



## **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)**

### **TRIPARTITE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME (TCBP)**

#### ***Individual Consultant – Rules of Origin Expert***

The **Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)** has received financing from the **African Development Bank** toward the cost of the Tripartite Capacity Building Programme (TCBP), and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for Consultancy for the services of Rules of Origin Expert.

The Rules of Origin Expert will work under the direct supervision of each REC Business Council Chief Executive Officer / Coordinator, and the overall supervision of the Tripartite Capacity Building Programme Coordinator, the Consultant will hereby under-take a consultative exercise in the respective REC member states.

#### **The Specific objectives of the consultant are:**

a) Carry out a study to;

- Review the proposed product specific Rules of Origin and the alternative options of simpler Rules of Origin- and their impact on Private sector ;
- Consult private sector positions on the proposed framework at the Tripartite level that looks into Simpler Rules of Origin for SMEs- benchmarked on the COMESA Simplified Trade Regime;
- Carry out extensive consultations with businesses on the current positions of the ongoing consultations on the Tripartite RoO for their input into the discussions, with a specific focus including:

- Article 3, 6, 7, 9 and 19.

- The Consolidated Rules of Origin matrices on the similar and different Rules of Origin amongst the three RECS.
- The alternative rule on some of the lines in the Consolidated Rules of Origin – Common Rules matrices.

b) Develop and Present Private Sector study report for validation at the Regional level and further at Tripartite Private Sector Dialogue on the RoO;

c) Develop private sector position based on the Study for validation at the Regional level and further at Tripartite Private sector Dialogue on the RoO;

c) Consult with respective REC expertise on the findings of the study, for consensus prior to disseminating the study outcomes to the first RoO meeting at REC and Inter- REC level;

The Expert shall be a national of the Tripartite Member/Partner States with at least 5 years' experience in trade policy, regional integration and private sector development.

- **Education:** The candidate should preferably have an advanced degree in law, economics, development studies, international trade policy or in a related field.
- **Experience:** The successful candidate must have technical background and experience in the application of Rules of Origin and must have undertaken similar surveys and studies in the area of focus at regional or international level.

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) now invites eligible Individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services for duration of **one (1)** month with a possibility of extension subject to performance and need. Interested consultants must provide information through their Curriculum Vitae indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, etc.).

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "Rules and Procedures for the use of Consultants" May 2008, Revised July 2012, which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org> .

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from Monday to Friday, 08:00 hours to 17:00 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by **19th September 2014 at 15:00hrs** and mention "Expression of Interest for Consultancy Services for Rules of Origin Expert.

The Secretary General  
COMESA Secretariat.  
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