for opening the RFQ, and it shall remain binding upon us and may be accepted at any time before the expiration of that period;
- (f) We understand that UN Women is not bound to accept the lowest evaluated quotation or any other quotation that you may receive.

SIGNATURE AND CONFIRMATION OF THE RFQ
PROVIDED THAT A CONTRACT IS ISSUED BY UN WOMEN WITHIN THE QUOTATION VALIDITY PERIOD STATED ABOVE , THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY COMMITS, SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF SUCH CONTRACT DOCUMENT, TO EXECUTE THE SERVICE(S) REQUESTED AT THE PRICES OFFERED AND TO DELIVER SAME TO THE DESIGNATED POINT(S) WITHIN THE DELIVERY TIME STATED ABOVE. THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY SIGNS IN CONFIRMATION THAT THEY HAVE REVIEWED THE RFQ AND AGREE TO ITS GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT AND THE CONTRACT MODEL.

<i>Exact name and address of company</i> COMPANY NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____ _____ PHONE NO.: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____	AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ NAME: (TYPE OR PRINT) _____ FUNCTIONAL TITLE OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY: _____
<p>This quotation submission form MUST be duly completed and returned with the QUOTATION (technical and financial), along with confirmation that the products/services are in accordance with Terms of Reference and requirements of UN Women. The quotation “MUST” be submitted in the vendor’s business letterhead stationery. Failure to do so may result in disqualification of your QUOTATION.</p>	

Technical Information

Section A: Expertise and Capability of Supplier
<u>1.1 The organization</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background: Provide a brief introduction of the organization, including the year and country of incorporation, types of activities undertaken, and its registration certificate.
<u>1.2 Subcontracting and partnerships</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain any partnerships that are planned for the implementation of this project. Information on past collaborative experience should be included.
<u>1.3 Relevance of Specialized Knowledge and Experience on Similar Projects</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide details of specialized knowledge to be utilized for this RFQ as well as recent relevant experiences in China on projects of a similar nature and/or with other UN organizations, international organizations, non-profit organizations, and/or civil society partners. Prior experience on resource mobilization, or campaigning for gender or women’s issues, or targeting the Chinese private sector would be an asset. 3 References (including name, title, organization, tel phone number and email address) must be provided.
Section B: Proposed Work Plan and Approach
<u>2.1 Analysis approach, methodology</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a description or proposal of the service provider’s approach, methodology, and timeline for how the organization will achieve the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the project while meeting or exceeding the stipulations of the TOR.
Section C: Resource Plan, Key Personnel
<u>3.1 Composition of the team proposed to provide, and the work tasks (including supervisory)</u>

Describe the availability of resources in terms of personnel and facilities needed for this RFQ. Describe the structure of the team which you would propose to provide, and the work tasks (including supervisory) which would be assigned to each. The key personnel's experience on campaign design and implementation should be provided.

3.2 Gender profile

- Supplier is strongly encouraged to include information regarding the percentage of women employed in Supplier's organization, women in leadership positions, and percentage of women shareholders.
- Note: this will *not* be a factor in the evaluation criteria *unless* where there are two identical quotations (i.e. exact total points in the case of cumulative evaluation methodology and/or same price in the case of most technically compliant/acceptable quotation) UN Women will award the contract to the organization owned by women by 50% or more, in support of UN Women's core mandate.

Financial Quotation

The components comprising the total price must provide sufficient detail to allow UN Women to determine compliance of quotation with requirements as per TOR of this RFQ. The supplier shall include a complete breakdown of the cost elements associated with each line item and those costs associated with any proposed subcontract/sub-awards (separate breakdown) for the duration of the contract. Provide separate figures for each functional grouping or category.

Estimates for cost-reimbursable items, if any, such as travel, and out of pocket expenses should be listed separately.

In case of an equipment component to the service provided, the Financial Quotation should include figures for both purchase and lease/rent options. UN Women reserves the option to either lease/rent or purchase outright the equipment through the contractor.

All prices/rates quoted must be exclusive of all taxes, since the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs, is exempt from taxes as detailed in Clause 18 of the UN Women General Conditions of Contract.

Cost Breakdown per Deliverables

	Deliverables	Percentage of Total Price	Price (Lump Sum, All Inclusive)
1	Deliverable 1		
2	Deliverable 2		
	Total	100%	USD

End of Annex 2

ANNEX 3

UN WOMEN GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

[GCCs for Services](#)

<http://www.unwomen.org/~media/commoncontent/procurement/unwomen-generalconditionsofcontract-services-en.pdf>

ANNEX 4

VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT TO PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY

Voluntary Agreement to Promote Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Between

_____ (Name of the Contractor)

And

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, a composite entity of the United Nations established by the United Nations General Assembly by its resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 (hereinafter referred to as "UN Women") strongly encourages (_____) (hereinafter referred to as the "Contractor") to partake in achieving the following objectives:

- ☐ Acknowledge values & principles of [gender equality \(http://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/guiding-documents\)](http://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/guiding-documents) and [women's empowerment \(http://weprinciples.org/Site/PrincipleOverview/\)](http://weprinciples.org/Site/PrincipleOverview/);
- ☐ Provide information and statistical data (that relates to policies and initiatives that promote gender equality and women empowerment), upon request;
- ☐ Participate in dialogue with UN Women to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in their location, industry and organization;
- ☐ Establish high-level corporate leadership for gender equality;
- ☐ Treat women and men fairly at work and respect and support human rights and nondiscrimination, including through equal pay policies;
- ☐ Ensure health, safety and wellbeing of all women and men workers;
- ☐ Promote education, training and professional development for women;
- ☐ Hold gender-specific trainings or courses for staff;
- ☐ Implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women;
- ☐ Promote equality through community initiatives and advocacy;
- ☐ Measure and publicly report on progress to achieve gender equality.

On behalf of the Contractor: _____

Name, Title: _____,

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: ____/____/____

DD

MM

YYYY

ANNEX 5

MODEL FORM OF CONTRACT

UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN (UN-WOMEN)

[INSERT UN WOMEN REGIONAL OR COUNTRY OFFICE ADDRESS]

SHORT FORM *DE MINIMIS* CONTRACT FOR SERVICES No. [INSERT NUMBER]

[PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SHORT FORM *DE MINIMIS* CONTRACT NUMBER MUST BE QUOTED ON ALL RELEVANT CORRESPONDENCE AND INVOICES]

This Contract is made on [DATE] between the UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN, a composite entity of the United Nations established by the United Nations General Assembly by its resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010, with its Headquarters at 220 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017, USA (“UN-WOMEN”) and [OFFICIAL NAME OF COMPANY], duly incorporated or organized under the laws of [COUNTRY], with its registered offices at [ADDRESS], company registration number [INSERT NUMBER] (“Contractor”). Both hereinafter separately and jointly referred to as the “Party” or the “Parties”, respectively.

This document together with Annex A (*Special Conditions*), Annex B (*General Conditions of Contract for De Minimis Contracts*), and Annex C (*Terms of Reference*) (“Contract Documents”) constitute the entire agreement between the Parties with regard to the subject matter hereof (“Contract”). The documents comprising this Contract are complementary of one another, but in case of ambiguities, discrepancies, or inconsistencies between or among them, the following order of priority shall apply: first this document, second Annex A, third Annex B, and fourth Annex C.

This Contract embodies the entire agreement between the Parties with regard to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior representations, agreements, contracts and proposals, whether written or oral, by and between the Parties on this subject. No promises, understandings, obligations or agreements, oral or otherwise, relating to the subject matter hereof exist between the Parties except as herein expressly set forth.

Any notice, document or receipt issued in connection with this Contract shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this Contract and, in case of any ambiguity, discrepancy or inconsistency, the terms and conditions of this Contract shall prevail.

This Contract, and all documents, notices and receipts issued or provided pursuant to or in connection with this Contract, shall be deemed to include, and shall be interpreted and applied consistently with, the provisions of Article 16 (*Settlement of Disputes*) and Article 17 (*Privileges and Immunities*) of the General Conditions.

The Services. The Contractor shall provide the following services (the “Services”) in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Contract, as more particularly described in Annex C. *[Insert details of the nature of the services being procured, the purpose of the Services, how the Services are intended to assist UN-Women’s applicable project, why the Services are required, including any deliverables (“Deliverables”) to be provided by the Contractor. For example, Deliverables may include interim reports, final reports, etc].*

Quality standards. The Contractor shall provide the Services [in accordance with // to meet] the following quality standards: *[if applicable, insert the details of the applicable quality standards, if any, to which the Services must be provided.]*

Contract Price and Payment Terms: In full consideration for the complete, satisfactory and timely performance by the Contractor of its obligations under this Contract, UN-Women shall pay the Contractor: *[insert either option]* [OPTION 1: a total fixed fee of US\$_____ in instalments of [US\$_____] as set forth below] OR [OPTION 2: fees for the provision for the Services at the rates as set forth below].

[Insert details of the Contract price, whether it be lump sum or on a time and materials. Insert frequency of payment, for example, upon satisfactory completion and delivery of the final report to UN-Women and after [acceptance by UN-Women // certification by UN-Women that the] Services have been performed and the expected outputs have been satisfactorily provided.

Contractor's bank account for payments under this Contract (*see* Article 1 of the Special Conditions, Annex A).

Name of bank: _____;

Bank address: _____;

Bank ID (SWIFT/BIC for non-US bank and ABA number for US bank)

Account No. or IBAN: (IBAN if the bank is within EU/EEA)

BSB: _____

Bank account title/name: _____ [***Must*** be in the name of the Contractor.]

Currency of payment: _____

Currency of bank account: _____

Type of account: _____ (Checking or Savings)

Routing instructions: _____ (if necessary)

Term of Contract: This Contract shall take effect on the date the Parties have signed this Contract, or if the Parties have signed it on different dates, the date of the latest signature. This Contract shall remain in effect until *[insert date]*.

Notices:¹

For the Contractor:

[Insert company name]

[Insert address for Notices to be sent to]

Attention: *[Insert contact person name and title]*

Tel: *[insert telephone number]*

For UN-Women:

UN-Women

[Insert address for Notices to be sent to]

Attention: *[Insert contact person name and title]*

Tel: *[insert telephone number]*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have, through their authorized representatives, executed this Contract on the date herein below written.

FOR [NAME OF CONTRACTOR]

FOR UN-WOMEN

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

CONTRACTOR RETAINS 1 ORIGINAL CONTRACT AND RETURNS TO UN WOMEN 1 DULY SIGNED AND DATED ORIGINAL.

¹ Please note that email addresses could be included in the description of the Services section for operational matters; not for receipt of Notices under the Contract for contract administration matters.

ANNEX A

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. PAYMENT TERMS

1.1 The Contractor shall submit to UN-WOMEN an original copy of its invoices for all Services supplied to UN-WOMEN in accordance with this Contract, together with such supporting documentation and details as the UN-WOMEN may require.

1.2 Payments under this Contract shall be made to the Contractor thirty (30) days from receipt of the Contractor's invoice and supporting documentation and certification by UN-WOMEN that the Services represented by the invoice have been provided and that the Contractor has otherwise performed in conformity with the terms and conditions of this Contract, unless UN-WOMEN disputes the invoice or a portion thereof. All payments due to the Contractor under this Contract shall be made by electronic funds transfer to the Contractor's bank account, the details of which are set forth in the Contract document above.

1.3 UN-WOMEN may withhold payment in respect of any invoice if it considers that the Contractor has not performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Contract or has not provided sufficient documentation in support of the invoice. Where an invoice is disputed in part, UN-WOMEN shall pay the Contractor any undisputed portion, in accordance with Article 1.2 above, and the Parties shall consult in good faith to promptly resolve outstanding issues. Once the dispute has been resolved, UN-WOMEN shall pay the Contractor the relevant amount within thirty (30) days. The Contractor shall not be entitled to interest on any late payment or any sums payable under this Contract or any accrued interest on payments withheld by UN-WOMEN in connection with a dispute.

1.4 In addition to any rights and remedies available to it, and without prejudice to any other rights or remedies that UN-WOMEN may have under this Contract, UN-WOMEN shall have the right, without prior notice to the Contractor, any such notice being waived by the Contractor, upon any amounts becoming due and payable hereunder to the Contractor, to set off, against any amount payable by UN-WOMEN under this Contract, any payment, indebtedness or other claim owing by the Contractor to UN-WOMEN hereunder or under any other contract or agreement between the Parties. UN-WOMEN shall promptly notify the Contractor of such set-off and the reasons therefore, provided, however, that the failure to give such notice shall not affect the validity of such set-off.

1.5 Payments made in accordance with this Article shall constitute a complete discharge of UN-WOMEN's obligations with respect to the relevant invoices or portions thereof.

1.6 The Contractor shall not be entitled to interest on any late payment or any sums payable under this Contract nor any accrued interest on payments withheld by UN-WOMEN in connection with a dispute.

2. PERFORMANCE OF THE SERVICES

2.1 The Contractor and its personnel shall perform the Services under this Contract with the necessary care and diligence, and in accordance with the highest professional standards and with all laws, ordinances, rules and regulations bearing upon the performance of the obligations under the Contract. Except as expressly provided in the Contract,

- (i) UN-WOMEN shall have no obligation to provide any assistance to the Contractor in performing the Services;
- (ii) UN-WOMEN makes no representations as to the availability of any facilities or equipment which may be helpful or useful for performing the Services; and
- (iii) the Contractor shall be responsible at its sole cost for providing all the necessary personnel, equipment, material and supplies and for making all arrangements necessary for the performance and completion of the Services.

3. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

3.1 The Contractor represents and warrants that:

- (a) it is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing;
- (b) it has all necessary power and authority to execute and perform this Contract;
- (c) the execution and performance of this Contract will not cause it to violate or breach any provision in its charter, certificate of incorporation, by-laws, partnership agreement, trust agreement or other constituent agreement or instrument;

(d) this Contract is a legal, valid and binding obligation, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms;

(e) all of the information it has provided to the UN concerning the provision of the Services pursuant to this Contract is true, correct, accurate and not misleading;

(f) it is financially solvent and is able to provide the Services to the UN in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract;

(g) the Contractor shall not infringe nor cause UN-WOMEN to infringe any intellectual property or other proprietary rights of any third party; and

(h) for itself and for the Personnel, parent entities, affiliates or subsidiaries (if any), none of them are engaged in the provision of support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UN-WOMEN hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm>. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts which may be entered into under this Contract, in accordance with the provisions of this Contract. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that each of the representations and warranties set forth in this Article constitutes an essential term of the Contract and that any breach of any of these representations and warranties shall entitle UN-WOMEN to terminate the Contract or any other contract with UN-WOMEN immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind.

4. INSPECTION

4.1 UN-WOMEN, or its authorized agent, reserves the right to review and inspect at any time all Services performed or being performed (including the preparation of deliverables) by the Contractor under this Contract, to the extent practicable, at all reasonable places and times during the term of this Contract, and Contractor shall provide UN-WOMEN access for the purpose of such inspection.

5. NON-EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES

5.1 If any Services performed by the Contractor do not conform to the requirements of this Contract, and/or in the event that the Contractor fails to comply with any condition of the Contract, without prejudice to and in addition to any of

UN-WOMEN's other rights and remedies under this Contract or otherwise, UN-WOMEN shall (after giving the Contractor reasonable notice to perform) have the following options, to be exercised in its sole discretion:

5.1.1 procure all or part of the Services from other sources;

5.1.2 refuse to accept delivery of all or part of the Services; or

5.1.3 terminate the Contract in accordance with Article 13.1,

and the Contractor shall be liable by reason of default for any loss or damage sustained and additional costs incurred by UN-WOMEN, including without limitation any increase in the price payable by UN-WOMEN resulting from the procurement of the Services from other sources. UN-WOMEN may, without notice to the Contractor, apply to the payment of any such loss, damage or additional costs, by setoff or otherwise, all credits, claims or other amounts, whether or not related to the Contract, at any time owing by UN-WOMEN to the Contractor. No grant of time to the Contractor to cure a default hereunder, nor any delay or failure by UN-WOMEN to exercise any other right or remedy available to UN-WOMEN under the Contract, shall prejudice any rights or remedies available to UN-WOMEN under the Contract or be deemed a waiver thereof. The rights and remedies herein provided are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights, remedies, powers and privileges provided by law.

6. TRANSLATION

6.1 The Parties shall sign this Contract in English. If the Parties decide to sign this Contract in English and in another language, the Parties shall sign two originals in each language, which shall be equally authentic. In case of a conflict between the originals in the English language and the other language, the English language text shall prevail.

7. NOTICES

7.1 Service of any notice referred to in the Contract or arising from it shall be deemed to be valid if sent by registered mail or by hand against authorised signature on receipt, to the address of the Party concerned as set forth in the Contract.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

8.1 Without limiting the provisions of Article 19 (Modifications) of the General Conditions (Annex B), no terms or provisions of this Contract shall be deemed waived and no breach excused, unless such waiver or excuse shall be in writing and signed by the Party giving the waiver or excuse. No consent to, or excuse or waiver of, a breach of this Contract shall constitute a consent to, or excuse or waiver of, any other subsequent breach.

8.2 If any provision of this Contract shall be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired.

8.3 Headings and titles used in this Contract are for reference purposes only and shall not be deemed a part of this Contract for any purpose whatsoever.

8.4 This Contract may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which taken together shall be deemed to constitute one and the same instrument.

8.5 Unless the context otherwise clearly indicates, all references to the singular herein shall include the plural and vice versa.

8.6 This Contract and everything herein contained shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the Parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns. No other person shall be a third party beneficiary hereof or have or be entitled to assert rights or benefits hereunder.

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ANNEX B

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT FOR *DE MINIMIS* CONTRACTS

1. **LEGAL STATUS OF THE PARTIES:** The Contractor shall be considered as having the legal status of an independent contractor *vis-à-vis* UN-WOMEN. The Contractor's personnel and sub-contractors shall not be considered in any respect as being the employees or agents of UN-WOMEN.
2. **RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES:** The Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical competence of its employees and will select, for work under this Contract, reliable individuals who will perform effectively in the implementation of this Contract, respect the local customs, and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.
3. **ASSIGNMENT:** The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, pledge or make other disposition of this Contract or any part thereof, or any of the Contractor's rights, claims or obligations under this Contract except with the prior written consent of UN-WOMEN.
4. **SUBCONTRACTING:** In the event the Contractor requires the services of sub-contractors, the Contractor shall obtain the prior written approval and clearance of UN-WOMEN for all sub-contractors. The approval of UN-WOMEN of a sub-contractor shall not relieve the Contractor of any of its obligations under this Contract. The terms of any sub-contract shall be subject to and conform with the provisions of this Contract.
5. **INDEMNIFICATION:** The Contractor shall indemnify, hold and save harmless, and defend, at its own expense, UN-WOMEN, its officials, agents, servants and employees from and against all suits, claims, demands, and liability of any nature or kind, including their costs and expenses, arising out of acts or omissions of the Contractor, or the Contractor's employees, officers, agents or sub-contractors, in the performance of this Contract. This provision shall extend, *inter alia*, to claims and liability in the nature of worker's compensation, products liability and liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property by the Contractor, its employees, officers, agents, servants or sub-contractors. The obligations under this Article do not lapse upon termination of this Contract.
6. **INSURANCE AND LIABILITY:**
 - 6.1 The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain insurance against all risks in respect of its property and any equipment used for the execution of this Contract.
 - 6.2 The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain all appropriate workmen's compensation insurance, or its equivalent, with respect to its employees to cover claims for personal injury or death in connection with this Contract.
 - 6.3 The Contractor shall also provide and thereafter maintain liability insurance in an adequate amount to cover third party claims for death or bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, arising from or in connection with the provision of services under this Contract or the operation of any vehicles, boats, airplanes or other equipment owned or leased by the Contractor or its agents, servants, employees or sub-contractors performing work or services in connection with this Contract.
 - 6.4 Except for the workmen's compensation insurance, the insurance policies under this Article shall:
 - 6.4.1 Name UN-WOMEN as additional insured;
 - 6.4.2 Include a waiver of subrogation of the Contractor's rights to the insurance carrier against UN-WOMEN;
 - 6.4.3 Provide that UN-WOMEN shall receive thirty (30) days written notice from the insurers prior to any cancellation or change of coverage.
 - 6.5 The Contractor shall, upon request, provide UN-WOMEN with satisfactory evidence of the insurance required under this Article 6.
7. **ENCUMBRANCES AND LIENS:** The Contractor shall not cause or permit any lien, attachment or other encumbrance by any person to be placed on file or to remain on file in any public office or on file with UN-WOMEN against any monies due to the Contractor or that may become due for any work done or against any goods supplied or

materials furnished under the Contract, or by reason of any other claim or demand against the Contractor or UN-WOMEN.

8. **EQUIPMENT FURNISHED BY UN-WOMEN TO THE CONTRACTOR:** Title to any equipment and supplies that may be furnished by UN-WOMEN to the Contractor for the performance of any obligations under the Contract shall rest with UN-WOMEN, and any such equipment shall be returned to UN-WOMEN at the conclusion of the Contract or when no longer needed by the Contractor. Such equipment, when returned to UN-WOMEN, shall be in the same condition as when delivered to the Contractor, subject to normal wear and tear, and the Contractor shall be liable to compensate UN-WOMEN for the actual costs of any loss of, damage to, or degradation of the equipment that is beyond normal wear and tear.
9. **COPYRIGHT, PATENTS AND OTHER PROPRIETARY RIGHTS:**
 - 9.1 Except as is otherwise expressly provided in writing in the Contract, UN-WOMEN shall be entitled to all intellectual property and other proprietary rights including, but not limited to, patents, copyrights, and trademarks, with regard to products, processes, inventions, ideas, know-how, or documents and other materials which the Contractor has developed for UN-WOMEN under the Contract and which bear a direct relation to or are produced or prepared or collected in consequence of, or during the course of, the performance of the Contract. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that such products, documents and other materials constitute works made for hire for UN-WOMEN.
 - 9.2 To the extent that any such intellectual property or other proprietary rights consist of any intellectual property or other proprietary rights of the Contractor: (i) that pre-existed the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract, or (ii) that the Contractor may develop or acquire, or may have developed or acquired, independently of the performance of its obligations under the Contract, UN-WOMEN does not and shall not claim any ownership interest thereto, and the Contractor grants to UN-WOMEN a perpetual license to use such intellectual property or other proprietary right solely for the purposes of and in accordance with the requirements of the Contract.
 - 9.3 At the request of UN-WOMEN, the Contractor shall take all necessary steps, execute all necessary documents and generally assist in securing such proprietary rights and transferring or licensing them to UN-WOMEN in compliance with the requirements of the applicable law and of the Contract.
 - 9.4 Subject to the foregoing provisions, all maps, drawings, photographs, mosaics, plans, reports, estimates, recommendations, documents, and all other data compiled by or received by the Contractor under the Contract shall be the property of UN-WOMEN, shall be made available for use or inspection by UN-WOMEN at reasonable times and in reasonable places, shall be treated as confidential, and shall be delivered only to UN-WOMEN authorized officials on completion of work under the Contract.
10. **PUBLICITY, AND USE OF THE NAME, EMBLEM OR OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS:** The Contractor shall not advertise or otherwise make public for purposes of commercial advantage or goodwill that it has a contractual relationship with UN-WOMEN, nor shall the Contractor, in any manner whatsoever use the name, emblem or official seal of the United Nations or UN-WOMEN, or any abbreviation of the name of the United Nations or UN-WOMEN in connection with its business or otherwise without the written permission of the United Nations.
11. **CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION:** Information and data that is considered proprietary by either Party or that is delivered or disclosed by one Party ("Discloser") to the other Party ("Recipient") during the course of performance of the Contract, and that is designated as confidential ("Information"), shall be held in confidence by that Party and shall be handled as follows:
 - 11.1 The Recipient shall:
 - 11.1.1 use the same care and discretion to avoid disclosure, publication or dissemination of the Discloser's Information as it uses with its own similar Information that it does not wish to disclose, publish or disseminate; *and*,
 - 11.1.2 use the Discloser's Information solely for the purpose for which it was disclosed.
 - 11.2 Provided that the Recipient has a written agreement with the following persons or entities requiring them to treat the Information confidential in accordance with the Contract and this Article 11, the Recipient may disclose Information to:

- 11.2.1 any other party with the Discloser's prior written consent; *and*,
- 11.2.2 the Recipient's employees, officials, representatives and agents who have a need to know such Information for purposes of performing obligations under the Contract, and employees, officials, representatives and agents of any legal entity that it controls, controls it, or with which it is under common control, who have a need to know such Information for purposes of performing obligations under the Contract, *provided that*, for these purposes a controlled legal entity means:
 - 11.2.2.1 a corporate entity in which the Party owns or otherwise controls, whether directly or indirectly, over fifty percent (50%) of voting shares thereof; *or*,
 - 11.2.2.2 any entity over which the Party exercises effective managerial control; *or*,
 - 11.2.2.3 for UN-WOMEN, a principal or subsidiary organ of the United Nations established in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.
- 11.3 The Contractor may disclose Information to the extent required by law, *provided that*, subject to and without any waiver of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, of which UN-WOMEN is an integral part, the Contractor will give UN-WOMEN sufficient prior notice of a request for the disclosure of Information in order to allow UN-WOMEN to have a reasonable opportunity to take protective measures or such other action as may be appropriate before any such disclosure is made.
- 11.4 UN-WOMEN may disclose Information to the extent as required pursuant to the Charter of the United Nations, or pursuant to resolutions or regulations of the General Assembly or rules promulgated thereunder.
- 11.5 The Recipient shall not be precluded from disclosing Information that is obtained by the Recipient from a third party without restriction, is disclosed by the Discloser to a third party without any obligation of confidentiality, is previously known by the Recipient, or at any time is developed by the Recipient completely independently of any disclosures hereunder.
- 11.6 These obligations and restrictions of confidentiality shall be effective during the term of the Contract, including any extension thereof, and, unless otherwise provided in the Contract, shall remain effective following any termination of the Contract.

12. FORCE MAJEURE; OTHER CHANGES IN CONDITIONS:

- 12.1 In the event of and as soon as possible after the occurrence of any cause constituting *force majeure*, the affected Party shall give notice and full particulars in writing to the other Party, of such occurrence or cause if the affected Party is thereby rendered unable, wholly or in part, to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under the Contract. The affected Party shall also notify the other Party of any other changes in condition or the occurrence of any event which interferes or threatens to interfere with its performance of the Contract. Not more than fifteen (15) days following the provision of such notice of *force majeure* or other changes in condition or occurrence, the affected Party shall also submit a statement to the other Party of estimated expenditures that will likely be incurred for the duration of the change in condition or the event of *force majeure*. On receipt of the notice or notices required hereunder, the Party not affected by the occurrence of a cause constituting *force majeure* shall take such action as it reasonably considers to be appropriate or necessary in the circumstances, including the granting to the affected Party of a reasonable extension of time in which to perform any obligations under the Contract.
- 12.2 If the Contractor is rendered unable, wholly or in part, by reason of *force majeure* to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under the Contract, UN-WOMEN shall have the right to suspend or terminate the Contract on the same terms and conditions as are provided for in Article 13, "Termination," except that the period of notice shall be seven (7) days instead of thirty (30) days. In any case, UN-WOMEN shall be entitled to consider the Contractor permanently unable to perform its obligations under the Contract in case the Contractor is unable to perform its obligations, wholly or in part, by reason of *force majeure* for any period in excess of ninety (90) days.
- 12.3 *Force majeure* as used herein means any unforeseeable and irresistible act of nature, any act of war (whether declared or not), invasion, revolution, insurrection, terrorism, or any other acts of a similar nature or force, *provided that* such acts arise from causes beyond the control and without the fault or

negligence of the Contractor. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, with respect to any obligations under the Contract that the Contractor must perform in areas in which UN-WOMEN is engaged in, preparing to engage in, or disengaging from any peacekeeping, humanitarian or similar operations, any delays or failure to perform such obligations arising from or relating to harsh conditions within such areas, or to any incidents of civil unrest occurring in such areas, shall not, in and of itself, constitute *force majeure* under the Contract.

13. TERMINATION:

- 13.1 Either party may terminate this Contract for cause, in whole or in part, upon thirty (30) days notice, in writing, to the other party. The initiation of arbitral proceedings in accordance with Article 16.2 (“Arbitration”), below, shall not be deemed a termination of this Contract.
- 13.2 UN-WOMEN may terminate forthwith this Contract at any time should the mandate or the funding of UN-WOMEN be curtailed or terminated, in which case the Contractor shall be reimbursed by UN-WOMEN for all reasonable costs incurred by the Contractor prior to receipt of the notice of termination.
- 13.3 In the event of any termination by UN-WOMEN under this Article, no payment shall be due from UN-WOMEN to the Contractor except for work and services satisfactorily performed in conformity with the express terms of this Contract.
- 13.4 Should the Contractor be adjudged bankrupt, or be liquidated or become insolvent, or should the Contractor make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or should a Receiver be appointed on account of the insolvency of the Contractor, UN-WOMEN may, without prejudice to any other right or remedy it may have under the terms of these conditions, terminate this Contract forthwith. The Contractor shall immediately inform UN-WOMEN of the occurrence of any of the above events.
- 13.5 The provisions of this Article 13 are without prejudice to any other rights or remedies of UN-WOMEN under the Contract or otherwise.

14. **NON-WAIVER OF RIGHTS:** The failure by either Party to exercise any rights available to it, whether under the Contract or otherwise, shall not be deemed for any purposes to constitute a waiver by the other Party of any such right or any remedy associated therewith, and shall not relieve the Parties of any of their obligations under the Contract.

15. **NON-EXCLUSIVITY:** Unless otherwise specified in the Contract, UN-WOMEN shall have no obligation to purchase any minimum quantities of goods or services from the Contractor, and UN-WOMEN shall have no limitation on its right to obtain goods or services of the same kind, quality and quantity described in the Contract, from any other source at any time.

16. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES:

- 16.1 **AMICABLE SETTLEMENT:** The Parties shall use their best efforts to amicably settle any dispute, controversy, or claim arising out of the Contract or the breach, termination, or invalidity thereof. Where the Parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through conciliation, the conciliation shall take place in accordance with the Conciliation Rules then obtaining of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (“UNCITRAL”), or according to such other procedure as may be agreed between the Parties in writing.
- 16.2 **ARBITRATION:** Any dispute, controversy, or claim between the Parties arising out of the Contract or the breach, termination, or invalidity thereof, unless settled amicably under Article 16.1, above, within sixty (60) days after receipt by one Party of the other Party’s written request for such amicable settlement, shall be referred by either Party to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules then obtaining. The decisions of the arbitral tribunal shall be based on general principles of international commercial law. The arbitral tribunal shall be empowered to order the return or destruction of goods or any property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, order the termination of the Contract, or order that any other protective measures be taken with respect to the goods, services or any other property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, as appropriate, all in accordance with the authority of the arbitral tribunal pursuant to Article 26 (“Interim measures”) and Article 34 (“Form and effect of the award”) of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. The arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award punitive damages. In addition, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Contract, the arbitral tribunal

shall have no authority to award interest in excess of the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) then prevailing, and any such interest shall be simple interest only. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of any such dispute, controversy, or claim.

17. **PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES:** Nothing in or relating to the Contract shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, of which UN-WOMEN is an integral part.

18. **TAX EXEMPTION:**

18.1 Article II, Section 7, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations provides, *inter alia*, that the United Nations, of which UN-WOMEN is an integral part, is exempt from all direct taxes, except charges for public utility services, and is exempt from customs restrictions, duties, and charges of a similar nature in respect of articles imported or exported for its official use. In the event any governmental authority refuses to recognize the exemptions of UN-WOMEN from such taxes, restrictions, duties, or charges, the Contractor shall immediately consult with UN-WOMEN to determine a mutually acceptable procedure.

18.2 The Contractor authorizes UN-WOMEN to deduct from the Contractor’s invoices any amount representing such taxes, duties or charges, unless the Contractor has consulted with UN-WOMEN before the payment thereof and UN-WOMEN has, in each instance, specifically authorized the Contractor to pay such taxes, duties, or charges under written protest. In that event, the Contractor shall provide UN-WOMEN with written evidence that payment of such taxes, duties or charges has been made and appropriately authorized, and UN-WOMEN shall reimburse the Contractor for any such taxes, duties, or charges so authorized by UN-WOMEN and paid by the Contractor under written protest.

19. **MODIFICATIONS:** Pursuant to the financial regulations and rules of UN-WOMEN, only the Head of the UN-WOMEN [Country][Regional] Office at [City, Country], or such other contracting authority as UN-Women has made known to the Contractor in writing, (“Authorised Representative”), possesses the authority to agree on behalf of UN-WOMEN to any modification of or change in this Contract, to a waiver of any of its provisions or to any additional contractual relationship of any kind with the Contractor. Accordingly, no modification or change in this Contract shall be valid and enforceable against UN-WOMEN unless provided by an amendment to this Contract signed by the Contractor and the Authorised Representative.

20. **AUDITS AND INVESTIGATIONS:**

20.1 Each invoice paid by UN-WOMEN shall be subject to a post-payment audit by auditors, whether internal or external, of UN-WOMEN or by other authorized and qualified agents of UN-WOMEN at any time during the term of the Contract and for a period of three (3) years following the expiration or prior termination of the Contract. UN-WOMEN shall be entitled to a refund from the Contractor for any amounts shown by such audits to have been paid by UN-WOMEN other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract.

20.2 UN-WOMEN may conduct investigations relating to any aspect of the Contract or the award thereof, the obligations performed under the Contract, and the operations of the Contractor generally relating to performance of the Contract at any time during the term of the Contract and for a period of three (3) years following the expiration or prior termination of the Contract.

20.3 The Contractor shall provide its full and timely cooperation with any such inspections, post-payment audits or investigations. Such cooperation shall include, but shall not be limited to, the Contractor’s obligation to make available its personnel and any relevant documentation for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions and to grant to UN-WOMEN access to the Contractor’s premises at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions in connection with such access to the Contractor’s personnel and relevant documentation. The Contractor shall require its agents, including, but not limited to, the Contractor’s attorneys, accountants or other advisers, to reasonably cooperate with any inspections, post-payment audits or investigations carried out by UN-WOMEN hereunder.

21. **LIMITATION ON ACTIONS:**

- 21.1 Except with respect to any indemnification obligations in Article 5, above, or as are otherwise set forth in the Contract, any arbitral proceedings in accordance with Article 16.2, above, arising out of the Contract must be commenced within three years after the cause of action has accrued.
 - 21.2 The Parties further acknowledge and agree that, for these purposes, a cause of action shall accrue when the breach actually occurs, or, in the case of latent defects, when the injured Party knew or should have known all of the essential elements of the cause of action, or in the case of a breach of warranty, when tender of delivery is made, except that, if a warranty extends to future performance of the goods or any process or system and the discovery of the breach consequently must await the time when such goods or other process or system is ready to perform in accordance with the requirements of the Contract, the cause of action accrues when such time of future performance actually begins.
22. **ESSENTIAL TERMS:** The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that each of the provisions in Articles 23 to 28 hereof constitutes an essential term of the Contract and that any breach of any of these provisions shall entitle UN-WOMEN to terminate the Contract or any other contract with UN-WOMEN immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind.
23. **SOURCE OF INSTRUCTIONS:** The Contractor shall neither seek nor accept instructions from any authority external to UN-WOMEN in connection with the performance of its obligations under the Contract. Should any authority external to UN-WOMEN seek to impose any instructions concerning or restrictions on the Contractor's performance under the Contract, the Contractor shall promptly notify UN-WOMEN and provide all reasonable assistance required by UN-WOMEN. The Contractor shall not take any action in respect of the performance of its obligations under the Contract that may adversely affect the interests of UN-WOMEN, and the Contractor shall perform its obligations under the Contract with the fullest regard to the interests of UN-WOMEN.
24. **OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT:** The Contractor warrants that it has not and shall not offer to any representative, official, employee, or other agent of UN-WOMEN any direct or indirect benefit arising from or related to the performance of the Contract or of any other contract with UN-WOMEN or the award thereof or for any other purpose intended to gain an advantage for the Contractor.
25. **OBSERVANCE OF THE LAW:** The Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the Contract. In addition, the Contractor shall maintain compliance with all obligations relating to its registration as a qualified vendor of goods or services to UN-WOMEN, as such obligations are set forth in the UN-WOMEN vendor registration procedures.
26. **CHILD LABOR:** The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it, its parent entities (if any), nor any of the Contractor's subsidiary or affiliated entities (if any) is engaged in any practice inconsistent with the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including Article 32 thereof, which, *inter alia*, requires that a child shall be protected from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development.
27. **MINES:** The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it, its parent entities (if any), nor any of the Contractor's subsidiaries or affiliated entities (if any) is engaged in the sale or manufacture of anti-personnel mines or components utilized in the manufacture of anti-personnel mines.
28. **SEXUAL EXPLOITATION:**
 - 28.1 The Contractor shall take all appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation or abuse of anyone by its employees or any other persons engaged and controlled by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract. For these purposes, sexual activity with any person less than eighteen years of age, regardless of any laws relating to consent, shall constitute the sexual exploitation and abuse of such person. In addition, the Contractor shall refrain from, and shall take all reasonable and appropriate measures to prohibit its employees or other persons engaged and controlled by it from exchanging any money, goods, services, or other things of value, for sexual favors or activities, or from engaging any sexual activities that are exploitive or degrading to any person.
 - 28.2 UN-WOMEN shall not apply the foregoing standard relating to age in any case in which the Contractor's personnel or any other person who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any

services under the Contract is married to the person less than the age of eighteen years with whom sexual activity has occurred and in which such marriage is recognized as valid under the laws of the country of citizenship of such Contractor's personnel or such other person who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract.

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SPECIAL CONDITION OF CONTRACT

The Contractor shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that neither it, its parent entities (if any), nor any of the contractor's subsidiary or affiliated entities (if any) are engaged in any discriminatory employment practices, including those relating to recruitment, promotion, training, remuneration and benefits, against women.

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