Terms of Reference

National or International consultants: International Consultant
Description of the assignment (Title of consultancy): Trade Development Advisor
Project Title: Strengthening Arab Economic Integration for Sustainable Development (AEISD)
Period of assignment/services: 235 working days over a period of 12 months.

1. Background

The regional project Strengthening Arab Economic Integration for Sustainable Development (AEISD), within the UNDP, has an objective to provide technical assistance to the League of Arab States (LAS), specifically the Economic Sector and relevant organs, and member states of Pan Arab Free Trade Area (PAFTA) in working towards a deepened integration, including preparations for the Arab Customs Union.

The second important component relates to strengthening the Arab connectivity among economies in the region with the expectation, these efforts would be translated into more contribution of economic integration for better livelihood of people, more employment opportunity and participation by the private sector. Trade has significant potential to fight poverty in Arab countries through generation of more income and access to markets. Upgrading current preferential trade arrangements will contribute to the realization of strategic visions of Arab Common Market. The third component focuses on the promotion of inclusiveness and transparency as part of the development agenda, particularly on the economic empowerment of women, for regional economic integration.

Built on the progress achieved in the previous program of support to implementation of PAFTA (Executive Program of PAFTA), the current project focuses on specific aspects of making trade an engine of inclusive and sustainable growth guided by the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. In continuation, the Project will also focus on helping countries and the main sub-regional and regional integration entities to accelerate the pace of trade reforms and regional economic integration, to strengthen the employment effects of those reforms, with a focus on women and youth.

The project aims to address specific challenges and complexities that Arab countries (and League of Arab States) face to enhance regional economic integration, more specifically in the transition from an FTA-based framework towards making the customs union a reality. The following presents major areas of focus:

1. Provide a structured and targeted technical support to LAS Secretariat and Arab negotiators on trade policy formulation and reform under PAFTA.
2. Provide assistance to the LAS Secretariat with a view of strengthening its organizational capacity in the pursuit of further facilitation of the regional economic integration agenda as well as promotion of trade liberalization.
3. Assist target Arab countries with collaboration with national policy makers in trade and economic fields in efforts of modernization and reform of trade policy in taking into consideration new developments.
4. Facilitation of transport and trade activities constitutes one of key areas to support national programs of enhancement of national competitiveness and better market access and more integration of the value chain.
5. Promotion of gender equality and women empowerment as well as generation of business and job opportunity for youth is also a key target of project activities. Moreover, good governance constitutes a pre-requisite in deepening Arab economic integration to a higher level of commitment with inclusiveness and sustainability.

6. Promotion of the contribution of trade, as one of pillars, to achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals at national and regional level.

These priority dimensions form the basis of the work program of the project and are translated in concrete services of provision of technical advices and activities of capacity building for the countries on the basis of identified priorities. Specifically, the project targets the following result-oriented activities:

1. Development of the technical framework and required instruments for the PAFTA Upgrading - a upgrade from the existing PAFTA, and for the Arab Customs Union (ACU) preparations, to deepen Arab economic integration.
2. Reinforcement of mechanisms of policy design, measures of implementation and of systems of documenting the progress of implementation to secure smooth acceleration of realization of regional commitments.
3. Building the technical capability and capacity of policy makers of Arab countries to support accelerated implementation of the PAFTA Upgrading and preparations for the ACU.
4. Introduction of institutional arrangements that are necessary for the LAS to respond to the requirements of implementation of the PAFTA Upgrading, and consequently of designing and establishing the ACU.
5. Delivery of awareness raising activities and provision of technical guidance on good governance and integrity approaches.
6. Promotion of regulatory transparency, open dialogues and consultations with related stakeholders, targeting all social groups but particularly women, for more active participation to cross border operations and related economic activities, among others.

The project team also cooperates with several national authorities and regional organizations in the implementation of defined activities in considering requirements and priorities of national socio-economic development plans and strategies of Arab economic integration. The execution will be carried out under rules and regulations by the UN applicable for Delegated Direct Implementation and fully aligned to UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP).

Specifically, project activities have as target, provision of support to efforts of Arab countries in the pursuit of higher level of Arab economic partnership – establishment of the Arab Customs Union and Common Market by 2020. In this regard, continuous support to the countries to progress in the implementation of the finalized Arab Agreement on liberalization of trade in services, activation of Dispute Settlement Mechanisms (DSMs), promotion of competition, consumer protection, trade facilitation and introducing e-commerce and trade in investment into the upgraded PAFTA framework, among others, are essential foundations to sustain modernization of economic structures. The latter constitutes a new direction undertaken by various economies towards more diversification, competitiveness with a view of capitalizing on positive effects of the globalized supply and value chains.

In September 2018, LAS ECOSOC issued the resolution on the upgrading of the PAFTA and the Arab Socio-Economic Summit of 2019 prioritized works to foster sustainable development and economic integration. Based on identified needs of Economic Sector of the LAS, in 2019, to support technical works by concerned regional technical committees/working groups, UNDP and the project will continue to assist Arab countries, at regional and national level, with provision of technical advice,
coaching and conduct of studies as well as the supply of activities of capacity building to trade experts and private sector of the countries. In effect, this serves to assist identified works of deepening Arab economic integration and realization of strategic directions set by Arab Leaders such as establishment of a trade facilitation instrument for a better Arab economic competitiveness in the pursuit of making e-commerce working for the being-upgraded PAFTA toward an enabler of more technology-related investment.

Promotion of multilateral trade platforms, adoption of international standards and alignment of the regional trade agenda to the new global development (for example, digital economy, integration of the supply chain and value chain, capitalization of the potential of trade in services, among others.) brings about opportunities for more businesses and jobs, particularly for women and youth. Creation of employment opportunities should also support the progressive migration of Arab economies towards a knowledge-based on. Specifically, from identified needs, the beneficiary organizations and Arab countries cooperate with the technical team of UNDP to design corresponding, guided by key criteria of achieving the highest level of impacts and securing its effectiveness.

In 2019, a crucial milestone to Arab economic integration has been achieved with the entry into force of the Arab Agreement in trade in services. UNDP continues provision of support to Arab countries through the promotion of this important Agreement for more participation and active engagement of the private sector to realize its potential. Furthermore, with strong commitments by Arab countries, the upgrading of the existent legal framework of the Pan Arab Free Trade Area has also achieved important progress. These major policy developments constitute another step forward in the strengthened economic and trade cooperation.

To that end, the project seeks services of one Trade Development Advisor – a seasoned Expert with dedication to support the region, being equipped with professional qualifications, substantial, proven experiences in the design and conduct of regional initiatives to deepen Arab economic integration in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. S/he forms part of the UNDP expert team, responsible for the implementation of the project of AEISD and discharges her/his duties under the supervision and guidance of the Chief Technical Advisor of the project.

Services by the Trade Development Advisor would be provided to support policy-makers of Arab countries participating to the development of regional initiatives and those of Economic Sector at the regional level, and to specific activities at the national level as applicable. One of key basis of defined tasks relates to the Action Plan of the support programme to Economic Sector, LAS, with adjustments on the basis of official requests. In effect, the Advisor would focus on works towards achievement of goals set by the following Outputs under its Outcomes 1 and 2 of:

**Output 1**: Structured and targeted technical support to LAS Secretariat and Arab negotiators on trade policy formulation and reform under PAFTA (Outcome 1).

**Output 2**: Provision of support for the organizational capacity of LAS Secretariat to facilitate the regional economic integration agenda (Outcome 1).

**Output 3**: Provision of country-based technical assistance to policymakers for their activities related to trade policy reform and coherence (Outcome 2).

These services and concerned efforts aim to achieve Outcomes 2 and 3 of AEISD as described in the project document:

**Outcome 1**: LAS capacity strengthened to manage regional economic integration related processes.

**Outcome 2**: Members States are capacitated and technically prepared for regional economic integration.
2. Scope of work, responsibilities and description of the proposed analytical work

The scope of the assignment will cover the following areas, among others:

A. Development of the framework of Strengthened Arab economic integration

A1. Conduct an analysis of related aspects for the upgrade of the Pan Arab Free Trade Area (PAFTA) in partnership with Economic Sector, League of Arab States. It may also include design of activities of the implementation of being-adopted policy decisions within the so-called new generation of PAFTA.

A2. Conduct a review of the potential areas of significant contribution to Arab countries to design technical proposals of improvement toward realization of effects of this modernization. It is included, among others, trade and investment, promotion of competition, consumer protection, and others as of key interest to deepened Arab economic integration.

A3. Develop a technical framework of e-commerce as part of strengthening functions of the PAFTA, aligned to WTO and international practices, including development of technical measures, design of a regional survey and conduct of a regional workshop.

A4. Design and coordinate the conduct of studies on various aspects of Arab Customs Union (ACU) and its activities of capacity building for target Arab countries in the economic analysis of relevant aspects of the Arab Customs Union (ACU) as effective support to realization of the mandates of Arab Leaders.

A5. Contribute technical inputs in the negotiations on the proposed legal framework and administrative structures for the ACU. That might also include design of support for progressive implementation of policy decisions in the area.

A6. Coordinate delivery of activities of capacity building in trade facilitation for Arab countries, including organization of regional/sub-regional workshops in close coordination with Economic Sector as a support to the national implementation of concerned activities.

A7. Develop a draft proposal (text) on trade and investment within the PAFTA in the light of new global development as part of its upgrading process.

A8. Analyze the new development of global trade policies to support the sustainability and resilience of the region, such as the Green Economy, trade measures dealing with Climate Change, and contemporaneous matters to be introduced into the PAFTA Program.

A9. Collaborate with the expert team under the guidance of the CTA in the conduct of analysis of activities of trade liberalization, trade and investment facilitation in preparations for a new stage of Arab economic integration, for example, e-commerce, promotion of competition, consumer protection, protection of Intellectual Property Rights (as far as it concerned trade), and areas of trade policy in close coordination with Economic Sector.

B. Provision of technical advice to target Arab countries in promotion of the Arab Agreement of liberalization of trade in services (the Services Agreement)

B1. Provide technical support to Arab countries and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the implementation of the Agreement at the national level, including those to their accession process.

B2. Provide the coordination and participate to the delivery of activities of capacity building in trade in services for Arab countries, including organization of regional/sub-regional workshops in close coordination with Economic Sector.

B3. Contribute technical inputs to the current services policy (SPR) review process in one Arab country and coordinate activities to ensure the participation of related stakeholders, private sector in the process.

B4. Design a services regulatory audit mechanism to support Arab countries with a view to improve exportation services and modernize trade policy in trade in services for business and job opportunities.
B5. Undertake services regulatory audit and design the work plans in the targeted countries at the national level toward design of a more extensive upgrading of the Services Agreement to the extent necessary.

B6. Contribute technical inputs and proposals to the work of the services Committee in close coordination with Economic Sector.

C. Provision of technical advice to Economic Sector and sub-regional entities, as appropriate, with regard to coordination mechanisms to optimize policy impact

C1. Provide technical inputs, suggestions to tasks under the responsibility by Economic Sector, aimed at progressive improvement of technical capacity of officials for better services to Arab countries.

C2. Provide technical advice and proposals to Economic Sector and relevant sub-regional entities with a view to improve coordination mechanisms in support of better competitiveness of target Arab economies. That might include thematic interventions aimed at poverty alleviation and sustainable development under the Sustainable Development Goals.

C3. Coordinate activities of collaboration and forum of policy dialogue among Arab countries and development entities in supporting Arab economic integration.

C4. Coordinate activities of consultation and partnership with governments, businesses and industries either at the regional or national level in promoting more active engagement of the private sector in Arab economic integration.

D. Provision of technical advice to support reform and modernization of trade policy to target Arab countries at national level in the light of international standards and practices of the multilateral trading system

D1. Design work plan and provide technical inputs and proposals to target Arab countries in support to their efforts of reform and modernization of trade policy towards more integration into the global market.

D2. Undertake any other tasks as assigned by the AEISD CTA to assist the AEISD implementation to realize the project Outcomes.

3. Expected Outputs and deliverables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverables/ Outputs</th>
<th>Estimated Duration to Complete</th>
<th>Review and Approvals Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Milestone 1:</strong> Preparation of the Inception Report in presenting:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Work methods to deliver on each of the four components of A, B, C, D of the work scope.</td>
<td>10 Working days</td>
<td>AEISD Chief Technical Advisor (CTA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Brief explanation of key fundamentals and resources, literature to be considered in completing proposed works under the four components of the work scope.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Presentation of indicative timelines for the completion of required tasks.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Milestone 2:</strong> Conduct an analysis of related aspects for the upgrade of the Pan Arab Free Trade Area (PAFTA) in partnership with Economic Sector, League of Arab States. It may also include design of activities of the implementation of being-adopted policy</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milestone</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Duration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td>Develop a technical framework of e-commerce as part of strengthening functions of the PAFTA, aligned to WTO and international practices and standards, including development of technical measures, design of a regional survey and conduct of a regional workshop, and/or national seminars as applicable (A2).</td>
<td>15 working days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td>Conduct a review of the potential areas of significant contribution to Arab countries in synchronizing new level of commitments in strengthening Arab economic integration with a view to design technical proposals of improvement toward realization of effects of this modernization. It is included, among others, trade and investment, promotion of competition, consumer protection, and others as of key interest to deepened Arab economic integration. It might involve also design and conducts of activities of capacity buildings to support targeted Arab countries as applicable (A3).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td>Design and coordinate the conduct of studies on various aspects of Arab Customs Union (ACU) and its activities of capacity building for target Arab countries in the economic analysis of relevant aspects of the Arab Customs Union (ACU) as effective support to realization of the mandates of Arab Leaders (A4).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td>Contribute technical inputs in the negotiations on the proposed legal framework and administrative structures for the ACU. That might also include design of support for progressive implementation of policy decisions in the area (A5).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td>Coordinate delivery of activities of capacity building in trade facilitation for Arab countries in collaboration with domain experts, including organization of regional/sub-regional workshops in close coordination with Economic Sector as a support to the national implementation of concerned activities (A6).</td>
<td>08 working days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td>Develop a draft proposal (text) on trade and investment within the PAFTA in the light of new global development as part of its upgrading process (A7).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td>Analyse the new development of global trade policies to support the sustainability and resilience of the region, such as the Green Economy, trade measures dealing with Climate Change, and contemporaneous matters to be introduced into the PAFTA Program (A8).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td>Collaborate with the expert team under the guidance of the CTA in the conduct of analysis of activities of trade liberalization, trade and investment facilitation in preparations for a new stage of Arab economic integration, for example, e-commerce, promotion of competition, consumer protection, protection of Intellectual Property Rights (as far as it concerned</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
trade), and areas of trade policy in close coordination with Economic Sector (A9).

**Milestone 11:** Provide technical support to Arab countries and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the implementation of the services Agreement at the national level, including those to their accession process (B1).

**Milestone 12:** Provide the coordination and participate to the delivery of activities of capacity building in trade in services for Arab countries, including organization of regional/sub-regional workshops in close coordination with Economic Sector (B2).

**Milestone 13:** Contribute technical inputs to the current services policy (SPR) review process in one Arab country and coordinate relevant activities to ensure the participation of related stakeholders, private sector in the process (B3).

**Milestone 14:** Design services regulatory audit mechanisms and standard practices to support Arab countries with a view to improve exportation services and modernize trade policy in trade in services for business and job opportunities as part of strengthening impacts of the Services Agreement and relevant trade policies (B4).

**Milestone 15:** Undertake services regulatory audits and design the work plans in the targeted countries at the national level toward design of a more extensive upgrading of the Services Agreement in the future to the extent necessary (B5).

**Milestone 16:** Contribute technical inputs and proposals to the work of the services Committee in close coordination with Economic Sector and undertake tasks in response to national requirements of Arab countries (B6).

**Milestone 17:** Provide technical inputs, suggestions to tasks under the responsibility by Economic Sector, aimed at progressive improvement of technical capacity of officials for better services to Arab countries (C1).

**Milestone 18:** Provide technical advice and proposals to Economic Sector and relevant sub-regional entities with a view to improve coordination mechanisms in support of better competitiveness of target Arab economies. That might include thematic interventions aimed at poverty alleviation and sustainable development under the Sustainable Development Goals (C2).

**Milestone 19:** Coordinate activities of collaboration and forum of policy dialogue among Arab countries and development entities in supporting Arab economic integration (C3).

**Milestone 20:** Coordinate activities of consultation and partnership with governments, businesses and industries either at the regional or national level in promoting more active engagement of the private sector in Arab economic integration (C4).
Milestone 21: Design work plan and provide technical inputs and proposals to target Arab countries in support to their efforts of reform and modernization of trade policy towards more integration into the global market based on national priority (D1).

10 working days

Milestone 22: Undertake any other tasks as assigned by the AEISD CTA to assist the AEISD implementation to realize the project Outcomes, including coordination works and required consultations (D2).

10 working days

Milestone 23: Final report and recommendations of the next steps and any proposed work plan.

10 working days

4. Institutional arrangements

- The individual is required to exhibit his or her commitment to this assignment with UNDP-RBAS;
- S/He shall perform tasks under the general guidance and direct supervision of the Project Manager of the of the AEISD regional project. The supervision will include approvals/acceptance of the outputs as identified in previous sections;
- The individual is expected to liaise and collaborate in the course of performing the work with other consultants, suppliers and UN colleagues;
- The individual is required to maintain close communication with the UNDP-RBAS on regular and needed basis at any period throughout the assignment in order to monitor progress. In the event of any delay, s/he will inform UNDP promptly so that decisions and remedial action may be taken accordingly. Delays that would affect the flow of the collaborative work and the delivery of outputs on schedule will lead to termination of contract; and
- Should UNDP deem it necessary, it reserves the right to commission additional inputs, reviews or revisions, as needed to ensure the quality and relevance of the work.

5. Duration of work

The duration of the work is expected to be 235 working days over a period of 12 months from the contract signature date.

6. Duty station

This assignment is a home-based.

7. Requirements for experience and qualifications

I. Academic Qualifications:

- Master’s Degree in Economics, international trade, business administration, trade and development or related fields.
- Participated in specialized trainings on trade/investment facilitation, econometric modelling and improvement of trade efficiency

II. Years of experience:

Minimum of 15 years of practical and proven experience in the formulation of trade and/or economic policies and in the provision of trade and trade-related services in the areas of regional trade programs and promotion of regional trade/economic integration.
III. Technical experience:
- Extensive experience in international trade and preferential trade arrangements in the Arab countries, Arab economic integration with focus on trade in services.
- Demonstrated experience in public policy making in trade and economic matters in Arab countries and its implementation.
- A solid experience in the areas of international and regional trade, economic development, trade policy, trade negotiations, formulation of measures of trade liberalization in goods and services, and public trade policy making;
- Proven experiences with work completed in trade in services towards free flow of production factors and economic efficiency in the Arab region;
- Expertise and proven track record in economic analysis, analytical works of trade and trade-related matters, including good understanding of trade for 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and promotion of public-private dialogue for international trade;
- In-depth understanding of the WTO Agreements and rules, PAFTA and detailed understanding of Regional Trade Agreements and promotion of good governance;
- Detailed understanding to strengthen institutional arrangements of regional and sub-regional organizations;
- Being familiar with working mechanisms of the League of Arab States or similar organizations is desirable;
- Excellent writing, editing, reporting and oral communication skills in English and Arabic.

IV. Competencies:

I. Language Requirements
- Excellent writing, editing and oral communications in English and Arabic in a clear and concise manner, strong analytical and synthesis skills, presentation and drafting skills;
- Required fluency in English and Arabic, and good knowledge of French is desirable.

II. Key Competencies:

Corporate
- Demonstrates integrity and fairness, by modeling the UN/UNDP’s values and ethical standards;
- Promotes the vision, mission and strategic goals of UNDP;
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability.

Functional
- Time management and organizational skills, with the ability to undertake multiple tasks and deliver under pressure;
- Strong analytical and synthesis skills;
- Ability to work independently and achieve quality results with limited supervision and within tight schedules;
- Strong quantitative and qualitative research skills;
- Experience in reports production;
- Ability to write in a clear and concise manner;
- Good teamwork and interpersonal skills;
- Flexibility and ability to handle multiple tasks and work under pressure;
• Excellent computer skills especially Word, Excel and Power Point.

**Knowledge Management and Learning**

• Ability to strongly promote and build knowledge products;
• Promotes knowledge management in UNDP and a learning environment in the office through leadership and personal example;
• Seeks and applies knowledge, information and best practices from within and outside of UNDP;
• Demonstrates a strong capacity for innovation and creativity in providing strategic policy advice and direction.

8. Scope of Price Proposal and Schedule of Payments

Interested candidates should provide lump sum fees for requested services with detailed breakdown. This amount must be “all-inclusive”. Please note that the terms “all-inclusive” implies that all costs of professional fees and any other fees that could possibly be incurred are already factored into the final amounts submitted in the proposal. Travel costs will be separately covered by UNDP. Payments shall be made in accordance with the below table. The contractor will be paid an all-inclusive Deliverables/Outputs based lump sum amounts over the assignment period, subject to the submission of Certification of Payment (CoP) duly certified or an invoice and confirmation of satisfactory performance of achieved work (deliverables/outputs) in line with the schedule of payments table hereunder, noting that the maximum number of working days for this assignment shouldn’t exceed 235 working days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Estimated working Days</th>
<th>Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Milestone 1: Preparation of the Inception Report in presenting:  
d. Work methods to deliver on each of the four components of A, B, C, D of the work scope.  
e. Brief explanation of key fundamentals and resources, literature to be considered in completing proposed works under the four components of the work scope.  
f. Presentation of indicative timelines for the completion of required tasks. | 10 Working days | 15% of total contract payment |
| Milestone 2: Conduct an analysis of related aspects for the upgrade of the Pan Arab Free Trade Area (PAFTA) in partnership with Economic Sector, League of Arab States. It may also include design of activities of the implementation of being-adopted policy decisions within the so-called new generation of PAFTA upon the adoption of the new legal instrument/instruments (A1). | 10 working days | |
| Milestone 3: Develop a technical framework of e-commerce as part of strengthening functions of the PAFTA, aligned to WTO and international practices and standards, including development of technical measures, design of a regional survey and conduct of a regional workshop, and or national seminars as applicable (A2). | 15working days | 20% of total contract payment |
**Milestone 4:** Conduct a review of the potential areas of significant contribution to Arab countries in synchronizing new level of commitments in strengthening Arab economic integration with a view to design technical proposals of improvement toward realization of effects of this modernization. It is included, among others, trade and investment, promotion of competition, consumer protection, and others as of key interest to deepened Arab economic integration. It might involve also design and conducts of activities of capacity buildings to support targeted Arab countries as applicable (A3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milestone 4</td>
<td>Conduct a review of the potential areas of significant contribution to Arab countries in synchronizing new level of commitments in strengthening Arab economic integration with a view to design technical proposals of improvement toward realization of effects of this modernization. It is included, among others, trade and investment, promotion of competition, consumer protection, and others as of key interest to deepened Arab economic integration. It might involve also design and conducts of activities of capacity buildings to support targeted Arab countries as applicable (A3).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
<td>10% of total contract payment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Milestone 5:** Design and coordinate the conduct of studies on various aspects of Arab Customs Union (ACU) and its activities of capacity building for target Arab countries in the economic analysis of relevant aspects of the Arab Customs Union (ACU) as effective support to realization of the mandates of Arab Leaders (A4).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milestone 5</td>
<td>Design and coordinate the conduct of studies on various aspects of Arab Customs Union (ACU) and its activities of capacity building for target Arab countries in the economic analysis of relevant aspects of the Arab Customs Union (ACU) as effective support to realization of the mandates of Arab Leaders (A4).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Milestone 6:** Contribute technical inputs in the negotiations on the proposed legal framework and administrative structures for the ACU. That might also include design of support for progressive implementation of policy decisions in the area (A5).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milestone 6</td>
<td>Contribute technical inputs in the negotiations on the proposed legal framework and administrative structures for the ACU. That might also include design of support for progressive implementation of policy decisions in the area (A5).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
<td>10% of total contract payment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Milestone 7:** Coordinate delivery of activities of capacity building in trade facilitation for Arab countries in collaboration with domain experts, including organization of regional/sub-regional workshops in close coordination with Economic Sector as a support to the national implementation of concerned activities (A6).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milestone 7</td>
<td>Coordinate delivery of activities of capacity building in trade facilitation for Arab countries in collaboration with domain experts, including organization of regional/sub-regional workshops in close coordination with Economic Sector as a support to the national implementation of concerned activities (A6).</td>
<td>08 working days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Milestone 8:** Develop a draft proposal (text) on trade and investment within the PAFTA in the light of new global development, as part of its upgrading process (A7).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milestone 8</td>
<td>Develop a draft proposal (text) on trade and investment within the PAFTA in the light of new global development, as part of its upgrading process (A7).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Milestone 9:** Analyse the new development of global trade policies to support the sustainability and resilience of the region, such as the Green Economy, trade measures dealing with Climate Change, and contemporaneous matters to be introduced into the PAFTA Program (A8).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milestone 9</td>
<td>Analyse the new development of global trade policies to support the sustainability and resilience of the region, such as the Green Economy, trade measures dealing with Climate Change, and contemporaneous matters to be introduced into the PAFTA Program (A8).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
<td>10% of total contract payment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Milestone 10:** Collaborate with the expert team under the guidance of the CTA in the conduct of analysis of activities of trade liberalization, trade and investment facilitation in preparations for a new stage of Arab economic integration, for example, e-commerce, promotion of competition, consumer protection, protection of Intellectual Property Rights (as far as it concerned trade), and areas of trade policy in close coordination with Economic Sector (A9).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milestone 10</td>
<td>Collaborate with the expert team under the guidance of the CTA in the conduct of analysis of activities of trade liberalization, trade and investment facilitation in preparations for a new stage of Arab economic integration, for example, e-commerce, promotion of competition, consumer protection, protection of Intellectual Property Rights (as far as it concerned trade), and areas of trade policy in close coordination with Economic Sector (A9).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Milestone 11:** Provide technical support to Arab countries and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the implementation of the services Agreement at the national level, including those to their accession process (B1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milestone 11</td>
<td>Provide technical support to Arab countries and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the implementation of the services Agreement at the national level, including those to their accession process (B1).</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Milestone 12:** Provide the coordination and participate to the delivery of activities of capacity building in trade in services for Arab countries, including organization of regional/sub-regional workshops in close coordination with Economic Sector (B2).

**Milestone 13:** Contribute technical inputs to the current services policy (SPR) review process in one Arab country and coordinate relevant activities to ensure the participation of related stakeholders, private sector in the process (B3).

**Milestone 14:** Design services regulatory audit mechanisms and standard practices to support Arab countries with a view to improve exportation services and modernize trade policy in trade in services for business and job opportunities as part of strengthening impacts of the Services Agreement and relevant trade policies (B4).

**Milestone 15:** Undertake services regulatory audits and design the work plans in the targeted countries at the national level toward design of a more extensive upgrading of the Services Agreement in the future to the extent necessary (B5).

**Milestone 16:** Contribute technical inputs and proposals to the work of the services Committee in close coordination with Economic Sector and undertake tasks in response to national requirements of Arab countries (B6).

**Milestone 17:** Provide technical inputs, suggestions to tasks under the responsibility by Economic Sector, aimed at progressive improvement of technical capacity of officials for better services to Arab countries (C1).

**Milestone 18:** Provide technical advice and proposals to Economic Sector and relevant sub-regional entities with a view to improve coordination mechanisms in support of better competitiveness of target Arab economies. That might include thematic interventions aimed at poverty alleviation and sustainable development under the Sustainable Development Goals (C2).

**Milestone 19:** Coordinate activities of collaboration and forum of policy dialogue among Arab countries and development entities in supporting Arab economic integration (C3).
| **Milestone 20:** Coordinate activities of consultation and partnership with governments, businesses and industries either at the regional or national level in promoting more active engagement of the private sector in Arab economic integration (C4). | 10 working days | 10% of total contract payment |
| **Milestone 21:** Design work plan and provide technical inputs and proposals to target Arab countries in support to their efforts of reform and modernization of trade policy towards more integration into the global market based on national priority (D1). | 10 working days |
| **Milestone 22:** Undertake any other tasks as assigned by the AEISD CTA to assist the AEISD implementation to realize the project Outcomes, including coordination works and required consultations (D2). | 10 working days |
| **Milestone 23:** Final report and recommendations of the next steps and any proposed work plan. | 10 working days | 5% of total contract payment |