



Terms of Reference for a Consultancy on Provisioning Technical Advisory Services to African Regional Group-the African Ambassadors in Rome and Rome based UN Agencies

1.0 Background to the assignment

The African Union Development Agency – NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) is an African-owned and led continental agency, spearheading the implementation of Agenda 2063. The decision on the African Union Development Agency is an affirmation by Member States of their commitment to own an instrument that will champion development support to countries and regional bodies in advancing their priorities, through the implementation of Agenda 2063. The Decision was made during the 31st Ordinary Session of the Assembly of African Union Heads of State and Government in Nouakchott, Mauritania, in July 2018. The AUDA-NEPAD structure and directorates were approved during the 35th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of African Union Heads of State and Government in Niamey, Niger in July 2019.

The Programme Innovation and Planning Directorate (PIPD) of AUDA-NEPAD is charged with programme development, data analytics, research and innovation, as well as technical, cooperation and advisory services. ***PIPD wishes to recruit a consultant to support its Technical Advisory Services to African Regional Group-the African Ambassadors in Rome and Rome based UN Agencies.***

1.1 The African Regional Group – the African Ambassadors in Rome and Rome based UN Agencies.

To respond to the Agency's mandate more effectively, there is a need for development of appropriate institutional and technical capacities, strengthened partnerships as well as stronger relations with African diplomatic missions in strategic countries. For a more coordinated support to the AU member states to (i) enhancing their participation in international policy discourse and developing an « African Voice » ; (ii) supporting of development on issues of relevance to Africa ; (iii) communicating, advocacy and implementation of programmes in support of AUDA-NEPAD, more specifically , in the area of agriculture, food and nutrition security, climate change and rural development , AUDA-NEPAD is boosting its capacity by partnering with relevant organizations, including the Rome-based UN Agencies namely: the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD). These agencies have been working closely with AUDA-NEPAD in key priority areas of the continent encapsulated in the Agenda 2063 and the UN's global mandate of SDGs.

2.0 Rationale

AUDA-NEPAD is currently implementing various flagship programmes that are synergically aligned with programs led by with Rome-based UN Agencies. There is a need to develop a strong link between the AUDA-NEPAD Agency and UN Agencies while providing technical support to the Diplomatic representations of AU Member States to have an active and strong « Africa Voice » in global meetings and the programming of the Rome-based UN Agencies.

3.0 Objectives of the Assignment

The main purpose is to promote the common interests of the African States within the United Nations Rome-based Agencies by considering resolutions and decisions of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union relevant to agriculture, food and nutrition security, climate change and environment:

1. To deploy technical support to the Rome-based African Ambassadors/Permanent Representatives on priority issues related to agriculture, food, and nutrition security,
2. To provide a comprehensive framework for collaboration between the AUDA-NEPAD, AUC and the Rome-based UN Agencies in the areas of common interests and to ensure that the mandate and the work of AUDA-NEPAD on all areas of interest to the relevant mandates of the Rome-based UN Agencies is known and understood and that all relevant information from Rome gets reported to AUDA-NEPAD headquarters on a timely basis.
3. Increase AUDA-NEPAD participation of Africa regional Group program of work and coordination support

3.1 Specific Activities

Specific activities include:

1. Provide guidance and strategic support to the Rome Based ARG, i.e, contributing to identify key priority issues for major interest to Africa, by shaping the Africa common message for major RBAs events,
2. Advice to the CEO of NEPAD, and other AUDA-NEPAD colleagues, as well as the AUC senior staff (upon specific request and if so required) on priority follow-up actions to issues of key interest to Africa agenda emerging from the conclusions of RBAs major events, including providing specific briefing note and supporting information.
3. Participate in the name of AUDA-NEPAD to RBAs statutory meetings where key issues relating to AUDA-NEPAD and RBAs partnership and/or further cooperation opportunities may arise, and/or to represent the CEO on the RBAs governing bodies upon invitation.
4. Find out and provide the ARG with the official AU position, resolutions, policy vision and strategic objectives to always develop an "Africa voice" during the statutory meetings of the Rome based UN Agencies.
5. Participate upon the request of the CEO and/or invitation from AUDA-NEPAD Rome-based partners to thematic meetings, high-level side events, virtual meetings-webinars and to report back.
6. Provide, upon request of the ARG and/or AUDA-NEPAD, written contribution/inputs relating to priority/strategic themes under consideration;
7. Keep advocating for Africa agenda/strategic priorities during the RBAs statutory meetings and to provide the ARG members, upon request, with related draft statements to be, if so required, delivered by a designated ARG member state during these meetings.
8. Pursue acting as the AUDA-NEPAD and AUC Senior Liaison person to the RBAs.
9. Further tasks upon request of the CEO and/or AUC-DARBE and other AUC Departments.

4.0 Outcomes of the assignment

The consultant is expected to deliver the following:

1. To produce a working document synthesising official AU position, resolutions, policy vision and strategic objectives to for enhancing the African voice during the statutory meetings of the Rome based UN Agencies.

2. Produce written contribution/inputs relating to priority/strategic themes under consideration by ARG members
3. Report of technical advisory services provided to the ARG members and AUC and AUDA-NEPAD Senior Management during the consultancy.

5.0 Language Requirement

The consultant should be proficient in English and any other AU official language.

6.0 Deliverables/Reports/Milestones Schedule

| Milestone | Delivery Period |
|--|------------------|
| Inception Report showing agreed timelines, methodology, detailed activities, budget and work plan as outcomes of negotiations with AUDA-NEPAD (7 days after signing a contract) | 1 December 2022 |
| Submit a working document synthesising official AU position, resolutions, policy vision and strategic objectives to for enhancing the African voice during the statutory meetings of the Rome based UN Agencies. | 15 December 2022 |
| Produce written contribution/inputs relating to priority/strategic themes under consideration by ARG members | 25 December 2022 |
| Submit report of technical advisory services provided to the ARG members and AUC and AUDA-NEPAD Senior Management during the consultancy | 31 December 2022 |

7.0 Duration of the assignment:

The consultancy will be undertaken within Thirty (30) working days staggered between November 2022 and December 2022.

8.0 Duty station: The consultant can work remotely.

9.0 Consultancy fees

AUDA- NEPAD shall pay the Consultant time-based fees on lump sum basis. This amount must include all the Consultancy fees, reimbursable and all profits as well as any tax obligations that may be imposed on the consultant. The consultancy and indicated associated cost would be funded from MSNPD05327 budget line. The mode of payment is as follows:

| SN | Stages and completion of the following deliverables | Payment (%) |
|----|--|-------------|
| 1 | Submit a working document synthesising official AU position, resolutions, policy vision and strategic objectives to for enhancing the African voice during the statutory meetings of the Rome based UN Agencies. | 40 |
| 2 | Produce written contribution/inputs relating to priority/strategic themes under consideration by ARG members | 40 |
| 3 | Submit report of technical advisory services provided to the ARG members and AUC and AUDA-NEPAD Senior Management during the consultancy | 20 |
| | Total | 100 |

10 Governance and support by the African Union Development Agency

The consultants will primarily report to the Director of Programme Innovation and Planning at the African Union Development Agency/NEPAD or her designated officer. In undertaking this exercise, the Consultant will be expected to liaise frequently with the AUDA/NEPAD for clearance of each deliverable.

Contributions from NEPAD Team: -

- ✓ Monitor and supervise the assignment including (review, comment and approve the deliverables in a timely manner);
- ✓ Pay the consultant as per agreed payment schedule;
- ✓ Could assist with necessary reports and documents for the assignment where possible; and
- ✓ Could assist with key relevant contacts in the country.

11 Expertise and Competence Required

a. Academic Qualifications

The person should have at least a Master's Degree in Rural Development, Development Management, Policy Development, Agriculture-Economics or another related field. PhD in related discipline will be an advantage.

b. Experience

- At least ten (10) years of professional experience in experience in policy assistance and advisory services, including High level engagements and coordination of AU and UN Agencies programmes and projects
- Demonstrated at least five (5) years' experiences in advisory capacity to AU or UN Organs.
- Demonstratable eight (8) years' experience in advance negotiations

c. Skills and Competencies

- Excellent communication skills (verbal and written);
- Be creative, reliable, highly skilled with the ability to work independently.
- Proficiency in English is distinct advantage; and
- Demonstratable experience working in Rome.

12 COPYRIGHTS

All materials / documents arising out of this consultancy work shall remain the property of the African Union Development Agency.