

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)**

Name of Project:	Building Institutions and Systems to Harness and Realize Agenda (BIASHARA) 2063
Contract Title:	Consulting Services for a Customs Legal Expert to Develop a Continental Regulatory Framework for the Establishment and Operationalization of One-Stop Border Posts (OSBPS) for Seamless Borders
Type of Contract:	Individual Consultant Selection
Project ID:	180117
Grant No.:	E2020
RFB Reference No.:	ET-AFCFTA-503596-CS-INDV

1. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the **Building Institutions and Systems to Harness and Realize Agenda (BIASHARA) 2063**, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.
2. The consulting services (“the Services”) include conducting the Consulting Services for a Customs Legal Expert to Develop a Continental Regulatory Framework for the Establishment and Operationalization of One-Stop Border Posts (OSBPS) for Seamless Borders. The Consultant will be expected to work closely with the Directorate of Customs Administration of the AfCFTA Secretariat during the entire process, from inception to the final adoption of the regulatory framework. One of the main tasks of the consultant’s work is to gather and analyse the bilateral legal and regulatory frameworks governing operational One-Stop Border Posts, along with existing practices across Africa and any relevant regulatory instruments adopted by the Regional Economic Communities. The consultant will also be expected to draft a continental regulation that includes provisions to promote the establishment of OSBPs as trade facilitation measure under the AfCFTA, along with the necessary procedural and technological requirements, common standards, guiding principles, mechanisms for bilateral and multilateral coordination, and monitoring frameworks to support the achievement of seamless borders.
3. The detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) for the assignment (also containing evaluation and qualification criteria) is found at the following website: <https://au-afcfta.org/bids/>
4. The AfCFTA Secretariat now invites eligible Consultants to indicate their interests in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information, as stipulated in the TOR, demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The consultant must meet the minimum qualification and selection criteria indicated below:



- a) Advanced degree (at least a Master's) in Law, International Trade Law, or related disciplines such as Trade Policy, International Business Law, or Customs.
 - b) A minimum of 10 years of proven professional experience in trade facilitation, border management, or regional and international trade law.
 - c) At least five years of experience in drafting legal instruments specifically related to trade facilitation, customs regulations, and border management at the regional or continental level.
 - d) Experience working with African Union Institutions or Regional Economic Communities such as COMESA, EAC, ECOWAS, or SADC on trade-related projects is essential,
 - e) Strong knowledge of OSBPs initiatives in Africa and of bilateral and multilateral border cooperation mechanisms,
 - f) Familiarity with international trade law, including AfCFTA Agreements and Regional Integration Agreements.
5. The Consultant(s) will be selected in accordance with the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, dated July 2016 and revised 6th Edition of February 2025 which can be found at the following website: www.worldbank.org/procurement.
 6. The duration of the consultancy services is Three (3) months.
 7. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" Sixth Edition of February 2025 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
 8. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Consultant Selection (ICS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.
 9. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours [**weekdays Monday to Friday 0800hrs to 1700hrs local time excluding public holidays**]. Interested Consultants are required to constantly and continually check the AfCFTA website: <https://au-afcfta.org/bids/> for any additional information or clarification that may arise before the submission date.

The Secretary General
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10. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address above (in person, or by e-mail) by **8th September 2025 at 5.00 pm GMT**.

Note: Consultants are advised to obtain a copy of the detailed TOR and make EOI submissions reflecting the requirements for evaluation and qualification criteria in part VIII paragraph 22.