



## Request for Proposal (RFP)

Ref.no.

Date: 8 May 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Subject: RFP for a local organization to conduct civil society actors capacity needs assessment in the area of evidence-based advocacy and gender mainstreaming into social and healthcare policies/UN Women IAGE Programme**

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1. You are requested to submit a proposal for consulting services, as per enclosed Terms of Reference (TOR).
2. To enable you to submit a proposal, attached are:
  - i. Instructions to Offerors ..... (Annex I)
  - ii. General Conditions of Contract..... (Annex II)
  - iii. Terms of Reference (TOR)..... (Annex III)
  - iv. Proposal Submission Form .....(Annex IV)
  - v. Price Schedule/Financial Proposal ....(Annex V)
3. Your offer comprising of (1) technical proposal and (2) price schedule/financial proposal, in separate sealed envelopes, marked with **“RFP: Civil society actors capacity needs assessment/UN Women IAGE”** should reach the UN Women Georgia office no later than **June 15, 2013, 17.00** (Tbilisi time) at:

**UN Women Georgia**  
**UN House, 9 Eristavi Street, 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia**  
**Attention: UN Women Gender Advisor**

Contact person for clarifications: Khatuna Kunchulia, Programme Manager  
[khatuna.kunchulia@unwomen.org](mailto:khatuna.kunchulia@unwomen.org) (If you request additional information, we would endeavour to provide information expeditiously, but any delay in providing such information will not be considered a reason for extending the submission date of your proposal.

You are requested to acknowledge receipt of this letter and to indicate whether or not you intend to submit a proposal. Yours sincerely,

Damira Sartbaeva  
UN Women Representative/RPD  
UN Women Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

## Instructions to Offerors

### A. Introduction

#### 1. General

The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to solicit proposals from qualified local organizations to conduct civil society actors capacity needs assessment in the area of evidence-based advocacy and gender mainstreaming into social and healthcare policies within the UN Women's Programme' Innovative Action for Gender Equality' (IAGE). The assignment will be performed according to the ToR (Annex III) herewith. The Contract will be awarded to the organization with the best proposal, i.e. the proposal that will have the highest score according to the evaluation criteria stipulated under p.22 of Instructions to Offerors.

#### 2. Cost of proposal

The Offeror shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the Proposal, the UN Women will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the solicitation.

### B. Solicitation Documents

#### 3. Contents of solicitation documents

Proposals must offer services for the total requirement. Proposals offering only part of the requirement will be rejected. The Offeror is expected to examine all corresponding instructions, forms, terms and specifications contained in the Solicitation Documents. Failure to comply with these documents will be at the Offeror's risk and may affect the evaluation of the Proposal.

#### 4. Clarification of solicitation documents

A prospective Offeror requiring any clarification of the Solicitation Documents may notify the procuring UN Women entity in writing at the organisation's mailing address indicated in the RFP. The procuring UN Women entity will respond in writing to any request for clarification of the Solicitation Documents that it receives earlier than two weeks prior to the deadline for the submission of Proposals. Written copies of the organisation's response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) will be sent to all prospective Offerors that has received the Solicitation Documents.

#### 5. Amendments of solicitation documents

At any time prior to the deadline for submission of Proposals, the procuring UN Women entity may, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a prospective Offeror, modify the Solicitation Documents by amendment.

All prospective Offerors that have received the Solicitation Documents will be notified in writing of all amendments to the Solicitation Documents.

In order to afford prospective Offerors reasonable time in which to take the amendments into account in preparing their offers, the procuring UN Women entity may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of Proposals.

### C. Preparation of Proposals

#### 6. Language of the proposal

The Proposals prepared by the Offeror and all correspondence and documents relating to the Proposal exchanged by the Offeror and the procuring UN Women entity shall be written in the English language. Any printed literature furnished by the Offeror may be written in another language so long as accompanied by an English translation of its pertinent passages in which case, for purposes of interpretation of the Proposal, the English translation shall govern.

#### 7. Documents comprising the proposal

The Proposal shall comprise the following components:

- (a) Proposal submission form (Annex IV);
- (b) Operational and technical part of the Proposal, including documentation to demonstrate that the Offeror meets all the requirements stipulated in the ToR (Annex III);
- (c) Price schedule, completed in accordance with clauses 9 and 10 (Annex V);

#### 8. Operational and technical documentation

The operational and technical part of the Proposal shall contain the following documents:

- Organization's profile containing the description of relevant experience in the field (experience, human resources, technical and managerial capacity in the related field);
- Copy of registration certificate;
- Work-plan and methodology for the task in question (detailed description of methodology and activities, schedule, agenda);
- CVs of involved professionals, including the role and tasks of each of them, especially of team-leader/coordinator and other qualified staff (team members);
- Detailed financial proposal containing budget of this initiative (**presented in a separate sealed envelope**);
- Other relevant documents.

#### 9. Proposal form

The Offeror shall structure the operational and technical part of its Proposal as follows:

##### (a) Management plan

This section should provide corporate orientation to include the year and state/country of incorporation and a brief description of the Offeror's present activities. It should focus on services related to the Proposal.

This section should also describe the organisational unit(s) that will become responsible for the contract, and the general management approach towards a project of this kind. The Offeror should comment on its experience in similar projects and identify the person(s) representing the Offeror in any future dealing with the procuring UN Women entity.

##### (b) Resource plan

This should fully explain the Offeror's resources in terms of personnel and facilities necessary for the performance of this requirement. It should describe the Offeror's current capabilities/facilities and any plans for their expansion.

##### (c) Proposed methodology

This section should demonstrate the Offeror's responsiveness to the specification by identifying the specific components proposed, addressing the requirements, as specified, point by point; providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics proposed warranty; and demonstrating how the proposed methodology meets or exceeds the specifications.

The operational and technical part of the Proposal should not contain any pricing information whatsoever on the services offered. Pricing information shall be separated and only contained in the appropriate Price Schedules.

It is mandatory that the Offeror's Proposal numbering system corresponds with the numbering system used in the body of this RFP. All references to descriptive material and brochures should be included in the appropriate response paragraph, though material/documents themselves may be provided as annexes to the Proposal/response.

Information which the Offeror considers proprietary, if any, should be clearly marked "proprietary" next to the relevant part of the text and it will then be treated as such accordingly.

#### 10. Proposal prices

The Offeror shall indicate on an appropriate Price Schedule/Financial Proposal, an example of which is contained in these Solicitation Documents, the prices of services it proposes to supply under the contract.

#### 11. Proposal currencies

All prices shall be quoted in GEL and shall be VAT exclusive. For comparison purposes, all other currencies shall be converted into Georgian Lari using the UN Operational Rate of Exchange on the day of the competition deadline.

#### 12. Period of validity of proposals

Proposals shall remain valid for ninety (90) days after the date of Proposal submission prescribed by the procuring UN Women entity, pursuant to the deadline clause. A Proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by the procuring UN Women entity on the grounds that it is non-responsive.

In exceptional circumstances, the procuring UN Women entity may solicit the Offeror's consent to an extension of the period of validity. The request and the responses thereto shall be made in writing. An Offeror granting the request will not be required nor permitted to modify its Proposal.

#### 13. Format and signing of proposals

The Offeror shall prepare two copies of the Proposal, clearly marking each "Original Proposal" and "Copy of Proposal" as appropriate. In the event of any discrepancy between them, the original shall govern.

The two copies of the Proposal shall be typed or written in indelible ink and shall be signed by the Offeror or a person or persons duly authorised to bind the Offeror to the contract. The latter authorisation shall be indicated by written power-of-attorney accompanying the Proposal.

A Proposal shall contain no interlineations, erasures, or overwriting except, as necessary to correct errors made by the Offeror, in which case such corrections shall be initialled by the person or persons signing the Proposal.

#### 14. Payment

UN Women shall effect payments to the Contractor after acceptance by UN Women of the invoices submitted by the contractor, upon achievement of the corresponding deliverables.

#### D. Submission of Proposals

##### 15. Sealing and marking of proposals

The Offeror shall seal the Proposal in one outer and two inner envelopes, as detailed below.

(a) The outer envelope shall be:

- addressed to –

**UN Women Georgia**  
**UN House, 9 Eristavi Street, 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia**  
**Attention: UN Women Gender Advisor**  
and,

- marked with –

**“RFP: Civil society actors capacity needs assessment/UN Women IAGE”**

(b) Both inner envelopes shall indicate the name and address of the Offeror. The first inner envelope shall contain the information specified in Clause 8 (*Operational and technical documentation*) and in Clause 9 (*Proposal form*) above, with the copies duly marked "Original" and "Copy". The second inner envelope shall include the price schedule duly identified as such.

**Note: if the inner envelopes are not sealed and marked as per the instructions in this clause, the procuring UN Women entity will not assume responsibility for the Proposal's misplacement or premature opening.**

**16. Deadline for submission of proposals**

Proposals must be received by the procuring UN Women entity at the address specified under clause *Sealing and marking of Proposals* no later than **15 June 2013, 17.00, Tbilisi time.**

The procuring UN Women entity may, at its own discretion extend this deadline for the submission of Proposals by amending the solicitation documents in accordance with clause *Amendments of Solicitation Documents*, in which case all rights and obligations of the procuring UN Women entity and Offerors previously subject to the deadline will thereafter be subject to the deadline as extended.

**17. Late Proposals**

Any Proposal received by the procuring UN Women entity after the deadline for submission of proposals, pursuant to clause *Deadline for the submission of proposals*, will be rejected.

**18. Modification and withdrawal of Proposals**

The Offeror may withdraw its Proposal after the Proposal's submission, provided that written notice of the withdrawal is received by the procuring UN Women entity prior to the deadline prescribed for submission of Proposals.

The Offeror's 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 telex 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 Offeror on the Proposal Submission Form.

**E. Opening and Evaluation of Proposals**

**19. Opening of proposals**

The procuring entity will open the Proposals in the presence of a Committee formed by the Head of the procuring UN Women entity.

**20. Clarification of proposals**

To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of Proposals, the Purchaser may at its discretion, ask the Offeror for clarification of its Proposal. The request for clarification and the response shall be in writing and no change in price or substance of the Proposal shall be sought, offered or permitted.

**21. Preliminary examination**

The Purchaser will examine the Proposals to determine whether they are complete, whether any computational errors have been made, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the Proposals are generally in order.

Arithmetical errors will be rectified on the following basis: If there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the total price that is obtained by multiplying the unit price and quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the total price shall be corrected. If the Offeror does not accept the correction of errors, its Proposal will be rejected. If there is a discrepancy between words and figures the amount in words will prevail.

Prior to the detailed evaluation, the Purchaser will determine the substantial responsiveness of each Proposal to the Request for Proposals (RFP). For purposes of these Clauses, a substantially responsive Proposal is one which conforms to all the terms and conditions of the RFP without

material deviations. The Purchaser's determination of a Proposal's responsiveness is based on the contents of the Proposal itself without recourse to extrinsic evidence.

A Proposal determined as not substantially responsive will be rejected by the Purchaser and may not subsequently be made responsive by the Offeror by correction of the non-conformity.

## 22. Evaluation and comparison of proposals

A two-stage procedure is utilised in evaluating the proposals, with evaluation of the technical proposal being completed prior to any price proposal being opened and compared. The price proposal of the Proposals will be opened only for submissions that passed the minimum technical score of 70% of the obtainable score of 700 points in the evaluation of the technical proposals.

The technical proposal is evaluated on the basis of its responsiveness to the Term of Reference (TOR) and the Instructions to Offerors.

In the Second Stage, the price proposal of all contractors, who have attained minimum 70% score in the technical evaluation, will be compared. The **cumulative analysis scheme** will be applied with a total score being obtained upon the combination of weighted technical and financial attributes. An Offeror's response to the solicitation document is evaluated and points are attributed based on how well they meet the defined desirable criteria. Cost under this method of analysis is rendered as an award criterion, which will be 30% out of a total score of 1000 of all the desirable factors of the RFP. The contract will be awarded to the offeror obtaining the highest cumulative score. The following formula will be applied in calculating the cumulative score:

$$B = T + \frac{C_{low}}{C} \times 300,$$

where

$T$  – is the total technical score awarded to the evaluated proposal;

$C$  – is the price of the evaluated proposal; and

$C_{low}$  – is the lowest of all evaluated proposal prices among responsive proposals.

### Technical Evaluation Criteria

Summary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms		Score Weight	Points Obtainable	Company/other entity				
				A	B	C	D	E
1.	Expertise and Capacity of Organisation Submitting Proposal	30%	210					
2.	Proposed Concept, Work Plan and Methodology	40%	280					
3.	Personnel	30%	210					
<b>Total</b>			<b>700</b>					

Evaluation forms for the technical proposals follow. The obtainable number of points specified for each evaluation criterion indicates the relative significance or weight of the item in the overall evaluation process. The Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms are:

Form 1: Expertise and Capacity of Organisation Submitting Proposal

Form 2: Proposed Concept Note, Work Plan and Methodology

Form 3: Personnel

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 1		Points Obtainable
1.	Expertise and Capacity of Organization Submitting Proposal	

1.1	Is an officially registered legal entity in Georgia eligible for the assignment;	10
1.2	Has at least five years' of consultancy, research and analytical work experience	35
1.3	Has proven track record of working on capacity development initiatives with the civil society sector of Georgia	45
1.4	Has established quality assurance procedures	20
1.5	Relevance of:	30
	- Possess good knowledge of the main trends, developments and challenges of Civil Society sector of Georgia	10
	- Has experience in mapping/ assessing organizations to identify the capacity development needs	10
	- Experience of working on similar tasks with donor/international and/or national governmental and civil society organisations	10
1.6	Proven experience of working on gender equality and human rights, including evidence based policy-making and advocacy.	70
	- less than 3 years	40
	- between 3 and 5 years	50
	- more than 5 years	70
Total Part 1		<b>210</b>

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 2		Points Obtainable
<b>Proposed Concept Note, Work Plan and Methodology</b>		
2.1	The task is well understood, properly addressed and correspond to this RfP requirements (especially ToR Annex III)	40
2.2	Aspects of the task in question are addressed in sufficient details	30
2.3	Different components of the assignment are adequately weighted relative to one another	20
2.4	Efficient and realistic work plan corresponding to the needs/specifics stipulated in the ToR (sequence of activities is realistic and will ensure effective implementation of the work plan in compliance with the ToR time frame)	90
2.5	The proposed concept note, methodology includes the main approaches and data collection strategies relevant for the study as stipulated by the ToR, namely: sound conceptual basis for approaching the study; suggested methodological framework; tools/strategies for data collection and analysis; adequate number and qualification of the personnel foreseen for the implementation of the study	100
Total Part 2		<b>280</b>

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 3		Points Obtainable
<b>Personnel</b>		
3.1.	<b>Coordinator/Team leader</b>	Sub-score
	Higher Education in international relations, social sciences or related field or equivalent working experience	10
	Extensive consultancy, research and analytical work experience	20
	- less than 2 years	5
	- from 2-to 4 years	10

	- 5 years or more	20		
	Good managerial and leadership skills, abilities to plan, coordinate and implement the multiple tasks involving different stakeholders and parties; ability to translate strategic thinking and innovative ideas into practical operations and actions		30	
	- less than 3 years	10		
	- 3-5 years	20		
	- more than 5 years	30		
	Good knowledge of the main trends, developments and challenges of the civil society sector of Georgia		15	
	Solid knowledge and understanding of the methodology of mapping to identify the capacity development needs		15	
	Good understanding and demonstrated knowledge of gender equality and women’s rights context in Georgia, including evidence based policy-making and advocacy		15	
	Ability to plan and undertake capacity mapping, combined with excellent writing skills with demonstrated ability to identify critical capacity needs and gaps, collect and analyze data in line with the given timeframe and use of data in report writing		15	
	Language qualifications: Fluency in Georgian and English		10	
	Sub-Score		130	
3.2	Team members/staff		Sub-score	80
Higher Education in international relations, social sciences or related field or equivalent working experience		20		
Extensive consultancy, research and analytical work experience		40		
o less than 3 years		30		
o 3 years or more		40		
Ability to plan and undertake capacity mapping, combined with excellent writing skills with demonstrated ability to identify critical capacity needs and gaps, collect and analyze data in line with the given timeframe and use of data in report writing		5		
Good knowledge of the main trends, developments and challenges of the civil society sector of Georgia;		10		
Language qualifications: Fluency in Georgian and English		5		
Sub-score		80		
	Total Part 3			210

The nominated Coordinator must be the employee who will be responsible for the overall management and coordination of the project inputs and distribution of operational tasks among the other involved staff members/experts the entire period set for this contract including elaboration of the final report.

## F. Award of Contract

### 23. Award criteria, award of contract

The procuring UN Women entity reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal, and to annul the solicitation process and reject all Proposals at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Offeror or any obligation to inform the affected Offeror or Offerors of the grounds for the Purchaser's action



Prior to expiration of the period of proposal validity, the procuring UN Women entity will award the contract to the qualified Offeror whose Proposal after being evaluated is considered to be the most responsive to the needs of the organisation and activity concerned.

**24. Purchaser's right to vary requirements at time of award**

The Purchaser reserves the right at the time of award of contract to vary the quantity of services and goods specified in the RFP without any change in price or other terms and conditions.

**25. Signing of the contract**

Within 30 days of receipt of the contract the successful Offeror shall sign and date the contract and return it to the Purchaser.

Failure of the successful Offeror to comply with the requirement of Clause 25 shall constitute sufficient grounds for the annulment of the award and forfeiture of the Proposal security if any, in which event the Purchaser may make the award to the next lowest evaluated Offeror or call for new Proposals.

## General Conditions of Contract

1. **LEGAL STATUS OF THE PARTIES:** The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-WOMEN) and the Contractor shall also each be referred to as a “Party” hereunder, and:
  - 1.1 Pursuant, *inter alia*, to the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs, has full juridical personality and enjoys such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent fulfillment of its purposes.
  - 1.2 The Contractor shall have the legal status of an independent contractor *vis-à-vis* UN-WOMEN, and nothing contained in or relating to the Contract shall be construed as establishing or creating between the Parties the relationship of employer and employee or of principal and agent. The officials, representatives, employees, or subcontractors of each of the Parties shall not be considered in any respect as being the employees or agents of the other Party, and each Party shall be solely responsible for all claims arising out of or relating to its engagement of such persons or entities.
2. **RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES:** To the extent that the Contract involves the provision of any services to UN-WOMEN by the Contractor’s officials, employees, agents, servants, subcontractors and other representatives (collectively, the Contractor’s “personnel”), the following provisions shall apply:
  - 2.1 The Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical competence of the personnel it assigns to perform work under the Contract and will select reliable and competent individuals who will be able to effectively perform the obligations under the Contract and who, while doing so, will respect the local laws and customs and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.
  - 2.2 Such Contractor personnel shall be professionally qualified and, if required to work with officials or staff of UN-WOMEN, shall be able to do so effectively. The qualifications of any personnel whom the Contractor may assign or may propose to assign to perform any obligations under the Contract shall be substantially the same, or better, as the qualifications of any personnel originally proposed by the Contractor.
  - 2.3 At the option of and in the sole discretion of UN-WOMEN:
    - 2.3.1 the qualifications of personnel proposed by the Contractor (*e.g.*, a curriculum vitae) may be reviewed by UN-WOMEN prior to such personnel’s performing any obligations under the Contract;
    - 2.3.2 any personnel proposed by the Contractor to perform obligations under the Contract may be interviewed by qualified staff or officials of UN-WOMEN prior to such personnel’s performing any obligations under the Contract; and,
    - 2.3.3 in cases in which, pursuant to Article 2.3.1 or 2.3.2, above, UN-WOMEN has reviewed the qualifications of such Contractor’s personnel, UN-WOMEN may reasonably refuse to accept any such personnel.
  - 2.4 Requirements specified in the Contract regarding the number or qualifications of the Contractor’s personnel may change during the course of performance of the Contract. Any such change shall be made only following written notice of such proposed change and upon written agreement between the Parties regarding such change, subject to the following:
    - 2.4.1 UN-WOMEN may, at any time, request, in writing, the withdrawal or replacement of any of the Contractor’s personnel, and such request shall not be unreasonably refused by the Contractor.
    - 2.4.2 Any of the Contractor’s personnel assigned to perform obligations under the Contract shall not be withdrawn or replaced without the prior written consent of UN-WOMEN, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.

- 2.4.3 The withdrawal or replacement of the Contractor's personnel shall be carried out as quickly as possible and in a manner that will not adversely affect the performance of obligations under the Contract.
  - 2.4.4 All expenses related to the withdrawal or replacement of the Contractor's personnel shall, in all cases, be borne exclusively by the Contractor.
  - 2.4.5 Any request by UN-WOMEN for the withdrawal or replacement of the Contractor's personnel shall not be considered to be a termination, in whole or in part, of the Contract, and UN-WOMEN shall not bear any liability in respect of such withdrawn or replaced personnel.
  - 2.4.6 If a request for the withdrawal or replacement of the Contractor's personnel is *not* based upon a default by or failure on the part of the Contractor to perform its obligations in accordance with the Contract, the misconduct of the personnel, or the inability of such personnel to reasonably work together with UN-WOMEN officials and staff, then the Contractor shall not be liable by reason of any such request for the withdrawal or replacement of the Contractor's personnel for any delay in the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract that is substantially the result of such personnel's being withdrawn or replaced.
- 2.5 Nothing in Articles 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4, above, shall be construed to create any obligations on the part of UN-WOMEN with respect to the Contractor's personnel assigned to perform work under the Contract, and such personnel shall remain the sole responsibility of the Contractor.
- 2.6 The Contractor shall be responsible for requiring that all personnel assigned by it to perform any obligations under the Contract and who may have access to any premises or other property of UN-WOMEN shall:
- 2.6.1 undergo or comply with security screening requirements made known to the Contractor by UN-WOMEN, including but not limited to, a review of any criminal history;
  - 2.6.2 when within UN-WOMEN premises or on the United Nations property, display such identification as may be approved and furnished by the United Nations security officials, and that upon the withdrawal or replacement of any such personnel or upon termination or completion of the Contract, such personnel shall immediately return any such identification to UN-WOMEN for cancellation.
- 2.7 Within one working day after learning that any of Contractor's personnel who have access to any United Nations premises have been charged by law enforcement authorities with an offense other than a minor traffic offense, the Contractor shall provide written notice to inform UN-WOMEN about the particulars of the charges then known and shall continue to inform UN-WOMEN concerning all substantial developments regarding the disposition of such charges.
- 2.8 All operations of the Contractor, including without limitation, storage of equipment, materials, supplies and parts, within UN-WOMEN premises or on the United Nations property shall be confined to areas authorized or approved by UN-WOMEN. The Contractor's personnel shall not enter or pass through and shall not store or dispose of any of its equipment or materials in any areas within UN-WOMEN premises or on United Nations property without appropriate authorization from UN-WOMEN.

### 3. **ASSIGNMENT:**

- 3.1 Except as provided in Article 3.2, below, the Contractor may not assign, transfer, pledge or make any other disposition of the Contract, of any part of the Contract, or of any of the rights, claims or obligations under the Contract except with the prior written authorization

of the UN. Any such unauthorized assignment, transfer, pledge or other disposition, or any attempt to do so, shall not be binding on UN-WOMEN. Except as permitted with respect to any approved subcontractors, the Contractor shall not delegate any of its obligations under this Contract, except with the prior written consent of UN-WOMEN. Any such unauthorized delegation, or attempt to do so, shall not be binding on UN-WOMEN.

3.2 The Contractor may assign or otherwise transfer the Contract to the surviving entity resulting from a reorganization of the Contractor's operations, *provided that*:

3.2.1 such reorganization is not the result of any bankruptcy, receivership or other similar proceedings; *and*,

3.2.2 such reorganization arises from a sale, merger, or acquisition of all or substantially all of the Contractor's assets or ownership interests; *and*,

3.2.3 the Contractor promptly notifies UN-WOMEN about such assignment or transfer at the earliest opportunity; *and*,

3.2.4 the assignee or transferee agrees in writing to be bound by all of the terms and conditions of the Contract, and such writing is promptly provided to UN-WOMEN following the assignment or transfer.

4. **SUBCONTRACTING:** In the event that the Contractor requires the services of subcontractors to perform any obligations under the Contract, the Contractor shall obtain the prior written approval of UN-WOMEN. UN-WOMEN shall be entitled, in its sole discretion, to review the qualifications of any subcontractors and to reject any proposed subcontractor that UN-WOMEN reasonably considers is not qualified to perform obligations under the Contract. UN-WOMEN shall have the right to require any subcontractor's removal from UN-WOMEN premises without having to give any justification therefore. Any such rejection or request for removal shall not, in and of itself, entitle the Contractor to claim any delays in the performance, or to assert any excuses for the non-performance, of any of its obligations under the Contract, and the Contractor shall be solely responsible for all services and obligations performed by its subcontractors. The terms of any subcontract shall be subject to, and shall be construed in a manner that is fully in accordance with, all of the terms and conditions of the Contract.

5. **INDEMNIFICATION:**

5.1 The Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold and save harmless, UN-WOMEN, and its officials, agents and employees, from and against all suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses and liability of any kind or nature brought by any third party against UN-WOMEN, including, but not limited to, all litigation costs and expenses, attorney's fees, settlement payments and damages, based on, arising from, or relating to:

5.1.1 allegations or claims that the possession of or use by UN-WOMEN of any patented device, any copyrighted material, or any other goods, property or services provided or licensed to UN-WOMEN under the terms of the Contract, in whole or in part, separately or in a combination contemplated by the Contractor's published specifications therefor, or otherwise specifically approved by the Contractor, constitutes an infringement of any patent, copyright, trademark, or other intellectual property right of any third party; *or*,

5.1.2 any acts or omissions of the Contractor, or of any subcontractor or anyone directly or indirectly employed by them in the performance of the Contract, which give rise to legal liability to anyone not a party to the Contract, including, without limitation, claims and liability in the nature of a claim for workers' compensation.

5.2 The indemnity set forth in Article 5.1.1, above, shall not apply to:

- 5.2.1 A claim of infringement resulting from the Contractor's compliance with specific written instructions by UN-WOMEN directing a change in the specifications for the goods, property, materials, equipment or supplies to be or used, or directing a manner of performance of the Contract or requiring the use of specifications not normally used by the Contractor; *or*
  - 5.2.2 A claim of infringement resulting from additions to or changes in any goods, property, materials equipment, supplies or any components thereof furnished under the Contract if UN-WOMEN or another party acting under the direction of UN-WOMEN made such changes.
- 5.3 In addition to the indemnity obligations set forth in this Article 5, the Contractor shall be obligated, at its sole expense, to defend UN-WOMEN and its officials, agents and employees, pursuant to this Article 5, regardless of whether the suits, proceedings, claims and demands in question actually give rise to or otherwise result in any loss or liability.
- 5.4 UN-WOMEN shall advise the Contractor about any such suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses or liability within a reasonable period of time after having received actual notice thereof. The Contractor shall have sole control of the defence of any such suit, proceeding, claim or demand and of all negotiations in connection with the settlement or compromise thereof, except with respect to the assertion or defence of the privileges and immunities of UN-WOMEN or any matter relating thereto, for which only UN-WOMEN itself is authorized to assert and maintain. UN-WOMEN shall have the right, at its own expense, to be represented in any such suit, proceeding, claim or demand by independent counsel of its own choosing.
- 5.5 In the event the use by UN-WOMEN of any goods, property or services provided or licensed to UN-WOMEN by the Contractor, in whole or in part, in any suit or proceeding, is for any reason enjoined, temporarily or permanently, or is found to infringe any patent, copyright, trademark or other intellectual property right, or in the event of a settlement, is enjoined, limited or otherwise interfered with, then the Contractor, at its sole cost and expense, shall, promptly, either:
- 5.5.1 procure for UN-WOMEN the unrestricted right to continue using such goods or services provided to UN-WOMEN;
  - 5.5.2 replace or modify the goods or services provided to UN-WOMEN, or part thereof, with the equivalent or better goods or services, or part thereof, that is non-infringing; *or*,
  - 5.5.3 refund to UN-WOMEN the full price paid by UN-WOMEN for the right to have or use such goods, property or services, or part thereof.

## **6. INSURANCE AND LIABILITY:**

- 6.1 The Contractor shall pay UN-WOMEN promptly for all loss, destruction, or damage to the property of UN-WOMEN caused by the Contractor's personnel or by any of its subcontractors or anyone else directly or indirectly employed by the Contractor or any of its subcontractors in the performance of the Contract.
- 6.2 Unless otherwise provided in the Contract, prior to commencement of performance of any other obligations under the Contract, and subject to any limits set forth in the Contract, the Contractor shall take out and shall maintain for the entire term of the Contract, for any extension thereof, and for a period following any termination of the Contract reasonably adequate to deal with losses:
- 6.2.1 insurance against all risks in respect of its property and any equipment used for the performance of the Contract;
  - 6.2.2 workers' compensation insurance, or its equivalent, or employer's liability insurance,

- or its equivalent, with respect to the Contractor's personnel sufficient to cover all claims for injury, death and disability, or any other benefits required to be paid by law, in connection with the performance of the Contract;
- 6.2.3 liability insurance in an adequate amount to cover all claims, including, but not limited to, claims for death and bodily injury, products and completed operations liability, loss of or damage to property, and personal and advertising injury, arising from or in connection with the Contractor's performance under the Contract, including, but not limited to, liability arising out of or in connection with the acts or omissions of the Contractor, its personnel, agents, or invitees, or the use, during the performance of the Contract, of any vehicles, boats, airplanes or other transportation vehicles and equipment, whether or not owned by the Contractor; *and*,
- 6.2.4 such other insurance as may be agreed upon in writing between UN-WOMEN and the Contractor.
- 6.3 The Contractor's liability policies shall also cover subcontractors and all defence costs and shall contain a standard "cross liability" clause.
- 6.4 The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that UN-WOMEN accepts no responsibility for providing life, health, accident, travel or any other insurance coverage which may be necessary or desirable in respect of any personnel performing services for the Contractor in connection with the Contract.
- 6.5 Except for the workers' compensation insurance or any self-insurance program maintained by the Contractor and approved by UN-WOMEN, in its sole discretion, for purposes of fulfilling the Contractor's requirements for providing insurance under the Contract, the insurance policies required under the Contract shall:
- 6.5.1 name UN-WOMEN as an additional insured under the liability policies, including, if required, as a separate endorsement under the policy;
- 6.5.2 include a waiver of subrogation of the Contractor's insurance carrier's rights against UN-WOMEN;
- 6.5.3 provide that UN-WOMEN shall receive written notice from the Contractor's insurance carrier not less than thirty (30) days prior to any cancellation or material change of coverage; *and*,
- 6.5.4 include a provision for response on a primary and non-contributing basis with respect to any other insurance that may be available to UN-WOMEN.
- 6.6 The Contractor shall be responsible to fund all amounts within any policy deductible or retention.
- 6.7 Except for any self-insurance program maintained by the Contractor and approved by UN-WOMEN for purposes of fulfilling the Contractor's requirements for maintaining insurance under the Contract, the Contractor shall maintain the insurance taken out under the Contract with reputable insurers that are in good financial standing and that are acceptable to UN-WOMEN. Prior to the commencement of any obligations under the Contract, the Contractor shall provide UN-WOMEN with evidence, in the form of certificate of insurance or such other form as UN-WOMEN may reasonably require, that demonstrates that the Contractor has taken out insurance in accordance with the requirements of the Contract. UN-WOMEN reserves the right, upon written notice to the Contractor, to obtain copies of any insurance policies or insurance program descriptions required to be maintained by the Contractor under the Contract. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 6.5.3, above, the Contractor shall promptly notify UN-WOMEN concerning any cancellation or material change of insurance coverage required under the Contract.
- 6.8 The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that neither the requirement for taking out and

maintaining insurance as set forth in the Contract nor the amount of any such insurance, including, but not limited to, any deductible or retention relating thereto, shall in any way be construed as limiting the Contractor's liability arising under or relating to the Contract.

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 UN-WOMEN OR 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 UN-WOMEN or the United Nations, or any abbreviation of the name of UN-WOMEN or the United Nations in connection with its business or otherwise without the written permission UN-WOMEN.

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 the United Nations, 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 including its subsidiary organs, 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 there under.

- 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 the Contract for cause, in whole or in part, upon thirty (30) day's notice, in writing, to the other Party. The initiation of conciliation or arbitral proceedings in accordance with Article 16 "Settlement of Disputes," below, shall not be deemed to be a "cause" for or otherwise to be in itself a termination of the Contract.
- 13.2 UN-WOMEN may terminate the Contract at any time by providing written notice to the Contractor in any case in which the mandate of UN-WOMEN applicable to the performance of the Contract or the funding of UN-WOMEN applicable to the Contract is curtailed or terminated, whether in whole or in part. In addition, unless otherwise provided by the Contract, upon sixty (60) day's advance written notice to the Contractor, UN-WOMEN may terminate the Contract without having to provide any justification therefor.
- 13.3 In the event of any termination of the Contract, upon receipt of notice of termination that

has been issued by UN-WOMEN, the Contractor shall, except as may be directed by UN-WOMEN in the notice of termination or otherwise in writing:

- 13.3.1 take immediate steps to bring the performance of any obligations under the Contract to a close in a prompt and orderly manner, and in doing so, reduce expenses to a minimum;
  - 13.3.2 refrain from undertaking any further or additional commitments under the Contract as of and following the date of receipt of such notice;
  - 13.3.3 place no further subcontracts or orders for materials, services, or facilities, except as UN-WOMEN and the Contractor agree in writing are necessary to complete any portion of the Contract that is not terminated;
  - 13.3.4 terminate all subcontracts or orders to the extent they relate to the portion of the Contract terminated;
  - 13.3.5 transfer title and deliver to UN-WOMEN the fabricated or unfabricated parts, work in process, completed work, supplies, and other material produced or acquired for the portion of the Contract terminated;
  - 13.3.6 deliver all completed or partially completed plans, drawings, information, and other property that, if the Contract had been completed, would be required to be furnished to UN-WOMEN thereunder;
  - 13.3.7 complete performance of the work not terminated; *and*,
  - 13.3.8 take any other action that may be necessary, or that UN-WOMEN may direct in writing, for the minimization of losses and for the protection and preservation of any property, whether tangible or intangible, related to the Contract that is in the possession of the Contractor and in which UN-WOMEN has or may be reasonably expected to acquire an interest.
- 13.4 In the event of any termination of the Contract, UN-WOMEN shall be entitled to obtain reasonable written accountings from the Contractor concerning all obligations performed or pending in accordance with the Contract. In addition, UN-WOMEN shall not be liable to pay the Contractor except for those goods delivered and services provided to UN-WOMEN in accordance with the requirements of the Contract, but only if such goods or services were ordered, requested or otherwise provided prior to the Contractor's receipt of notice of termination from UN-WOMEN or prior to the Contractor's tendering of notice of termination to UN-WOMEN.
- 13.5 UN-WOMEN may, without prejudice to any other right or remedy available to it, terminate the Contract forthwith in the event that:
- 13.5.1 the Contractor is adjudged bankrupt, or is liquidated, or becomes insolvent, or applies for a moratorium or stay on any payment or repayment obligations, or applies to be declared insolvent;
  - 13.5.2 the Contractor is granted a moratorium or a stay, or is declared insolvent;
  - 13.5.3 the Contractor makes an assignment for the benefit of one or more of its creditors;
  - 13.5.4 a Receiver is appointed on account of the insolvency of the Contractor;
  - 13.5.5 the Contractor offers a settlement in lieu of bankruptcy or receivership; *or*,
  - 13.5.6 UN-WOMEN reasonably determines that the Contractor has become subject to a materially adverse change in its financial condition that threatens to substantially affect the ability of the Contractor to perform any of its obligations under the Contract.
- 13.6 Except as prohibited by law, the Contractor shall be bound to compensate UN-WOMEN for all damages and costs, including, but not limited to, all costs incurred by UN-WOMEN in any legal or non-legal proceedings, as a result of any of the events specified in Article 13.5, above, and resulting from or relating to a termination of the Contract, even if the Contractor is adjudged bankrupt, or is granted a moratorium or stay or is declared

insolvent. The Contractor shall immediately inform UN-WOMEN of the occurrence of any of the events specified in Article 13.5, above, and shall provide UN-WOMEN with any information pertinent thereto.

13.7 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, including its subsidiary organs.

**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, including its subsidiary organs, 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:**

- 19.1 Pursuant to the Financial Regulations and Rules of UN-WOMEN, only the Chief Procurement Officer of UN-WOMEN, or such other Contracting authority as UN-WOMEN has made known to the Contractor in writing, possesses the authority to agree on behalf of UN-WOMEN to any modification of or change in the 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 the Contract shall be valid and enforceable against UN-WOMEN unless provided by a valid written amendment to the Contract signed by the Contractor and the Chief Procurement Officer of UN-WOMEN or such other contracting authority as UN-WOMEN has made known to the Contracting in writing.
- 19.2 If the Contract shall be extended for additional periods in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract, the terms and conditions applicable to any such extended term of the Contract shall be the same terms and conditions as set forth in the Contract, unless the Parties shall have agreed otherwise pursuant to a valid amendment concluded in accordance with Article 19.1, above.
- 19.3 The terms or conditions of any supplemental undertakings, licenses, or other forms of agreement concerning any goods or services provided under the Contract shall not be valid and enforceable against UN-WOMEN nor in any way shall constitute an agreement by UN-WOMEN thereto unless any such undertakings, licenses or other forms are the subject of a valid amendment concluded in accordance with Article 19.1, above.

#### **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 or the United Nations, 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 or the United Nations 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 United Nations 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.

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.



**Terms of Reference**  
**to conduct civil society actors capacity needs assessment in the area of evidence-based advocacy and gender mainstreaming into social and healthcare policies**

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**Project: Innovative Action for Gender Equality (IAGE)**

**Geographic coverage: Georgia, nation-wide**

**Duration: 3 months, from 1 July 2013 to 30 September, 2013.**

### **Background**

Starting from 2013, UN Women, with the support of the European Union (EU), has been implementing the project “Innovative Action for Gender Equality in Georgia” (IAGE), the overall objective of which is to adopt and implement relevant policies and legislation to address specific healthcare, social and economic needs of women from excluded groups in Georgia, while the specific objective is to support women’s initiatives aimed at confidence building and social stability through addressing healthcare, social, and economic needs of national minority, imprisoned, IDP and conflict affected women and women living in remote mountainous areas in Georgia.

The project is aimed at realizing three interrelated outputs/results:

- Capacity of gender equality and women’s rights advocates increased to advocate for integration of issues of excluded groups of women and girls in relevant policies and legislation;
- Willingness and capacity of state structures increased to incorporate issues of excluded groups of women and girls in relevant policies, legislation and services on national and local levels;
- Partnerships among the government and women’s civil society groups as well as women’s people-to-people diplomacy initiatives increased for promotion of social stability and confidence building.

As a first step in achieving the first output of the project, the initiative foresees **a mapping of the capacity needs of civil society actors** in order to design tailor-made capacity development interventions, **from the viewpoint of evidence-based advocacy and gender mainstreaming into social and healthcare policies**. This mapping study is an important first step towards the project implementation as it will help identify potential partners in the IAGE implementation, including NGOs and research organizations that will take part on a volunteer basis in the capacity mapping exercise, participate in follow-up trainings and eventually apply to the small grants’ competition, a separate intervention of the IAGE on the follow-up to the findings of the four studies of excluded groups of women.

Focus of the IAGE is to strengthen the voice and capacity of gender equality and women’s rights advocates for gender sensitive policymaking. Furthermore, it will tackle a challenge of bridging the gender equality gaps in policies and legislation through increased involvement of civil society and policymakers in addressing the needs of excluded groups of women and girls. Therefore, strengthening and equipping civil society actors with knowledge and tools to demand human centred and gender sensitive policies and legislation is crucial in achieving this objective. The planned study will identify concrete capacity development trainings/interventions for the civil society actors.

Therefore, UN Women Intends to contract a qualified local company to conduct the mapping study.

**Scope of the work:**

Under the direct supervision of the UN Women IAGE Programme Manager and overall guidance of UN Women Gender Adviser, the selected local company shall:

- Conduct a Baseline mapping to identify the capacity development needs of NGOs and research institutions in the area of evidence based policy-making and advocacy to promote women's rights and gender equality with specific recommendations on concrete capacity development trainings/interventions

The mapping study should identify existing good practices and success stories, along with challenges and shortfalls for civil society's effective engagement in evidence based policy-making and advocacy. Such an approach will allow drawing on existing capacities and resources, once strategizing for their further capacity development.

Since the participation in the capacity mapping is voluntary, it is difficult to foresee at this stage the geographic coverage of the study, but special consideration should be given to the encouragement of NGOs and research organizations from the regions of Georgia to take part in the mapping along with Tbilisi based organizations. Also, once setting the criteria for the selection of the organizations that expressed interest for the mapping, proper consideration should be given to applicant organizations' previous work experience in the field of women's rights and gender equality and advocacy towards evidence based policymaking.

**Methods and Process:**

To fulfill the task, the selected local company is expected:

- To elaborate and submit the detailed work plan including the key activities, and timeframe of the assignment in close cooperation with the UN Women IAGE programme management team;
- To develop and submit the detailed methodology of the mapping study;
- To develop text of Call for NGOs and research institutions. In the call, follow up interventions and opportunities for those organizations that will take part in the baseline mapping should be spelled out (such as training and participation in the small grants' competition);
- To develop a selection criteria for NGOs/research institutions to participate in the mapping;
- To select NGOs and research institutions for mapping study based on applications submitted by interested organizations;
- To elaborate and finalize the data collection questioners/tools to be used with the selected NGOs and research institutions;
- To plan, organize and conduct interviews, meetings, focus group discussions with the selected NGOs and research institutions;
- To identify key capacity development needs and develop concrete recommendations for the follow-up training;
- To organize the presentation of the preliminary study findings, including relevant recommendations with the UN Women representatives and the NGOs and research institutions participating in the mapping study;
- To review and incorporate the feedback and suggestions from the preliminary presentation to the final report;
- To finalize, write up and submit the final report with identified capacity development needs of NGOs and research institutions in the area of evidence-based advocacy on gender mainstreaming into social and healthcare policies, as well as concrete recommendations for follow-up training in English;
- To present the mapping study findings and recommendations to the wider audience including the decision makers, representatives of international organizations, the donor and UN agencies and civil society organizations;

**Outputs/Deliverable:**

The Company will produce the following deliverables:

1. Elaborated detailed work plan and study methodology – by 5 July, 2013;
2. Call for NGOs and research institutions elaborated and disseminated – by 15 July, 2013



3. NGOs and research institutions are selected for capacity development needs assessment – by 20 July, 2013
4. Capacity development needs assessment carried out and presentation with preliminary study findings and draft package of recommendations delivered by 20 August, 2013 ;
5. Final study report and package of recommendations written and submitted in English- by 10 September, 2013;
6. Presented the final study findings and recommendations at the official presentation organized by EU/UN Women IAGE programme – by 15 September, 2013

**Timeframe:**

It is expected that the company shall begin work on 10 June 2013 and finalize the mapping report by 05 September, 2013. The staff of the selected company will liaise at all times with IAGE Programme Manager who will provide advice, guidance and information as appropriate.

**Organizational settings:**

The contractor/company will work outside the programme office and will benefit from technical and operational support of UN Women Georgia office.

**Inputs/Resources on behalf of UN Women**

UN Women Office will provide the contractor with the necessary information and materials for the fulfilment of tasks and other relevant information upon request.

**Requirements to Companies/Organizations:**

The offeror shall meet the following requirements:

- Be an officially registered entity in Georgia eligible for this assignment;
- Has at least five years' of consultancy, research and analytical work experience;
- Has proven track record of working on capacity development initiatives with the civil society sector of Georgia;
- Has established quality assurance procedures;
- Possess good knowledge of the main trends, developments and challenges of Civil Society sector of Georgia;
- Has experience in mapping/ assessing organizations to identify the capacity development needs;
- Experience of working on similar tasks with donor/international and/or national governmental and civil society organisations;
- Has proven track record of working on gender equality and human rights, including evidence based policy-making and advocacy.
- **The organization should engage qualified team leader/coordinator with:**
  - Higher Education in international relations, social sciences or related field or equivalent working experience
  - Extensive consultancy, research and analytical work experience
  - Good managerial and leadership skills, abilities to plan, coordinate and implement the multiple tasks involving different stakeholders and parties; ability to translate strategic thinking and innovative ideas into practical operations and actions
  - Good knowledge of the main trends, developments and challenges of the civil society sector of Georgia
  - Solid knowledge and understanding of the methodology of mapping to identify the capacity development needs

- Good understanding and demonstrated knowledge of gender equality and women's rights context in Georgia, including evidence based policy-making and advocacy
- Ability to plan and undertake capacity mapping, combined with excellent writing skills with demonstrated ability to identify critical capacity needs and gaps, collect and analyze data in line with the given timeframe and use of data in report writing
- Fluency in Georgian and English
- **Qualified staff (team members) with:**
  - Higher Education in international relations, social sciences or related field or equivalent working experience
  - Extensive consultancy, research and analytical work experience
  - Good knowledge of the main trends, developments and challenges of the civil society sector of Georgia
  - Ability to plan and undertake capacity mapping, combined with excellent writing skills with demonstrated ability to identify critical capacity needs and gaps, collect and analyze data in line with the given timeframe and use of data in report writing
  - Fluency in Georgian and English

**Proposals submission modality:**

The operational and technical part of the Proposal shall contain the documents mentioned in Annex I of the Request for Proposals (*Instruction to Offerors*).

A two-stage procedure shall be utilised in evaluating the proposals, with evaluation of the technical proposal being completed prior to any price proposal being opened and compared. Detailed *Technical Evaluation Criteria* are provided in the Annex I, clause 22 of the Request for Proposals (*Instruction to Offerors*).

Only the financial proposals of Offerors satisfying the main criteria will be considered. The contract will be awarded to the Offeror obtaining the highest cumulative score, determined following the formula indicated under Clause 22 of the Annex I of the Request for Proposals (*Instruction to Offerors*).

**PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM**

Dear Sir / Madam,

Having examined the Solicitation Documents, the receipt of which is hereby duly acknowledged, we, the undersigned, offer to provide Professional Consulting services (profession/activity for Project/programme/office) for the sum as may be ascertained in accordance with the Price Schedule attached herewith and made part of this Proposal.

We undertake, if our Proposal is accepted, to commence and complete delivery of all services specified in the contract within the time frame stipulated.

We agree to abide by this Proposal for a period of ninety (90) days from the date fixed for opening of Proposals in the Invitation for Proposal, and it shall remain binding upon us and may be accepted at any time before the expiration of that period.

We understand that you are not bound to accept any Proposal you may receive.

Dated this day /month                      of year

Signature

(In the capacity of)

Duly authorised to sign Proposal for and on behalf of

## PRICE SCHEDULE

The Contractor is asked to prepare the Price Schedule as a separate envelope from the rest of the RFP response as indicated in Section Paragraph 14(b) of the Instruction to Offerors.

All prices/rates quoted must be exclusive of all taxes, since the UN Women is exempt from taxes as detailed in Section II, Clause 18. '

The Price Schedule must provide a detailed cost breakdown. 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 Price Schedule should include figures for both purchase and lease/rent options. The UN Women reserves the option to either lease/rent or purchase outright the equipment through the Contractor.

The format shown on the following pages should be used in preparing the price schedule. The format includes specific expenditures, which may or may not be required or applicable but are indicated to serve as examples.

In addition to the hard copy, if possible please also provide the information on a CD (IBM compatible).

**Price Schedule\*:**

**Ref. RFP: Civil society actors capacity needs assessment/UN Women IAGE**

Description of Activity/Item		No of persons /units	No of days/month /units	Rate per day/month/ unit	Estimated Amount
<b>1.</b>	<b>Remuneration</b>				
1.1	Experts' fee				
1.2	Translators' fee				
1.3	Others (please specify)				
	Sub-total				
<b>2.</b>	<b>Other costs and services</b>				
2.1	Renting of venues				
2.2	Accommodation				
2.3	Equipment and other items				
2.4	Travel				
2.5	Communications				
2.6	Others (please specify)				
	Sub-total				
<b>3.</b>	<b>Management cost</b>				
3.1	Project management staff				
3.2	Office running costs				
3.3.	Others (please specify)				
	Sub-total				

\*Additional budget details explaining the calculations are welcomed.