



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

DATE: 09/12/2016

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: No. RFP/01/2016

**FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRAME AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF
AIRLINES TRAVEL MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

CLOSING DATE AND TIME: 09/01/2017 – 18:00 hrs EET

INTRODUCTION TO UNHCR

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly. The agency is mandated to lead and co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It also has a mandate to help stateless people.

In more than five decades, the agency has helped tens of millions of people restart their lives. Today, a staff of some 9,700 people in more than 126 countries continues to help about 65.3 million persons. To help and protect some of the world's most vulnerable people in so many places and types of environment, UNHCR must purchase goods and services worldwide. For further information on UNHCR, its mandate and operations, please see <http://www.unhcr.org>.

1. REQUIREMENTS

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), National Office in Moldova invites qualified service providers to make a **firm offer for the establishment of a Frame Agreement for the provision of Airlines Travel Management Services (referred to hereinafter as "Services")**.

UNHCR may award a Frame Agreement with initial duration of 1 (one) years, potentially extendable for a further period of 1 (one) year. The successful bidders will be requested to maintain their quoted price model for the duration of the Frame Agreement(s).

The estimated volume of the UNHCR is approximately 70 – 100 flights per year, of which 90% are EU flights.

Please note that figures have been stated in order to enable bidders to have an indication of the projected requirements. It does not represent a commitment that the UNHCR will purchase the indicated quantity. Quantities may vary and will depend on the actual requirements and funds available regulated by issuance of individual Purchase Orders (PO) against the Frame Agreement.

IMPORTANT:

When a Frame Agreement is awarded, either party can terminate the agreement only upon 90 days (3 months) notice, in writing to the other party.

The initiation of conciliation or arbitral proceedings in accordance with **article 18** "settlement of disputes" of the *UNHCR General Conditions of Contracts for provision of Services* and **article 22** of *General Terms and Conditions for Institutional/Corporate Contracts* shall not be deemed to be a "cause" for or otherwise to be in itself a termination clause.

It is strongly recommended that this Request for Proposal and its annexes be read thoroughly. Failure to observe the procedures laid out therein may result in disqualification from the evaluation process.

Note: this document is not construed in any way as an offer to contract with your firm.

2. BIDDING INFORMATION:

2.1. RFP DOCUMENTS

The following annexes form integral part of this Invitation to Bid:

- Annex A: Terms of Reference
- Annex B: Example Offer for Flight Search
- Annex C: Financial Offer Form
- Annex D: UNHCR General Conditions of Contract
- Annex E: UNHCR Vendor Registration Form

2.2 ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We would appreciate your informing us of the receipt of this RFP by return e-mail to Marin Dolință, dolinta@unhcr.org

- Your confirmation of receipt of this invitation to bid
- Whether or not you will be submitting a bid

IMPORTANT:

Failure to send the above requested information may result in disqualification of your offer from further evaluation.

2.3 REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION

Bidders are required to submit any request for clarification or any question in respect of this RFP by e-mail to Marin Dolință, Snr. Admin/Programme Associate at dolinta@unhcr.org. The deadline for receipt of questions is 15/12/2016 23:59 hrs. EET. Bidders are requested to keep all questions concise.

IMPORTANT:

Please note that Bid Submissions are **not** to be sent to the e-mail address above.

UNHCR will compile the questions received. UNHCR may, at its discretion, copy any reply to a particular question to all other invited bidders at once.

2.4 YOUR OFFER

Your offer shall be prepared in English.

Please submit your offer using the Annexes provided. Offers not conforming to the requested formats may be not taken into consideration.

IMPORTANT:

Inclusion of copies of your offer with any correspondence sent directly to the attention of the responsible buyer or any other UNHCR staff other than the submission e-mail address will result in disqualification of the offer. Please send your bid directly to the address provided in the "Submission of Bid" section 2.6) of this RFP.

Your offer shall comprise the following two sets of documents:

- Technical offer
- Financial offer

2.4.1 Content of the TECHNICAL OFFER

IMPORTANT:

No pricing information should be included in the Technical offer. Failure to comply may risk disqualification. The technical offer should contain all information required.

The Terms of Reference (TORs) of the services requested by UNHCR can be found in **Annex A**. Your technical offer should be concisely presented and structured in the following order to include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following information:

- **Description of the company and the company's qualifications** (one page maximum)
 - Copy of the entity registration documents (license, certificates, etc.);
 - Copy of IATA Membership registration certificate;
 - Brief Company Profile and portfolio of clients
 - Year founded;
 - Number of employees;
 - Main business activities;
 - Average yearly turnover in the past two years;
 - If multi location company, specify headquarters location;
 - Total number of clients;

Any other information that will facilitate our evaluation of your company's substantive reliability, financial and managerial capacity to provide the services.

- **Understanding of the requirements for services, proposed approach, solutions, methodology and outputs** (one page maximum)
 - A description of your organization's experience in air-travel management services;
 - A description of your organization's capacity to provide the service, including the timeframe for answering quote and price refresh requests and Travel Agency's opening hours;
 - A description of working hours;
 - A description of ticket issuance and delivery
 - The composition of the team you propose to provide

- **Example offer:** Prepare and submit example offers as it is requested in **Annex B**.

- **Vendor Registration Form:** If your company is not already registered with the UN Agencies, you should complete, sign and submit with your technical proposal the Vendor Registration Form (**Annex E**).

- **UNHCR General Conditions of Contract:** Your technical offer should contain your acknowledgement of the UNHCR General Conditions of Contracts signing (**Annex D**).

2.4.2 Content of the FINANCIAL OFFER

Your separate **Financial Offer** must contain an overall offer in a single currency in EUR, without VAT.

The financial offer must cover all the services to be provided (price “all inclusive”).

The Financial Offer is to be submitted as per the Financial Offer Form (Annex C). Bids that have a different price structure may not be accepted.

UNHCR is exempt from all direct taxes and customs duties. With this regards, price has to be given without VAT.

You are requested to hold your offer valid for 90 days from the deadline for submission. UNHCR will make its best effort to select a company within this period. UNHCR’s standard payment terms are within 30 days after satisfactory implementation and receipt of documents in order.

The cost of preparing a bid and of negotiating a contract, including any related travel, is not reimbursable nor can it be included as a direct cost of the assignment.

2.5 **BID EVALUATION:**

2.5.1 **Supplier Registration:**

The qualified supplier(s) will be added to the Vendor Database after investigation of suitability based on the submitted Vendor Registration Form (Annex E) and supporting documents. The investigation involves consideration of several factors such as:

- Financial standing;
- Core business;
- Track record;
- Contract capacity.

2.5.2 **Technical and Financial evaluation:**

For the award of this project, UNHCR has established evaluation criteria which govern the selection of offers received. Evaluation is made on a technical and financial basis. The percentage assigned to each component is determined in advance as follows:

The **Technical offer** will be evaluated using inter alia the following criteria and percentage distribution: **60%** from the total score

Criteria	Maximum
Company Qualifications and References <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accredited Travel Agency - IATA Membership - Average yearly turnover is more than 10,000,000 MDL - Number of employed travel agents with more than 2 years of experience in using travel reservation system - Travel agent has representation office in Chisinau 	20
Quality of Proposed Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Travel agent is able to provide online booking tool - Offered opening hours is from 09:00 – 18:00 - Offered timeframe for presenting flight options in email - Offered timeframe for sending refreshed prices of earlier presented flight options - Travel agent provides 24/7 services and its conditions - Evaluation of the example offer submitted with the tender documents 	60

- Travel agent can issue train tickets in electronic format	
Qualification of Project staff	20
Total:	100

Remark: The Technical offer score will be calculated according to the percentage distribution for the technical and financial offers.

The **Financial offer** will use the following percentage distribution: **40%** from the total score.

The maximum number of points will be allotted to the lowest price offer that is opened and compared among those invited firms. All other price offers will receive points in inverse proportion to the lowest price; e.g., [total Price Component] x [EUR lowest] \ [EUR other] = points for other supplier's Price Component.

2.6 **SUBMISSION OF BID:**

The offers must bear your official letter head, clearly identifying your company.

Bids should be submitted by mail.

The Technical and Financial offers shall be clearly separated.

Bid must be sent by mail ONLY to the following address:

68, A. Mateevici str., MD-2009, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

IMPORTANT:

The technical offer and financial offer are to be sent in sealed separate envelopes. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

Deadline: 09/01/2017, 18:00 hrs. EET.

IMPORTANT:

Any bid received after this date or sent to another UNHCR address may be rejected. UNHCR may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of bids, by notifying all prospective bidders simultaneously.

Please indicate on the envelope subject field:

- Bid **RFP/01/2016**
- **Name of your firm** with the title of the offer

UNHCR will not be responsible for locating or securing any information that is not identified in the bid. Accordingly, to ensure that sufficient information is available, the bidder shall furnish, as part of the bid, any descriptive material such as extracts, descriptions, and other necessary information it deems would enhance the comprehension of its offer.

2.7 **BID ACCEPTANCE:**

UNHCR reserves the right to accept the whole or part of your bid.

UNHCR may at its discretion increase or decrease the proposed content when awarding the contract and would not expect a significant variation of the rate submitted. Any such increase or decrease in the contract duration would be negotiated with the successful bidder as part of the finalization of the Purchase Orders for Services.

UNHCR may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of bids, by notifying all prospective suppliers in writing. The extension of the deadline may accompany a modification of the solicitation documents prepared by UNHCR at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a prospective supplier.

Please note that UNHCR is not bound to select any of the firms submitting bids and does not bind itself in any way to select the firm offering the lowest price. Furthermore, the contract will be awarded to the bid considered most responsive to the needs, as well as conforming to UNHCR's general principles, including economy and efficiency and best value for money.

2.8 CURRENCY AND PAYMENT TERMS FOR PURCHASE ORDERS

Any Purchase Order (PO) issued as a result of this RFP will be made in the currency of the winning offer(s). Payment will be made in accordance to the General Conditions for the Purchase of Services and in the currency in which the PO is issued. Payments shall only be initiated after confirmation of successful completion by UNHCR business owner.

2.9 UNHCR GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACTS FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES

Please note that the General Conditions of Contracts (**Annex D**) will be strictly adhered to for the purpose of any future contract. The Bidder must confirm the acceptance of these terms and conditions in writing.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
National Office in Moldova