



**World Health
Organization**

**Consultancy for experts to support landscape assessment
for clinical trials and bio-analytical (including BA/BE trials)
capabilities/opportunities in Africa**

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Bid Reference **RFP 2024.10**

Contracting Entity **Unitaid**

Closing Date:

19th April 2024, 17h00 Geneva time



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objective of the RFP

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to identify a qualified external consultancy/specialized firm to conduct a landscape assessment for clinical trials and bio-analytical (including BA/BE trials) capabilities/opportunities in Africa.

Unitaid is a health agency that is dependent on the budgetary and extra-budgetary contributions it receives for the implementation of its activities. Bidders are, therefore, requested to propose the best and most cost-effective solution to meet Unitaid requirements, while ensuring the highest level of service quality.

1.2 About Unitaid

Unitaid was established in 2006 by Brazil, Chile, France, Norway and the United Kingdom in the context of the fight against HIV/ AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in resource-limited settings, with a focus on health products.

Unitaid's mission is to maximize the effectiveness of the global health response by catalyzing equitable access to better health products. Unitaid's interventions promote innovation in developing new products and approaches, increase access by leveraging its market expertise to overcome access barriers and create the right conditions for scale-up, so that better health products reach all people who need them, with priority given to the underserved and the poorest populations.

The principal functions of the Secretariat are to carry out and manage the day-to-day operations of Unitaid, including implementing the work plan of Unitaid as approved by the Board, managing and coordinating relationships with Partners, and coordinating and facilitating technical support and advice to the Board. Unitaid is supported by public funding and is hosted by WHO. Please consult our website at the following link for more information <http://www.unitaid.org>

For the purpose of this document Unitaid is hereinafter referred to as Unitaid, Unitaid/WHO, WHO/Unitaid, or WHO.

Unitaid recognizes climate change as a global emergency and threat to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). On 11 November 2021 Unitaid launched its Climate Action Roadmap committing to reduce carbon emissions of the Secretariat by 50% by 2030 and offset its carbon footprint to effectively achieve net-zero emissions from 2022. Unitaid is equally committed in reducing carbon footprints from its procurement activities, hence seeking for potential contractors sharing the same commitment and initiatives. Bidders are requested to demonstrate their existing initiatives in place and incorporate the sustainability actions into the RFP proposal, especially in relation to carbon footprint (refer Annex 4 Item 1.1.7 – this is a mandatory requirement in all Unitaid's tenders).



2. DESCRIPTION OF PRESENT ACTIVITIES

2.1 Overview and current approach

The COVID-19 pandemic saw severe inequities in access to lifesaving health tools, including therapeutics. Many of the root causes of these inequities remain and must be addressed in advance of future pandemics. Bearing the lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic, Unitaid, through the work in Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response (PPPR, Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response) and the strategic initiative in Regional Manufacturing for Equitable Access (RMEA), aims to ensure that countries are better prepared for pandemics by strengthening health systems' capabilities for new product development and manufacturing to ensure equitable access, increase the speed, affordability and accessibility of new tools.

Unitaid's RMEA strategic initiative aims to address the challenge of equitable access to affordable, quality-assured health products in low- and middle-income countries, mainly focusing on Africa. Despite the continent's significant disease burden, over 95% of active pharmaceutical ingredients and 70% of consumed pharmaceuticals are imported, leaving countries vulnerable to supply chain disruptions and unavailability of essential health products. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the risks of dependence on imports. The initiative focuses on strengthening regional manufacturing, starting with Africa, which highly relies on imported health products.

Likewise, there is consensus that the lack of efficient clinical evaluations during the COVID-19 pandemic for the few therapeutic existing candidates was a major obstacle to the response. Likewise, African partners have strongly called for a greater focus to increase the efficiency of the African clinical trial ecosystem to respond to the pandemic and non-pandemic priorities. A robust landscape for health products' development and research, including clinical trials for the evaluation of promising candidates as well as bio-analytical/ bioequivalence capabilities to bridge the gap between R&D and market entry, is crucial for pandemic preparedness. The availability of adequate knowledge (and experience), systems, and infrastructure enables rapid evaluation and deployment of medical interventions during the crisis periods and monitoring of disease dynamics during inter-crisis periods.

To effectively support both regional manufacturing and pandemic preparedness, it is imperative to identify and assess the existing infrastructure, strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities within R&D networks and institutions, clinical research organisations (CROs), bioanalytical laboratories, and contract development and manufacturing organisations (CDMOs). Unitaid's RMEA and PPPR initiatives require a landscape of capabilities across these enabler services on the continent of Africa to design pathfinder interventions.

2.2 Objectives of the present activity

Unitaid seeks a consultancy/specialized firm to conduct a comprehensive landscape assessment of clinical trials and bio-analytical capabilities/opportunities in Africa, specifically focusing on supporting regional manufacturing and pandemic preparedness initiatives.

Refer Appendix 2 – Terms of Reference (TOR) for more details.

2.3 Activity coordination

The Contractor(s) will work closely with the Unitaid Secretariat focal points (RMEA and PPPR teams) during the full duration of the project, with regular touch points calls.



3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Introduction

Unitaid requires the successful Contractor(s) to conduct a comprehensive landscape assessment of clinical trials and bio-analytical capabilities/opportunities in Africa, specifically focusing on supporting regional manufacturing and pandemic preparedness initiatives.

3.2 Characteristics of the Contractor(s)

3.2.1 Qualification and skills requirements

Unitaid hereby seeks services of external consultancy/specialized firm with the following technical qualifications and demonstrated experience (both in firm and the proposed team):

Essential

1. Extensive experience conducting landscape assessments or market analyses in the healthcare or pharmaceutical sector, preferably in Africa.
2. Extensive experience and knowledge of clinical and biologics research, bioanalytical services, and regulatory requirements for conducting clinical trials, particularly in Africa.
3. Extensive experience in and knowledge of health product manufacturing processes and systems across geographies (in particular in LMICs).
4. Extensive experience in and knowledge of health systems and stakeholder management across geographies, especially in LMICs.
5. Extensive experience in writing technical reports for public dissemination, with a proven capacity to translate complex technical content into a simple narrative and critical messages (*links to sample technical reports published shall be provided*).

Desirable:

1. Strong network within the global pharmaceutical and diagnostics manufacturing sectors
2. Demonstrated experience working with stakeholders from government, industry, academia, and international organisations.

3.2.2 Staffing

- Bidders are requested to propose staffing dedicated to the project, skills set and team structure/leadership commensurate to the scope of work of this RFP and responsive to Unitaid's specified timeline and focus.
- Bidders are expected to propose a team composition that is deemed most appropriate and practical to carry out the work effectively, efficiently, and economically, in both technical and financial terms
- The proposed team members who have been agreed on and accepted by Unitaid following the RFP evaluation process (including from the outcome of negotiation prior to award recommendation) shall be available throughout the contract period and shall not be changed after the award of contract, unless requested or agreed to by Unitaid.



3.3 Work to be performed

3.3.1 Key requirements

There are three (3) key deliverables expected from this RFP:

- a) An inception report detailing the methodology, work plan, and timeline for the assessment.
- b) Draft and final reports presenting the landscape assessment's findings, conclusions, and recommendations.
- c) Any additional materials, such as presentations or data sets, generated during the consultancy.

Refer to the TOR for more detailed requirements of the key deliverables and work to be performed.

3.3.2 Place of Performance

The Contractor(s) will work remotely (desk review) and in close communication with Unitaid (teleconferences).

3.3.3 Timelines

It is expected this assignment will run for between 30 to 40 days over three months, with deliverables to be submitted on the following indicative dates (slight adjustment may be confirmed during the inception meeting):

Phase	Steps	Target dates
Inception	Kick-off meeting	End April 2024
Execution	Deliverable #1 (Inception Report)	15 May 2024
	Deliverable #2 (Draft Report)	14 June 2024
	Deliverable #3 (Final Report, including presentation) and Exit meeting	31 July 2024

3.3.4 Reporting requirements

Please refer 3.3.3. above, the contractor shall submit the reports/deliverables by the target dates indicated.

3.3.5 Finance and accounting requirements

Basis for Payment	Payment Percentage
1. Upon satisfactory completion of Deliverable #1 and acceptance by Unitaid (RMEA & PPPR) teams	10% of Professional Fee
2. Upon satisfactory completion of Deliverable #2 and acceptance by Unitaid (RMEA & PPPR) teams	40% of Professional Fee



3. Upon satisfactory completion of Deliverable #3 (including presentation) and acceptance by Unitaid (RMEA & PPPR) teams	50% of Professional Fee
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When requesting for payment, the Contractor(s) shall submit a detailed invoice upon satisfactory completion of deliverables as per the above schedule, unless agreed otherwise, along with a Financial Statement, detailing the actual level of effort incurred, along with the necessary supporting documents (e.g., copy of reports, assessments, analyses, and acceptance email by Unitaid's team).

For travel costs (if requested by Unitaid during the contract implementation), payment will be made in accordance with WHO rates and upon submission of invoices indicating actual travel costs with proof of payment. Contractor is responsible to organize all logistics of travel, including hotel booking and local transportation. The Contractor is required to arrange travels in the most economical way. In line with Unitaid's effort in reducing carbon footprints related to the procurement activities, the Contractor, when possible, is encouraged to opt for ground transportation over air if travel is required.

3.3.6 Performance monitoring

The Contractor(s) will be evaluated throughout the implementation of contract on:

- their capacity to deliver the assessments with an optimal technical quality within the agreed timelines;
- the control of the costs;
- their proper and smooth project management (including communication with Unitaid);
- their service orientation and responsiveness to Unitaid's needs and expectations.



4. INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

The only means by which bidders can submit proposals in response to this RFP is through the United Nations Global Marketplace (UNGM) portal, available at <https://www.ungm.org/>.

All bidders must therefore be registered with the UNGM at basic level to submit their proposal.

Detailed information on the registration and submission of your proposal through the UNGM portal is available in Appendix 1 to this RFP.

Bidders must also follow the instructions set forth below when submitting their proposal.

Unitaid will not be responsible for any proposal which does not follow the instructions in this RFP, including this Section 4, and Unitaid may, at its discretion, reject any such non-complaint proposal.

4.1 Language of the Proposal and other Documents

The proposal prepared by the bidder, and all correspondence and documents relating to the proposal exchanged by the bidder and Unitaid shall be written in the English language.

4.2 Intention to Bid

No later than 17 April 2024 17:00 hours [Geneva] Time, the bidder shall submit the following forms, duly completed and signed under the “Correspondence” tab of UNGM:

1. Acknowledgment Form (Annex 1);
2. Confidentiality Undertaking Form (Annex 2).

These forms are confirming the bidder’s intention to submit a bona fide proposal and designating a representative to whom communications may be directed, including any addenda.

Unitaid reserves the right to reject proposals from bidders who have not submitted the Acknowledgement Form and the Confidentiality Undertaking in accordance with this section.

4.3 Cost of Proposal

The bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the proposal, including but not limited to the possible cost of discussing the proposal with Unitaid, making a presentation, negotiating a contract and any related travel.

Unitaid will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the selection process.

4.4 Contents of the Proposal

The bidder is expected to follow the proposal structure described in paragraphs below and otherwise comply with all instructions, terms and specifications contained in, and submit all forms required pursuant to, this RFP. Failure to follow the aforesaid proposal structure, to comply with the aforesaid instructions, terms and specifications, and/or to submit the aforesaid forms will be at the bidder’s risk and may affect the evaluation of the proposal.



4.5 Joint Proposal

Two or more entities may form a consortium and submit a joint proposal offering to jointly undertake the work. Such a proposal must be submitted in the name of one member of the consortium - hereinafter the “lead organization”. The lead organization will be responsible for undertaking all negotiations and discussions with, and be the main point of contact for, Unitaid. The lead organization and each member of the consortium will be jointly and severally responsible for the proper performance of the contract.

4.6 Communications during the RFP Period

Any **request for clarification** on technical, contractual or commercial matters is to be submitted EXCLUSIVELY via UNGM no later than **17 April 2024, 17:00 Geneva time**.

Questions are to be submitted via UNGM “Correspondence” tab, and mandatorily formulated as follows:

Question #	Reference to RFP/TOR (paragraph #)	Question text

Unitaid will respond in writing via the “Correspondence” tab of UNGM to any request for clarification of the RFP that it receives by the deadline indicated above. A consolidated document of Unitaid's responses to all questions (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of enquiry) will be sent to all prospective bidders who have received the RFP.

There shall be no individual presentation by or meeting with bidders until after the closing date for submission of proposals. From the date of issue of this RFP to the final selection, contact with Unitaid/WHO officials concerning the RFP process shall not be permitted, other than through the submission of queries as per the process described above, and/or through a possible presentation or meeting called for by Unitaid, in accordance with the terms of this RFP.

4.7 Submission of Proposals

All proposals for this RFP must be submitted **solely through the UNGM**.

The technical and financial parts of the proposal must be submitted in **two separate and sealed submissions (“envelopes”)** in UNGM, as further described in section 4.8.

Upon submission through UNGM, proposals become automatically sealed, and accessible to Unitaid once the deadline for submission of proposals has passed.

The proposal shall include the complete technical and financial proposals and requested supporting documents (marked clearly **Bid Ref RFP 2024.10**):

- **All information and documentation related to the technical proposal (including the attached Annexes 2, 3 and 6 and the “Information about Bidders” as listed in Annex 4) shall be uploaded in UNGM, “Tender Documents” tab, under “Technical Envelope” ONLY.**
- **All information and documentation related to the financial proposal shall be uploaded in UNGM, “Tender Documents” tab, under “Financial Envelope” ONLY.**

Receipt will be confirmed by a “Return Receipt” visible in the “History” tab of UNGM.



4.8 Formatting and Naming of Proposals

The technical and the financial proposal shall be titled as follows:

Technical Proposal_Bidder'sName_ RFP 2024.10

And

Financial Proposal_Bidder'sName_ RFP 2024.10

Bidders shall upload their proposals via **UNGM**, through the **"RFP documents"** tab.

The technical proposal and related attachments should be attached in the "Technical envelope" placeholder.

The financial proposal and related attachments should be attached separately in the "Financial envelope" placeholder.

4.9 Exclusion of Submission of Proposals by E-mail or in Hard Copy

Only those proposals submitted via UNGM will be accepted by Unitaid. Under no circumstances shall proposals be submitted to Unitaid by any other means, including, without limitation, by E-mail or in hard copy.

4.10 Period of Validity of Proposals

The offer outlined in the proposal must be valid for a **minimum period of 90 calendar days after the closing date** for submission of proposals, including the proposed team members. A proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by Unitaid. In exceptional circumstances, Unitaid may solicit the bidder's consent to an extension of the period of validity. The request and the responses thereto shall be made in writing. Any bidder granting such an extension will not, however, be permitted to otherwise modify its proposal.

4.11 Closing Date for Submission of Proposals

Proposals must be submitted EXCLUSIVELY via UNGM and **not later than** **19/04/2024 17:00** hours, **Geneva** time.

No late submissions of proposals will be possible or accepted. Bidders are therefore advised to ensure that they have taken all steps to submit their proposals in advance of the above closing date and time, including complying with any technical requirements of the UNGM system.

Unitaid may, at its own discretion, extend this closing date for the submission of proposals by notifying all bidders thereof in writing.



4.12 Modification and Withdrawal of Proposals

The bidder may withdraw its proposal any time after the proposal's submission and before the opening of the bids, provided a written and signed notice of the withdrawal, uploaded under the "Correspondence" tab of UNGM, is received by Unitaid prior to the closing date for the submission of proposals (4.11).

No proposal may be modified after the closing date for submission of proposals, unless Unitaid has issued an amendment to the RFP allowing such modifications (see section 4.14).

No proposal may be withdrawn in the interval between the closing date for submission of proposals and the expiration of the proposal validity period.

4.13 Receipt of Proposals from Non-invitees

Unitaid may, at its own discretion, if it considers this necessary and in the interest of the Organization, extend the RFP to bidders that were not included in the original invitation list.

4.14 Amendment of the RFP

Unitaid may, at any time before the closing date for submission of proposals, for any reason, whether on its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a (prospective) bidder, modify the RFP by written amendment. Amendments could, *inter alia*, include modification of the project scope or requirements, the project timeline expectations and/or extension of the closing date for submission of proposals (4.11).

All prospective bidders that have received or accessed the RFP will be automatically notified, in writing, through UNGM, of all amendments to the RFP and will, where applicable, be invited to amend their proposal accordingly.

4.15 Proposal Structure (*bidders are highly encouraged to pay attention on this section to facilitate the evaluation/assessment of the proposals*)

The contents of the bidder's proposal should be concisely presented and structured in the following order to include, but not necessarily be limited to, the information listed in sections 4.15.1 to 4.15.4 below. *In addition, bidders are required to complete and submit Annex 4 of this RFP (Information about Bidder, including requirement on environment and sustainability) which will be reviewed and scored along with the Technical Proposal.*

Any information which the bidder considers confidential, if any, should be clearly marked confidential.

Please include a Table of Content in the first section of the Technical Proposal with the corresponding pages.

4.15.1 Executive Summary

The bidder's proposal must be accompanied by an Executive Summary summarizing their overall understanding of Unitaid's concern and requirements, and overview how they could support Unitaid in achieving its objectives under this RFP. Please provide the name and email address of the contact person in charge of this RFP submission for clarification and/or other communication purposes.



4.15.2 Proposed Solution and Approach/Methodology

Bidders shall demonstrate their capacity and capability to fulfil the requirements in section 3.3 and the detailed Terms of Reference, which may include, but not limited to, their [experience in the carrying out similar/relevant assignments](#) in the past. Sample of relevant past projects successfully delivered must be included in the proposal, along with reference contact. The proposal shall demonstrate that [both the firm and the proposed team members meet each of the listed “Qualifications and Skills”](#) and each essential and desirable qualification/experience must be supported with relevant evidence.

Bidders shall clearly describe their [in-depth understanding on the project requirements and objectives](#), followed with a section to outline in detail, the [proposed tailored solutions](#) to address Unitaid’s requirements.

Bidders shall also address their [proposed detailed approach and methodology](#) in line with Unitaid requirements, explaining how the objectives of this RFP can be successfully achieved from these approach and methodology. It is expected that clear, concise and compelling language is used for the proposal and bidder shall refrain from presenting generic solutions or repeating contents from the RFP or the TOR. [In the Technical Proposal, bidders are also required to include the proposed the appropriate level of effort \(indicate number of days\) for each team member proposed, without disclosing the information on daily rate\(s\), budget or any financial information. Relevant risk management related to this specific assignment and its mitigation approach must be identified.](#)

Bidders must also elaborate on its [team management approach](#), including the communication/coordination plan with Unitaid’s team, the allocation of resources and appropriate level of effort for each proposed phase of activities, and explain how they will deliver the project effectively and efficiently at the highest quality. [Bidders shall submit detailed and updated CV\(s\) of the dedicated project team member\(s\) proposed for this project, with clear and detailed elaborations on the relevant experience in relation to each of the requirements indicated in the TOR \(Qualification and Skills\).](#) Indicative CVs (subject to availability) are not acceptable. Kindly merge the CVs into the Technical Proposal (instead of multiple separate attachments) and indicate years of relevant experience for each of the proposed experts. The proposed team members whom have been agreed on and accepted by Unitaid following the evaluation and selection process shall not be changed by the Contractor after the award of contract, unless requested or agreed to by Unitaid during the contract implementation.

4.15.3 Proposed Timeline

The proposed timeline/project plan should be presented either in Microsoft Word, XLS or PDF format, taking into account sections 3.3.3 and 3.3.4 to illustrate the proposed key activities and anticipated outcome(s). In the timeline, bidders are requested to indicate the anticipated level of effort (in number of days) proposed under each key timelines/milestones, or level of effort per monthly distribution, as appropriate.

4.15.4 Financial Proposal

Bidders are requested to submit the financial proposal using Annex 5 attached to the RFP, indicating the daily rates for the experts/roles proposed under requirement in section 3.2.2 which should remain valid throughout the contractual period to serve as the basis for invoicing. Please submit the financial proposal in **both** PDF and MS Excel format, free from any computational errors. The right sized of the proposed level of effort and daily rates will be considered in scoring the financial proposal.

The offer currency must be the same as the bank account of the Contractor that will be used to receive payment for the to-be contract. For comparison purpose only, financial proposals that are



submitted in currency other than USD will be converted into USD using the UN exchange rate¹ as of the tender closing date of this RFP.

The bidder's Financial Proposal must be signed by a duly authorized representative of the bidder and stating:

- That the bidder undertakes on its own behalf and on behalf of its possible partners and Contractors to perform the work in accordance with the terms of the RFP;
- The total cost of the proposal, indicating the United Nations convertible currency used (preferably US Dollars);
- The number of days the proposal is valid (from the date of the form) in accordance with section 4.10.

4.16 Conduct and Exclusion of Bidders

All bidders must adhere to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct, which is available at the following link: <http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/procurement/en/>

In addition, bidders **shall submit, as part of their proposal submission (under the “Technical” Envelope) a signed Self Declaration form**, attached hereto as **Annex 6**.

Bidders will be excluded if:

- they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
- they or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over them have been the subject of a final judgment or of a final administrative decision for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization, money laundering, terrorist-related offences, child labour or trafficking in human beings;
- they or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over them have been the subject of a final judgment or of a final administrative decision for financial irregularity(ies);
- it becomes apparent to Unitaid that they are guilty of misrepresentation in supplying, or if they fail to supply, the information required under this RFP and/or as part of the bid evaluation process;
- they have a conflict of interest, as determined by Unitaid in its sole discretion; or
- they are, or have found to be, in violation of any standard of conduct as described in the WHO Policies, referred to in section 7.33 of this RFP.

Unitaid may decide to exclude bidders for other reasons.

¹ <https://treasury.un.org/operationalrates/>



5. OPENING AND EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

5.1 Opening of Proposals

After the closing date for submission of proposals, Unitaid will open the technical proposals that were received in a timely manner.

In a second and later stage, only the financial proposals of those bids which have achieved the minimum technical threshold according to the evaluation process of section 5.4 will be opened and evaluated.

There will be no public bid opening.

5.2 Clarification of Proposals

Unitaid may, at its discretion, ask any bidder for clarification of any part of its proposal. The request for clarification and the response shall be in writing. No change in price or substance of the proposal shall be sought, offered or permitted during this exchange.

5.3 Preliminary Examination of Proposals

Unitaid 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. **Technical proposals found to contain financial bid or pricing information (e.g., daily rates) will be rejected.** Proposals which are not in order as aforesaid may be rejected.

Please note that Unitaid is not bound to select any bidder and may reject all proposals. Furthermore, since a contract would be awarded in respect of the proposal which is considered most responsive to the needs of the project concerned, due consideration being given to Unitaid/WHO's general principles, including economy and efficiency, Unitaid does not bind itself in any way to select the bidder offering the lowest price.

5.4 Evaluation of Proposals

Following the preliminary examination of proposals as per section 5.3, a two-stage procedure will be implemented, with the evaluation of the technical proposal being completed prior to the evaluation of the financial proposal.

The evaluation panel will evaluate the technical merits of all the proposals which have passed the Preliminary Examination of proposals based on the following weighting:

Technical Weighting:	70 % of total evaluation
Financial Weighting:	30 % of total evaluation

Only strong technical proposals meeting the technical requirements (refer evaluation criteria in 5.4.1 below) will be considered to the financial assessment stage.



5.4.1 Technical Evaluation (*bidders are highly encouraged to pay attention on this section*)

The technical evaluation of the proposals will include:

- the extent to which Unitaid's requirements and expectations have been satisfactorily addressed, understood and articulated;
- the quality of the overall proposal;
- the appropriateness of the proposed approach and methodologies;
- the quality of the technical solution proposed;
- the manner in which it is proposed to manage and staff the project (including project management and coordination plan with Unitaid);
- the relevant experience of the firm in carrying out related projects and the relevance of experience in relation to this TOR;
- of important, the qualifications, experience and competence of the personnel proposed for the assignment to be clearly demonstrated, meeting each of the specific requirements listed in the TOR (Qualification and Skills);
- the proposed timeframe for the project and risk management approach; and
- the firm's commitment and initiatives in support of sustainability (particularly in relation to carbon footprint) as per requirement in Annex 4 (Item 1.1.7).

5.4.2 Financial Evaluation

Financial proposals will remain sealed until the completion of the technical evaluation. During the financial evaluation, only the price proposals of those bids which have achieved the minimum technical threshold will be opened and compared.

5.5 Bidders' Presentations

Unitaid may, during the evaluation period, at its discretion, invite selected bidders to supply additional information on the contents of their proposal (at such bidders' own cost). Such bidders may be asked to give a presentation of their proposal (possibly with an emphasis on a topic of Unitaid's choice) followed by a "question and answer" session. If required, the presentation may be held virtually by tele/videoconference and bidders (including the proposed key team members) are expected to make availability during this period.

NOTE: Other presentations and any other individual contact between WHO/Unitaid and bidders is expressly prohibited both before and after the closing date for submission of proposals.



6. AWARD OF CONTRACT

6.1 Award Criteria, Award of Contract

Unitaid reserves the right to:

- a) Award the contract to a bidder of its choice, even if its proposal is not the lowest;
- b) Award separate contracts for parts of the work, components or items, to one or more bidders of its choice, even if their proposals are not the lowest;
- c) 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 bidder or bidders and without any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for Unitaid's action;
- d) Award the contract on the basis of the Organization's particular objectives to a bidder whose proposal is considered to be the most responsive to the needs of the Organization and the activity concerned;
- e) Not award any contract at all.

Unitaid has the right to eliminate bids for technical or other reasons throughout the evaluation/selection process. Unitaid shall not in any way be obliged to reveal, or discuss with any bidder, how a proposal was assessed, or to provide any other information relating to the evaluation/selection process or to state the reasons for elimination to any bidder.

NOTE: Unitaid is acting in good faith by issuing this RFP. However, this document does not oblige Unitaid to contract for the performance of any work, nor for the supply of any products or services.

6.2 Unitaid's Right to modify Scope or Requirements during the Evaluation/Selection Process

At any time during the evaluation/selection process, Unitaid reserves the right to modify the scope of the work, services and/or goods called for under this RFP. Unitaid shall notify the change to only those bidders who have not been officially eliminated due to technical reasons at that point in time.

6.3 Unitaid's Right to Extend/Revise Scope or Requirements at Time of Award

Unitaid reserves the right at the time of award of contract to extend, reduce or otherwise revise the scope of the work, services and/or goods called for under this RFP without any change in the base price or other terms and conditions offered by the selected bidder.

6.4 Unitaid's Right to enter into Negotiations

Unitaid also reserves the right to enter into negotiations with one or more bidders of its choice, including but not limited to negotiation of the terms of the proposal(s), the price quoted in such proposal(s) and/or the deletion of certain parts of the work, components or items called for under this RFP.



6.5 Signing of the Contract

Within 30 days of receipt of the contract, the successful bidder shall sign and date the contract and return it to Unitaid according to the instructions provided at that time. If the bidder does not accept the contract terms without changes, then Unitaid has the right not to proceed with the selected bidder and instead contract with another bidder of its choice.

6.6 Publication by WHO/Unitaid of Contract awards

WHO/Unitaid reserves the right to publish (e.g. on the procurement page of its internet site) or otherwise make public information regarding contracts awarded, including Contractors' names and addresses, a description of the goods or services provided and their value.



7. GENERAL AND CONTRACTUAL CONDITIONS

The contract between Unitaid/WHO and the selected bidder ("the Contract") will, unless otherwise explicitly agreed in writing, include the provisions as set forth in this section, and will otherwise inter alia address the following issues:

- responsibilities of the selected bidder(s) ("the Contractor(s)") and Unitaid/WHO;
- clear deliverables, timelines and acceptance procedures;
- payment terms tied to the satisfactory performance and completion of the work;
- notices.

The prices payable by Unitaid/WHO for the work to be performed under the Contract shall be fixed for the duration of the Contract and shall be in a UN convertible currency (preferably US Dollars), based on the UN exchange rate of the date of invoice. The total amount payable by Unitaid/WHO under the Contract may be either a lump sum or a maximum amount. If the option for payment of a lump sum applies, that lump sum is payable in the manner provided, subject to satisfactory performance of the work.

If the option for payment of a maximum amount applies:

- the Contract shall include a detailed budget;
- the Contractor shall be held to submit a financial statement together with each invoice;
- any advance payments by WHO shall be used by the Contractor exclusively for the work in accordance with the budget and any unspent balance shall be refunded to WHO;
- payment by WHO shall be subject to satisfactory performance and the acceptance of the Contractor's financial statements;
- to the extent the Contractor is required to purchase any goods and/or services in connection with its performance of the Contract, the Contractor shall ensure that such goods and/or services shall be procured in accordance with the principle of best value for money. "Best value for money" means the responsive offer that is the best combination of technical specifications, quality and price; and
- consistent with section 7.3 (Audit and Access), all financial reports shall be subject to audit by or on behalf of WHO, including examination of supporting documentation and relevant accounting entries in the Contractor's books. In order to facilitate financial reporting and audit, the Contractor shall keep systematic and accurate accounts and records in respect of the work.

Unless otherwise specified in the Contract, WHO shall have no obligation to purchase any minimum quantities of goods or services from the Contractor, and WHO shall have no limitation on its right to obtain goods or services of the same kind, quality and quantity as described in the Contract, from any other sources at any time.

Unless otherwise specified in the Contract, in the event that the Contract is a Long-Term Agreement ("LTA"), the Contractor shall offer the same prices and terms as those agreed with WHO under the Contract to other interested United Nations system agencies and to organizations eligible to purchase through WHO, it being understood that each such agency and organization will be responsible for independently entering into and administering its own contract with the Contractor. The Contractor shall take into account the additional quantities of services purchased by all United Nations system agencies and other organizations as aforesaid to further reduce the prices for WHO and such other agencies and organizations.



7.1 Conditions of Contract

Any and all of the Contractor's (general and/or special) conditions of contract are hereby explicitly excluded from the Contract, i.e., regardless of whether such conditions are included in the Contractor's offer, or printed or referred to on the Contractor's letterhead, invoices and/or other material, documentation or communications.

7.2 Responsibility

The Contractor will be responsible to ensure that the work performed under the Contract meets the agreed specifications and is completed within the time prescribed.

7.3 Audit and Access

WHO may request a financial and operational review or audit of the work performed under the Contract, to be conducted by WHO and/or parties authorized by WHO, and the Contractor undertakes to facilitate such review or audit. This review or audit may be carried out at any time during the implementation of the work performed under the Contract, or within five years of completion of the work. In order to facilitate such financial and operational review or audit, the Contractor shall keep accurate and systematic accounts and records in respect of the work performed under the Contract.

The Contractor shall make available, without restriction, to WHO and/or parties authorized by WHO:

- (i) the Contractor's books, records and systems (including all relevant financial and operational information) relating to the Contract; and
- (ii) reasonable access to the Contractor's premises and personnel.

The Contractor shall provide satisfactory explanations to all queries arising in connection with the aforementioned audit and access rights.

WHO may request the Contractor to provide complementary information about the work performed under the Contract that is reasonably available, including the findings and results of an audit (internal or external) conducted by the Contractor and related to the work performed under the Contract.

7.4 Source of Instructions

The Contractor shall neither seek nor accept instructions from any authority external to WHO in connection with the performance of the work under the Contract. The Contractor shall refrain from any action which may adversely affect WHO and shall fulfil its commitments with the fullest regard to the interests of WHO.

7.5 Warranties

The Contractor warrants and represents to WHO as follows:

- 1) The deliverables shall meet the specifications called for in the Contract and shall be fully adequate to meet their intended purpose. The Contractor furthermore warrants that the



deliverables shall be error-free. The Contractor shall correct any errors in the deliverables, free of charge, within fifteen days after their notification to the Contractor, during a period of at least one year after completion of the work. It is agreed, however, that errors and other defects which have been caused by modifications to the deliverables made by WHO without agreement of the Contractor are not covered by this paragraph.

- 2) The deliverables shall, to the extent they are not original, only be derived from, or incorporate, material over which the Contractor has the full legal right and authority to use it for the proper implementation of the Contract. The Contractor shall obtain all the necessary licenses for all non-original material incorporated in the deliverables (including, but not limited to, licenses for WHO to use any underlying software, application, and operating deliverables included in the deliverables or on which it is based so as to permit WHO to fully exercise its rights in the deliverables without any obligation on WHO's part to make any additional payments whatsoever to any party.
- 3) The deliverables shall not violate any copyright, patent right, or other proprietary right of any third party and shall be delivered to WHO free and clear of any and all liens, claims, charges, security interests and any other encumbrances of any nature whatsoever.
- 4) The Contractor, its employees and any other persons and entities used by the Contractor shall not violate any intellectual property rights, confidentiality, right of privacy or other right of any person or entity whomsoever.
- 5) Except as otherwise explicitly provided in the Contract, the Contractor shall at all times provide all the necessary on-site and off-site resources to meet its obligations hereunder. The Contractor shall only use highly qualified staff, acceptable to WHO, to perform its obligations hereunder.
- 6) The Contractor shall take full and sole responsibility for the payment of all wages, benefits and monies due to all persons and entities used by it in connection with the implementation and execution of the Contract, including, but not limited to, the Contractor's employees, permitted subcontractors and suppliers.

Contractor furthermore warrants and represent that the information provided by it to WHO in response to the RFP and during the bid evaluation process is accurate and complete. Contractor understands that in the event Contractor has failed to disclose any relevant information which may have impacted WHO's decision to award the Contract to Contractor, or has provided false information, WHO will be entitled to rescind the contract with immediate effect, in addition to any other remedies which WHO may have by contract or by law.

7.6 Legal Status

The Contractor shall be considered as having the legal status of an independent contractor vis-à-vis WHO, and nothing contained in or relating to the Contract shall be construed as establishing or creating an employer/employee relationship between WHO, on the one hand, and the Contractor or any person used by the Contractor in the performance of the work, on the other hand.

Thus the Contractor shall be solely responsible for the manner in which the work is carried out. WHO shall not be responsible for any loss, accident, damage or injury suffered by the Contractor or persons or entities claiming under the Contractor, arising during or as a result of the implementation or execution of the Contract, including travel, whether sustained on WHO premises or not.

The Contractor shall obtain adequate insurance to cover such loss, accident, injury and damage, before commencing work on the Contract. The Contractor shall be solely responsible in this regard and shall handle any claims for such loss, accident, damage or injury.



7.7 Relation Between the Parties

Nothing in the Contract shall be deemed to constitute a partnership between the Parties or to constitute either Party as the agent of the other.

7.8 No Waiver

The waiver by either Party of any provision or breach of the Contract shall not prevent subsequent enforcement of such provision or excuse further breaches.

7.9 Liability

The Contractor hereby indemnifies and holds WHO harmless from and against the full amount of any and all claims and liabilities, including legal fees and costs, which are or may be made, filed or assessed against WHO at any time and based on, or arising out of, breach by the Contractor of any of its representations or warranties under the Contract, regardless of whether such representations and warranties are explicitly incorporated here in or are referred to in any attached Appendices.

7.10 Assignment

The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, pledge or make any other disposition of the Contract or any part thereof, or any of the Contractor's rights, claims or obligations under the Contract except with the prior written consent of WHO.

7.11 Indemnification

The Contractor shall indemnify and hold WHO harmless, from and against the full amount of any and all claims and liabilities, including legal fees and costs, which are or may be made, filed or assessed against WHO at any time and based on, or arising out of, the acts or omissions of the Contractor, or the Contractor's employees, officers, agents, partners or sub-contractors, in the performance of the Contract. This provision shall extend, inter alia, to claims and liabilities in the nature of workmen's compensation, product liability and liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property by the Contractor, its employees, officers, agents, servants, partners or sub-contractors.

7.12 Contractor's Responsibility for Employees

The Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical competence of its employees and will select, for work under the Contract, reliable individuals who will perform effectively in the implementation of the Contract, respect the local laws and customs, and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

7.13 Subcontracting

Any intention to subcontract aspects of the Contract must be specified in detail in the proposal submitted. Information concerning the subcontractor, including the qualifications of the staff proposed for use must be covered with same degree of thoroughness as for the prime contractor. No subcontracting will be permitted under the Contract unless it is proposed in the initial



submission or formally agreed to by WHO at a later time. In any event, the total responsibility for the Contract remains with the Contractor.

The Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that any and all subcontracts shall be fully consistent with the Contract, and shall not in any way prejudice the implementation of any of its provisions.

7.14 Place of Performance

The place of performance of the work under the Contract shall be as indicated under 3.3.2.

7.15 Language

All communications relating to the Contract and/or the performance of the work thereunder shall be in English.

7.16 Confidentiality

- 1) Except as explicitly provided in the Contract, the Contractor shall keep confidential all information which comes to its knowledge during, or as a result of, the implementation and execution of the Contract. Accordingly, the Contractor shall not use or disclose such information for any purpose other than the performance of its obligations under the Contract. The Contractor shall ensure that each of its employees and/or other persons and entities having access to such information shall be made aware of, and be bound by, the obligations of the Contractor under this paragraph. However, there shall be no obligation of confidentiality or restriction on use, where: (i) the information is publicly available, or becomes publicly available, otherwise than by any action or omission of the Contractor, or (ii) the information was already known to the Contractor (as evidenced by its written records) prior to becoming known to the Contractor in the implementation and execution of the Contract; or (iii) the information was received by the Contractor from a third party not in breach of an obligation of confidentiality.
- 2) The Contractor, its employees and any other persons and entities used by the Contractor shall furthermore not copy and/or otherwise infringe on copyright of any document (whether machine-readable or not) to which the Contractor, its employees and any other persons and entities used by the Contractor have access in the performance of the Contract.
- 3) The Contractor may not communicate at any time to any other person, Government or authority external to WHO, any information known to it by reason of its association with WHO which has not been made public except with the authorization of WHO; nor shall the Contractor at any time use such information to private advantage.

7.17 Title Rights

- 1) All rights pertaining to any and all deliverables under the Contract and the original work product leading thereto, as well as the rights in any non-original material incorporated therein as referred to in section 7.5 2) above, shall be exclusively vested in WHO.
- 2) WHO reserves the right to revise the work, to use the work in a different way from that originally envisaged or to not use the work at all.
- 3) At WHO's request, the Contractor shall take all necessary steps, execute all



necessary documents and generally assist WHO in securing such rights in compliance with the requirements of applicable law.

7.18 Termination and Cancellation

WHO shall have the right to cancel the Contract (in addition to other rights, such as the right to claim damages):

1. In the event the Contractor fails to begin work on the date agreed, or to implement the work in accordance with the terms of the Contract; or
2. In the event the progress of work is such that it becomes obvious that the obligations undertaken by the Contractor and, in particular, the time for fulfilment of such obligations, will not be respected.

In addition, WHO shall be entitled to terminate the Contract (or part thereof), in writing:

1. At will with the provision of thirty (30) days prior notice in writing; and
2. With immediate effect (in addition to other rights, such as the right to claim damages), if, other than as provided above, the Contractor is:
 - a. In breach of any of its material obligations under the Contract and fails to correct such breach within a period of thirty (30) days after having received a written notification to that effect from WHO; or
 - b. Adjudicated bankrupt or formally seeks relief of its financial obligations.

7.19 Force Majeure

No party to the Contract shall be responsible for a delay caused by force majeure, that is, a delay caused by reasons outside such party's reasonable control it being agreed, however, that WHO shall be entitled to terminate the Contract (or any part of the Contract) forthwith if the implementation of the work is delayed or prevented by any such reason for an aggregate of thirty (30) days. Such termination shall be subject to payment of an equitable part of the Contract sum and/or other reasonable charges. In the event of such termination, the Contractor shall, in accordance with the ownership rights referred to in section 7.17 (Title Rights), deliver to WHO all work products and other materials so far produced.

In the event of and as soon as possible after the occurrence of any cause constituting force majeure, the Contractor shall give notice and full particulars in writing to WHO, of such occurrence or change if the Contractor is thereby rendered unable, wholly or in part, to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under the Contract. The Contractor shall also notify WHO of any other changes in conditions or the occurrence of any event which interferes or threatens to interfere with its performance of the Contract. The notice shall include steps proposed by the Contractor to be taken including any reasonable alternative means for performance that is not prevented by force majeure. On receipt of the notice required under this section, WHO shall take such action as it, in its sole discretion, considers to be appropriate or necessary in the circumstances, including the granting to the Contractor of a reasonable extension of time in which to perform its obligations under the Contract.

7.20 Surviving Provisions

Those rights and obligations of the Parties as set forth in sections 7 and 8 that are intended by their nature to survive the expiration or earlier termination of the Contract shall survive indefinitely.



This includes, **but is expressly not limited to**, any provisions relating to WHO's right to financial and operational audit, conditions of contract, warranties, legal status and relationship between the parties, breach, liability, indemnification, subcontracting, confidentiality, title rights, use of the WHO name and emblem, successors and assignees, insurance and liabilities to third parties, settlement of disputes, observance of laws, privileges and immunities, no terrorism or corruption, foreign nationals and compliance with WHO policies.

7.21 Use of WHO name and emblem

Without WHO's prior written approval, the Contractor shall not, in any statement or material of an advertising or promotional nature, refer to the Contract or the Contractor's relationship with WHO, or otherwise use the name (or any abbreviation thereof) and/or emblem of the World Health Organization.

7.22 Publication of Contract

Subject to considerations of confidentiality, WHO may acknowledge the existence of the Contract to the public and publish and/or otherwise publicly disclose the Contractor's name and country of incorporation, general information with respect to the work described herein and the Contract value. Such disclosure will be made in accordance with WHO's Information Disclosure Policy and shall be consistent with the terms of the Contract.

7.23 Successors and Assignees

The Contract shall be binding upon the successors and assignees of the Contractor and the Contract shall be deemed to include the Contractor's successors and assignees, provided, however, that nothing in the Contract shall permit any assignment without the prior written approval of WHO.

7.24 Payment

Payment will be made against presentation of an invoice in a UN convertible currency (preferably US Dollars) in accordance with the payment schedule contained in the Contract, subject to satisfactory performance of the work. The price shall reflect any tax exemption to which WHO may be entitled by reason of the immunity it enjoys. WHO is, as a general rule, exempt from all direct taxes, custom duties and the like, and the Contractor will consult with WHO so as to avoid the imposition of such charges with respect to this contract and the goods supplied and/or services rendered hereunder. As regards excise duties and other taxes imposed on the sale of goods or services (e.g. VAT), the Contractor agrees to verify in consultation with WHO whether in the country where the VAT would be payable, WHO is exempt from such VAT at the source, or entitled to claim reimbursement thereof. If WHO is exempt from VAT, this shall be indicated on the invoice, whereas if WHO can claim reimbursement thereof, the Contractor agrees to list such charges on its invoices as a separate item and, to the extent required, cooperate with WHO to enable reimbursement thereof.



7.25 Title to Equipment

Title to any equipment and supplies that may be furnished by WHO shall remain with WHO and any such equipment shall be returned to WHO at the conclusion of the Contract or when no longer needed by the Contractor. Such equipment, when returned to WHO, shall be in the same condition as when delivered to the Contractor, subject to normal wear and tear. The Contractor shall be liable to compensate WHO for equipment determined to be damaged or degraded beyond normal wear and tear.

7.26 Insurance and Liabilities to Third Parties

The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain:

(i) insurance against all risks in respect of its property and any equipment used for the execution of the Contract;

(ii) all appropriate workmen's compensation insurance, or its equivalent, with respect to its employees to cover claims for personal injury or death in connection with the Contract; and

(iii) liability insurance in an adequate amount to cover third party claims for death or bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, arising from or in connection with the performance of the work under the Contract or the operation of any vehicles, boats, airplanes or other equipment owned or leased by the Contractor or its agents, servants, employees, partners or sub-contractors performing work in connection with the Contract.

Except for the workmen's compensation insurance, the insurance policies under this section shall:

- a) Name WHO as additional insured;
- b) Include a waiver of subrogation to the insurance carrier of the Contractor's rights against WHO;
- c) Provide that WHO 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.

The Contractor shall, upon request, provide WHO with satisfactory evidence of the insurance required under this section.

7.27 Settlement of Disputes

Any matter relating to the interpretation of the Contract which is not covered by its terms shall be resolved by reference to Swiss law. Any dispute relating to the interpretation or application of the Contract shall, unless amicably settled, be subject to conciliation. In the event of failure of the latter, the dispute shall be settled by arbitration. The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the modalities to be agreed upon by the parties or, in the absence of agreement, with the rules of arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce. The parties shall accept the arbitral award as final.

7.28 Authority to Modify

No modification or change of the Contract, no waiver of any of its provisions or any additional contractual relationship of any kind shall be valid and enforceable unless signed by a duly authorized representative of both parties



7.29 Privileges and Immunities

Nothing in or relating to the Contract shall be construed as a waiver of any of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by WHO under national or international law, and/or as submitting WHO to any national court jurisdiction.

7.30 Anti-Terrorism and UN Sanctions; Fraud and Corruption

The Contractor warrants for the entire duration of the Contract that:

- (i) it is not and will not be involved in, or associated with, any person or entity associated with terrorism, as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime, that it will not make any payment or provide any other support to any such person or entity and that it will not enter into any employment or subcontracting relationship with any such person or entity;
- (ii) it shall not engage in any illegal, corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices (including bribery, theft and other misuse of funds) in connection with the execution of the Contract; and
- (iii) the Contractor shall take all necessary precautions to prevent the financing of terrorism and/or any illegal corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices (including bribery, theft and other misuse of funds) in connection with the execution of the Contract.

Any payments used by the Contractor for the promotion of any terrorist activity or any illegal, corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practice shall be repaid to WHO without delay.

7.31 Ethical Behaviour

WHO, the Contractor and each of the Contractor's partners, subcontractors and their employees and agents shall adhere to the highest ethical standards in the performance of the Contract. In this regard, the Contractor shall also ensure that neither the Contractor nor its partners, subcontractors, agents or employees will engage in activities involving child labour, trafficking in arms, promotion of tobacco or other unhealthy behaviour, or sexual exploitation and abuse.

7.32 Officials not to Benefit

The Contractor warrants that no official of WHO has received or will be offered by the Contractor any direct or indirect benefit arising from the Contract or the award thereof.

7.33 Compliance with WHO Codes and Policies

By entering into the Contract, the Contractor acknowledges that it has read, and hereby accepts and agrees to comply with, the WHO Policies (as defined below).

In connection with the foregoing, the Contractor shall take appropriate measures to prevent and respond to any violations of the standards of conduct, as described in the WHO Policies, by its employees and any other persons engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract.

Without limiting the foregoing, the Contractor shall promptly report to WHO, in accordance with the terms of the applicable WHO Policies, any actual or suspected violations of any WHO Policies of which the Contractor becomes aware.



For purposes of the Contract, the term “WHO Policies” means collectively: (i) the WHO Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct; (ii) the WHO Policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Prevention and Response; (iii) the WHO Code of Conduct for responsible Research; (iv) the WHO Policy on Whistleblowing and Protection Against Retaliation; and (v) the UN Supplier Code of Conduct, in each case, as amended from time to time and which are publicly available on the WHO website at the following links: <http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/procurement/en/> for the UN Supplier Code of Conduct and at <http://www.who.int/about/ethics/en/> for the other WHO Policies.

7.34 Zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse

WHO has zero tolerance towards sexual exploitation and abuse. In this regard, and without limiting any other provisions contained herein:

- each legal entity Contractor warrants that it will: (i) take all reasonable and appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation or abuse as described in the WHO Policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Prevention and Response by any its employees and any other persons engaged by it to perform any services under the Contract; and (ii) promptly report to WHO and respond to, in accordance with the terms of the Policy, any actual or suspected violations of the Policy of which the contractor becomes aware; and
- each individual Contractor warrants that he/she will (i) not engage in any conduct that would constitute sexual exploitation or abuse as described in the WHO Policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Prevention and Response; and (ii) promptly report to WHO, in accordance with the terms of the Policy, any actual or suspected violations of the Policy of which the Contractor becomes aware.

7.35 Tobacco/Arms Related Disclosure Statement

The Contractor may be required to disclose relationships it may have with the tobacco and/or arms industry through completion of the WHO Tobacco/Arms Disclosure Statement. In the event WHO requires completion of this Statement, the Contractor undertakes not to permit work on the Contract to commence, until WHO has assessed the disclosed information and confirmed to the Contractor in writing that the work can commence.

7.36 Compliance with applicable laws, etc.

The Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the terms of the Contract. Without limiting the foregoing or any other provision of these General and Contractual Conditions, the Contractor shall at all times comply with and ensure that each of its partners, subcontractors and their employees and agents comply with, any applicable laws and regulations, and with all WHO policies and reasonable written directions and procedures from WHO relating to: (i) occupational health and safety, (ii) security and administrative requirements, including, but not limited to computer network security procedures, (iii) sexual harassment, (iv) privacy, (v) general business conduct and disclosure, (vi) conflicts of interest and (vii) business working hours and official holidays.

In the event that the Contractor becomes aware of any violation or potential violation by the Contractor, its partners, subcontractors or any of their employees or agents, of any laws, regulations, WHO policies or other reasonable written directions and procedures from WHO, the Contractor shall immediately notify WHO of such violation or potential violation. WHO, in its sole



discretion, shall determine the course of action to remedy such violation or prevent such potential violation, in addition to any other remedy available to WHO under the Contract or otherwise.

7.37 Breach of Essential Terms

The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that each of the provisions of section 7.30 (Anti-Terrorism and UN Sanctions; Fraud and Corruption), section 7.31 (Ethical Behaviour), section 7.32 (Officials not to Benefit), section 7.33 (Compliance with WHO Codes and Policies), and section 7.36 (Zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse), section 7.35 (Tobacco/Arms Related Disclosure Statement) and section 7.36 (Compliance with applicable laws, etc.) hereof constitutes an essential term of the Contract, and that in case of breach of any of these provisions, WHO may, in its sole discretion, decide to:

- (i) terminate the Contract, and/or any other contract concluded by WHO with the Contractor, immediately upon written notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind; and/or
- (ii) exclude the Contractor from participating in any ongoing or future tenders and/or entering into any future contractual or collaborative relationships with WHO.

WHO shall be entitled to report any violation of such provisions to WHO's governing bodies, other UN agencies, and/or donors.



8. PERSONNEL

8.1 Approval of Contractor Personnel

WHO reserves the right to approve any employee, subcontractor or agent furnished by the Contractor and Contractor's consortium partners for the performance of the work under the Contract (hereinafter jointly referred to as "Contractor Personnel"). All Contractor Personnel must have appropriate qualifications, skills, and levels of experience and otherwise be adequately trained to perform the work. WHO reserves the right to undertake an interview process as part of the approval of Contractor Personnel.

The Contractor acknowledges that the qualifications, skills and experience of the Contractor Personnel proposed to be assigned to the project are material elements in WHO's engaging the Contractor for the project. Therefore, in order to ensure timely and cohesive completion of the project, both parties intend that Personnel initially assigned to the project continue through to project completion. Once an individual has been approved and assigned to the project, such individual will not, in principle, thereafter be taken off the project by the Contractor, or reassigned by the Contractor to other duties. Circumstances may arise, however, which necessitate that Personnel be substituted in the course of the work, e.g. in the event of promotions, termination of employment, sickness, vacation or other similar circumstances, at which time a replacement with comparable qualifications, skills and experience may be assigned to the project, subject to approval of WHO.

WHO may refuse access to or require replacement of any Contractor Personnel if such individual renders, in the sole judgment of WHO, inadequate or unacceptable performance, or if for any other reason WHO finds that such individual does not meet his/her security or responsibility requirements. The Contractor shall replace such an individual within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of written notice from WHO. The replacement will have the required qualifications, skills and experience and will be billed at a rate that is equal to or less than the rate of the individual being replaced.

8.2 Project Managers

Each party shall appoint a qualified project manager ("Project Manager") who shall serve as such party's primary liaison throughout the course of the project. The Project Manager shall be authorized by the respective party to answer all questions posed by the other party and convey all decisions made by such party during the course of the project and the other party shall be entitled to rely on such information as conveyed by the Project Manager.

The Project Managers shall meet on a monthly basis in order to review the status of the project and provide WHO with reports. Such reports shall include detailed time distribution information in the form requested by WHO and shall cover problems, meetings, progress and status against the implementation timetable.

8.3 Foreign Nationals

The Contractor shall verify that all Contractor Personnel is legally entitled to work in the country or countries where the work is to be carried out. WHO reserves the right to request the Contractor to provide WHO with adequate documentary evidence attesting this for each Contractor Personnel.

Each party hereby represents that it does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, gender, creed, national origin, or citizenship.



8.4 Engagement of Third Parties and use of In-house Resources

The Contractor acknowledges that WHO may elect to engage third parties to participate in or oversee certain aspects of the project and that WHO may elect to use its in-house resources for the performance of certain aspects of the project. The Contractor shall at all times cooperate with and ensure that the Contractor and each of its partners, subcontractors and their employees and agents cooperate, in good faith, with such third parties and with any WHO in-house resources.



9. LIST OF ANNEXES AND APPENDICES

Annex 1	Acknowledgment Form <i>(to be submitted latest by 17-April 2024)</i>
Annex 2	Confidentiality Undertaking <i>(to be submitted latest by 17-April 2024)</i>
Annex 3	Proposal Completeness Form <i>(to be submitted with the Technical Proposal*)</i>
Annex 4	Information about Bidder <i>(to be submitted with the Technical Proposal*)</i>
Annex 5	Financial Proposal Template <i>(to be submitted in separate envelope from Technical Proposal*)</i> <i>(attachment is provided in separate document of this RFP)</i>
Annex 6	Bidder Self-Declaration Form <i>(to be submitted with the Technical Proposal*)</i>
Annex 7	Declaration of Interest Form for Business Entity <i>(to be submitted with the Technical Proposal*)</i> <i>(attachment is provided in separate document of this RFP)</i>
Annex 8	WHO Arms-Tobacco Disclosure Statement <i>(to be submitted with the Technical Proposal*)</i> <i>(attachment is provided in separate document of this RFP)</i>

***Submission date of the complete Technical and Financial proposal: 19 April 2024**

Appendix 1	UNGM Guide <i>(attachment is provided in separate document of this RFP)</i>
Appendix 2	Terms of Reference (TOR) <i>(attachment is provided in separate document of this RFP)</i>



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Annex 1: Acknowledgement Form

To be submitted as Intention to Bid (refer paragraph 4.2) together with Annex 2.

Please check the appropriate box (see below) and upload this acknowledgement form under the “Correspondence” tab in UNGM:

☐

Intention to Submit a Proposal

We hereby acknowledge receipt of the RFP. We have perused the document and advise that we intend to submit a proposal on or before **19/04/2024 at 17:00 hours Geneva time.**

☐

Non-Intention to Submit a Proposal

We hereby acknowledge receipt the invitation to the RFP. We have perused the document and advise that we do not intend to submit a proposal for the following reasons:

Insert reason here

Bidder's Contact Information is as follows:

Entity Name:	.....
UNGM Registry number:	[.....]
Mailing Address (including country of bidder's registered business):	..... ..... .....
Name, Title and email address of duly authorized representative:
Signature:	
Date:



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Annex 2: Confidentiality Undertaking

To be submitted as Intention to Bid (refer paragraph 4.2) together with Annex 1.

1. Unitaid has access to certain information relating to the below mentioned project which it considers to be proprietary to itself or to entities collaborating with it (hereinafter referred to as "the Information").
2. Unitaid/WHO is willing to provide the Information to the Undersigned for the purpose of allowing the Undersigned to prepare a response to the Request for Proposals (RFP) for **Consultancy for experts to support landscape assessment for clinical trials and bio-analytical (including BA/BE trials) capabilities/opportunities in Africa** ("the Purpose"), provided that the Undersigned undertakes to treat the Information as confidential and proprietary, to use the Information only for the aforesaid Purpose and to disclose it only to persons who have a need to know for the Purpose and are bound by like obligations of confidentiality and non-use as are contained in this Undertaking.
3. The Undersigned undertakes to regard the Information as confidential and proprietary to Unitaid/WHO or parties collaborating with Unitaid/WHO, and agrees to take all reasonable measures to ensure that the Information is not used, disclosed or copied, in whole or in part, other than as provided in paragraph 2 above, except that the Undersigned shall not be bound by any such obligations if the Undersigned is clearly able to demonstrate that the Information:
 - a) was known to the Undersigned prior to any disclosure by Unitaid/WHO to the Undersigned; or
 - b) was in the public domain at the time of disclosure by Unitaid/WHO; or
 - c) becomes part of the public domain through no fault of the Undersigned; or
 - d) becomes available to the Undersigned from a third party not in breach of any legal obligations of confidentiality to Unitaid/WHO.
4. At Unitaid/WHO's request, the Undersigned shall promptly return any and all copies of the Information to Unitaid/WHO.
5. The obligations of the Undersigned shall be of indefinite duration and shall not cease on termination of the above-mentioned RFP process.
6. Any dispute relating to the interpretation or application of this Undertaking shall, unless amicably settled, be subject to conciliation. In the event of failure of the latter, the dispute shall be settled by arbitration. The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the modalities to be agreed upon by the parties or, in the absence of agreement, with the rules of arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce. The parties shall accept the arbitral award as final.

Entity Name:	.....
Mailing Address (including country of bidder's registered business):	..... ..... .....
Name, Title and Email Address of duly authorized representative:
Signature:	
Date:



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Annex 3: Proposal Completeness Form *(incomplete submission may be disqualified)**To be uploaded in UNGM, "Tender Documents" tab, under "Technical Envelope" ONLY.*

Section	Requirement	Completed in full (Yes/No)
Annex 1	Acknowledgement form	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Annex 2	Confidentiality undertaking form	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Annex 3	Proposal completeness form	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Annex 4	Information about Bidder, including past experience/projects <i>(please complete and submit information requested under Annex 4 as part of the main Technical Proposal)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Annex 5	Financial Proposal (TO BE UPLOADED SEPARATELY IN FINANCIAL ENVELOPE)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Annex 6	Self-Declaration Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Annex 7	Declaration of Interest for Business Entity	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Annex 8	WHO's Arms & Tobacco Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4.15.1 to 4.15.4	Technical Proposal - including Executive Summary, proposed solution, approach and methodology, timeline, risk management, detailed CVs of the proposed team, etc. Please merge all these documents in one/single pdf file as a Technical Proposal (in lieu of multiple attachments) and provide a clear Table of Contents with page information on the first page of Technical Proposal for reference.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

The enclosed proposal is valid for _____ days* from the date of this form.

* minimum period of 90 calendar days after the closing date for submission of proposals.

Agreed and accepted,

Entity Name:	.....
Mailing Address (including country of bidder's registered business):	..... ..... .....
Name, Title and Email Address of duly authorized representative:
Signature:	
Date:



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Annex 4: Information about Bidder (*please add in the last section of bidder's main Technical Proposal*)

RFP Ref. If applicable	Information required
	1. Company Information
	1.1 Corporate information
3.2	1.1.1 Company mission statement (<i>including profit or not for profit status</i>)
	1.1.2 Service commitment to customers and measurements used
3.2	1.1.3 Accreditations
	1.1.4 Organization structure
	1.1.5 Geographical presence
	1.1.6 Audited financial statements for the past (3) three years
	1.1.7 Mandatory: Company's commitment and initiatives in support of sustainability (in particular in relation to carbon footprint, e.g.: overall company carbon footprint, past/ongoing initiatives to reduce carbon emissions, or compensation/offsetting of emissions) and how it will be reflected in this procurement/consultancy activities. Please include any relevant certification or supportive documentation. Kindly provide sufficient information on this requirement as it will be evaluated and scored in the Technical Proposal assessment. Bidder(s) not demonstrating sufficient initiatives (i.e. having limited climate /environmental efforts undertaken with no formal or concrete pledge/policy in the organization) may not be recommended for award of contract. Please indicate if bidders have a formal/concrete pledge or policy, formal commitment to net-zero goals or Paris Agreement targets, and/or measurable achievements (e.g., footprint reduction against baseline, and footprint associated to goods or services delivered)
	1.2 Legal Information
	1.2.1 History of Bankruptcy, if any
	1.2.2 Pending major lawsuits and litigations in excess of USD 100,000 at risk (indicate particularly those by licensees or patent infringement), if any
	1.2.3 Pending Criminal/Civil lawsuits, if any
3.2	2. Experience and Reference Contact Information - <i>note: this info may be incorporated directly under Section 4.15.2 of the Technical Proposal</i>
	2.1 Relevant Contractual relationships
	2.1.1 Relevant Contractual projects (with other UN agencies or Contractors)
	2.2 Relevant Project Names (<i>list and provide detailed examples of relevant experience that demonstrate the Contractor's ability to satisfactorily perform the work in accordance with the requirements of this RFP</i>)
	2.2.1 Project Description
	2.2.2 Status (<i>under development / implemented</i>)
	2.2.3 Reason for relevance (<i>provide reason why this project can be seen as relevant to this specific project</i>)
	2.2.4 Roles and responsibilities
	2.2.5 Team Members (<i>indicate relevant members of the team that will also be used for this project</i>)
3.2	3. Staffing information
	3.1 Number and Geographical distribution of staff
	3.1.1 Staff turnover rate for the past three years
	3.2 Staff dedicated to the Project (info required under item 3.2.1 to 3.2.3 below can be incorporated under Section 4.15.2 of the Technical Proposal)
	3.2.1 Name and CV of each team member proposed, highlighting relevant experience matching with each of the TOR requirements (Qualification and Skills)



	3.2.2 Structure of the team, and role of each member in the project
	3.2.3 Time dedicated to the project (please clearly indicate number of days proposed in the Technical Proposal, without revealing daily rates or financial information)
	3.2.3 Risk management, including but not limited to challenges related to availability of data, contingency plans in the event of a consultant vacancy, and others.
4.5	4. Proposed sub-contractor arrangements including sub-contractor information, if relevant (to provide info as above for each sub-contractor). <i>Work distribution between the bidder and sub-contractor/joint-venture entity shall clearly be described in the proposal. If this is the first collaboration, please include risk management related to this arrangement.</i>

**Request for Proposals: RFP 2024.10****Annex 6: Self Declaration Form**

To be uploaded in UNGM, "Tender Documents" tab, under "Technical Envelope" ONLY.

Applicable to private and public companies

<COMPANY> (the "Company") hereby declares to the World Health Organization (WHO) that:

- a. it is not bankrupt or being wound up, having its affairs administered by the courts, has not entered into an arrangement with creditors, has not suspended business activities, is not the subject of proceedings concerning the foregoing matters, and is not in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
- b. it is solvent and in a position to continue doing business for the period stipulated in the contract after contract signature, if awarded a contract by WHO;
- c. it or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over the Company have not been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a final judgment;
- d. it or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over the Company have not been the subject of a final judgment or of a final administrative decision for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization, money laundering, terrorist-related offences, child labour, human trafficking or any other illegal activity;
- e. it is in compliance with all its obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions and the payment of taxes in accordance with the national legislation or regulations of the country in which the Company is established;
- f. it is not subject to an administrative penalty for misrepresenting any information required as a condition of participation in a procurement procedure or failing to supply such information;
- g. it has declared to WHO any circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest in relation to the current procurement action;
- h. it has not granted and will not grant, has not sought and will not seek, has not attempted and will not attempt to obtain, and has not accepted and will not accept any direct or indirect benefit (financial or otherwise) arising from a procurement contract or the award thereof.
- i. It adheres to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct.

The Company understands that a false statement or failure to disclose any relevant information which may impact upon WHO's decision to award a contract may result in the disqualification of the Company from the bidding exercise and/or the withdrawal of any proposal of a contract with WHO. Furthermore, in case a contract has already been awarded, WHO shall be entitled to rescind the contract with immediate effect, in addition to any other remedies which WHO may have by contract or by law.

Entity Name:	.....
Mailing Address (including country of bidder's registered business):	..... ..... .....
Name, Title and Email Address of duly authorized representative:	.....
Signature:	
Date:	.....