

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
RFP/2024/011**

**THE EXTERNAL AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF IRENA AND ITS STAFF
PROVIDENT FUND FOR FOUR YEARS PERIOD FROM 2025 TO 2028**

**International Renewable Energy Agency
Abu Dhabi, UAE**

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) does not charge a fee at any stage of the procurement process (e.g. vendor registration, bid submission or any other stage). In the event that you have any reason to suspect that any activity purporting to be made on behalf of IRENA may be fraudulent, please contact procurement@irena.org.

4 September 2024

Section 1: Letter of Invitation

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
04/09/2024

Dear Madam or Sir,

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) hereby invites you to submit a Proposal to this Request for Proposal (RFP) for Audit Services for a four-year period (2025-2028).

1. This RFP includes the following documents:

- Section 1 – This Letter of Invitation
- Section 2 – Instructions to Proposers, including the Data Sheet
- Section 3 – Terms of Reference, including technical evaluation criteria
- Section 4 – General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services
- Section 5 – Form of Contract
- Section 6 – Proposal Submission Form
- Section 7 – Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Proposer
- Section 8 – Technical Proposal Form
- Section 9 – Financial Proposal Form
- Section 10 – Form for Performance Security
- Section 11 – Form of Bank Guarantee for Advance Payment

2. Your offer comprising a Technical and Financial Proposal, in separate files, should be submitted in accordance with the Data Sheet.
3. You are kindly requested to submit an acknowledgment letter to IRENA via the following email address: procurement@irena.org, or to the following postal address:

Procurement Office
International Renewable Energy Agency
IRENA Headquarters, Masdar City, P.O. Box 236
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

4. The letter should be received by IRENA no later than 17 September 2024. 15:00 Hours Gulf Standard Time. The same letter should advise whether your company intends to submit a Proposal. If your company decides not to submit a proposal, we would appreciate it if you would kindly indicate the reason for our records.
5. Should you need further clarification, kindly communicate with the contact person indicated in the attached Data Sheet as the focal point for queries relating to this RFP.

We look forward to receiving your Proposal and thank you in advance for your interest in IRENA procurement opportunities.

Yours sincerely,



Director AMS
Director of Administration and Management Services

Section 2: Instruction to Proposers

Definitions of Terms

- a) “*Contract*” refers to the agreement that will be signed by and between the IRENA and the successful Proposer and all the attached documents thereto, including the General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services (GTC) and the Appendices.
- b) “*Country*” refers to the country in which the Services are to be performed as indicated in the Data Sheet.
- c) “*Data Sheet*” refers to such part of the Instructions to Proposers used to reflect conditions of the tendering process that are specific for the requirements of the RFP.
- d) “*Day*” refers to calendar day.
- e) “*Instructions to Proposers*” (Section 2 of the RFP) refers to the complete set of documents which provides Proposers with all information needed and procedures to be followed in the course of preparing their Proposals.
- f) “*LOI*” (Section 1 of the RFP) refers to the Letter of Invitation being sent by IRENA to the Proposers.
- g) “*Material Deviation*” refers to any content or characteristic of the Proposal that is significantly different from an important aspect or requirement of the RFP, substantially alters the scope and quality of the requirements, limits the rights of IRENA and/or the obligations of the Proposer, or compromises the competitive position of other Proposers or otherwise adversely impacts the fairness and principles of the procurement process.
- h) “*Proposal*” refers to the Proposer’s response to the RFP, including the Proposal Submission Form, Technical and Financial Proposal and all other documentation attached thereto as required by the RFP.
- i) “*Proposer*” refers to any legal entity that may submit, or has submitted, a Proposal for the provision of Services requested by IRENA through this RFP.
- j) “*RFP*” refers to the Request for Proposals consisting of instructions and references prepared by IRENA for the purposes of selecting the best service provider to perform the Services described in the Terms of Reference.
- k) “*Services*” refers to the entire scope of tasks and deliverables requested by IRENA under the RFP.
- l) “*Supplemental Information to the RFP*” refers to a written communication issued by IRENA to prospective Proposers containing clarifications, responses to queries received from prospective Proposers, or changes to be made to the RFP, before the deadline for the submission of Proposals.
- m) “*Terms of Reference*” or “*TOR*” refers to the document included in this RFP as Section 3 which describes the objectives, scope of services, activities, tasks to be performed, responsibilities of the Proposer, expected results and deliverables and other data pertinent to the performance of the range of duties and services expected of the successful Proposer.

A. GENERAL

1. IRENA hereby solicits Proposals in response to this RFP. Proposers must strictly adhere to all the requirements of this RFP. No changes, substitutions or other alterations to the provisions stipulated in this RFP may be made or assumed unless approved in writing by IRENA in the form of Supplemental Information to the RFP. However, whilst fully complying with the RFP requirements, Proposers are encouraged to provide any suggestions and solutions that may achieve a more cost-effective and value-for-money approach to fulfilling the requirements of this RFP.
2. Submission of a Proposal shall be deemed to constitute an acknowledgement by the Proposer that all obligations stipulated in this RFP shall be met and that, unless specified otherwise, the Proposer has read, understood and agreed to all the instructions provided in this RFP.
3. Any Proposal submitted will be regarded as an offer by the Proposer and shall not constitute or imply the acceptance of any Proposal by IRENA. This RFP does not commit IRENA to award a contract. The Proposal submitted by the successful Proposer will be the basis for negotiations which may lead to conclusion of a Contract with the successful Proposer.
4. IRENA implements a policy of zero tolerance on proscribed practices, including fraud, corruption, collusion, and unethical practices. IRENA is committed to preventing, identifying and addressing all acts of fraud and corrupt practices against IRENA as well as third parties involved in IRENA's activities.
5. Proposers shall not be in any position of conflict of interest arising from their current or future work with respect to IRENA. All Proposers found to have a conflict of interest shall be disqualified. Without limitation on the generality of the above, Proposers shall be considered to have a conflict of interest if they:
 - 5.1 are or have been associated in the past, with a firm or any of its affiliates which have been engaged with IRENA to provide services for the preparation of the design, specifications, Terms of Reference and other documents to be used for the procurement of the Services;
 - 5.2 were involved in the preparation and/or design of the programme/project related to the Services;
 - 5.3 have owners, officers, directors, controlling shareholders, or key personnel who are related to IRENA personnel involved in procurement functions; or
 - 5.4 are found to be in conflict for any other reason, as may be established by and at the discretion of IRENA.
6. Proposers shall disclose in their Proposal their knowledge of any other circumstances that could potentially lead to actual or perceived conflict of interest, collusion or unfair competition practices. Failure of such disclosure may result in the rejection of the proposal or proposals affected by the non-disclosure.
7. More than one Proposal from any company, either in its own name or as part of a joint venture, consortium or partnership, shall not be considered. If any Proposer submits or participates in more than one Proposal in response to this RFP, all such Proposals shall be disqualified and rejected. If IRENA has reasons to believe that collusion exists between Proposers, all such Proposers shall be disqualified.

B. CONTENTS OF PROPOSAL

8. Sections of Proposal

Proposers are required to complete, sign and submit in the number of copies indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 18) the following documents:

- 8.1 Proposal Submission Form (see Section 6 of this RFP);
- 8.2 Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Proposer (see Section 5 and the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 23) of this RFP);
- 8.3 Technical Proposal Form (see Section 8 of this RFP);
- 8.4 Financial Proposal Form (see Section 9 of this RFP); and
- 8.5 Any attachments and/or appendices to the Proposal, including those specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 24).

9. Clarification of Request for Proposals

Proposers may request a clarification of any of the RFP documents no later than the deadline for the submission of requests for clarification indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 16). Any request for clarification must be sent in writing or by electronic means to the IRENA address indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 17). IRENA will respond in writing or by electronic means and will send written copies of the response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) to all Proposers who have provided confirmation of their intention to submit a Proposal.

IRENA shall endeavour to provide such responses to clarifications in an expeditious manner, but any delay in such response shall not cause an obligation on the part of IRENA to extend the submission date of the Proposals, unless IRENA deems that such an extension is justified and necessary.

10. Amendment of Request for Proposals

At any time prior to the deadline for submission of Proposals, IRENA may for any reason, such as in response to a clarification requested by a Proposer, make changes to the RFP in the form of a Supplemental Information to the RFP. All Proposers who have provided confirmation of their intention to submit a Proposal will be notified in writing of all amendments to the RFP.

In order to afford prospective Proposers reasonable time to consider the amendments in preparing their Proposals, IRENA may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for submission of Proposals, if the nature of the amendment to the RFP justifies such extension.

C. PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS

11. Cost of Proposal

The Proposer shall bear any and all costs related to the preparation and/or submission of the Proposal, regardless of whether its Proposal is selected or not. IRENA shall in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the process.

12. Language of Proposal

The Proposal, as well as all related correspondence exchanged by the Proposer and IRENA, shall be written in the English language, unless a language other than English has been specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 4). Any printed literature furnished by the Proposer written in a language other than the language specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 4) must be accompanied by a translation into the language specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 4). For the purposes of interpretation of the Proposal and in the event of any discrepancy or inconsistency in meaning, the version translated into the language specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 4) shall prevail.

13. Proposal Submission Form

Proposers shall submit their Proposals using the Proposal Submission Form furnished in Section 6 of the RFP.

14. Technical Proposal Format and Content

Unless otherwise stated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 24), the Proposer shall structure the Technical Proposal in the format provided in Section 8 and in accordance with the following:

- 14.1 Expertise of Firm/Organisation – this section shall provide details regarding the management structure of the Proposer, organisational capability/resources, the experience of the Proposer, the list of projects/contracts (both completed and ongoing, both domestic and international) which are related or similar in nature to the requirements of the RFP, and proof of financial stability and adequacy of resources to complete the Services (see Clause 15 of this Section 2 for further details).
- 14.2 Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan – this section should demonstrate the Proposer's response to the Terms of Reference by: identifying the specific components proposed, how the requirements shall be addressed, as specified, point by point; providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics proposed; identifying the works/portions of the work that will be subcontracted; and demonstrating how the proposed methodology meets or exceeds the specifications, while ensuring appropriateness of the approach to the local conditions and the rest of the project operating environment. This methodology must be laid out in an implementation timetable that is within the duration of the Contract as specified in the Terms of Reference.
- 14.3 Management Structure and Key Personnel – This section should include the comprehensive curriculum vitae (CVs) of key personnel that will be assigned to support the implementation of the proposed methodology, clearly defining the roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis the proposed methodology. CVs should establish competence and demonstrate qualifications in areas relevant to the TOR.

In complying with this sub-section 14, the Proposer assures and confirms to IRENA that the personnel being nominated are available to implement the Services within the duration of the Contract indicated in the Terms of Reference. If, at any time prior to award of the Contract, any of the key personnel listed in the Technical Proposal become unavailable, except for unavoidable reasons such as death, medical incapacity or delay in the implementation of the Services through no fault of the Proposer, IRENA reserves the right to consider the Proposal non-responsive. Any substitution of personnel arising from unavoidable reasons shall be made only with IRENA's approval of the justification for the substitution

and with IRENA's approval of the replacement, who shall be of either equal or superior credentials to the one being replaced and which shall not involve any additional cost to IRENA.

The Technical Proposal shall not include any financial information. A Technical Proposal containing any form of financial information that could lead to the determination of the price offer may be declared non-compliant.

15. Financial Proposals

The Financial Proposal shall be prepared using the attached standard form provided in Section 9. It shall list all major cost components associated with the services, and the detailed breakdown of such costs. All outputs and activities described in the Technical Proposal must be priced separately on a one-to-one correspondence. Any output and activities described in the Technical Proposal but not priced in the Financial Proposal, shall be assumed to be included in the prices of other activities or items, as well as in the final total price.

16. Currencies of Proposals

All prices from Proposers shall be quoted in the preferred currency indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 15).

16.1 Should the Proposer submit a Financial Proposal in a currency that is different from the preferred currency specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 15), IRENA will convert the currency quoted in the Proposal to the preferred currency in accordance with the prevailing United Nations operational rate of exchange on the deadline for submission of Proposals; and

16.2 In the event that the Proposal that is found to be the most responsive to the RFP requirements is quoted in a currency different from the preferred currency indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 15), IRENA reserves the right to award the Contract in the preferred currency specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 15) using the conversion method specified in sub-section 16.1 above.

17. Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Proposer

The Proposer shall furnish evidence of its status as an eligible and qualified vendor, using the forms provided in Section 7 of this RFP, with such eligibility and qualifications to be documented to IRENA's satisfaction. This evidence shall include, and must demonstrate, the following:

17.1 That, in the case of a Proposer offering to supply goods under the Contract which the Proposer did not manufacture or otherwise produce, the Proposer has been duly authorised by the goods' manufacturer or producer to supply the goods in the country of final destination; and

17.2 That the Proposer has the financial, technical, and production capability necessary to perform the Contract.

18. Joint Venture, Consortium or Association

If the Proposer is a group of legal entities that will form or have formed a joint venture, consortium, or association at the time of the submission of the Proposal, all of the members of the joint venture/consortium/association shall submit, along with the Proposal, a duly notarised agreement confirming that they have designated one member to act as the lead entity duly vested with the authority

to bind the members of the joint venture/consortium/association jointly and severally, and that if their Proposal is selected, the Contract shall be negotiated and entered into between IRENA and the designated lead entity who shall be acting for and on behalf of all the members of the joint venture/consortium/association.

After the Proposal has been submitted to IRENA, neither the lead entity nor the composition or constitution of the joint venture/consortium/association shall be altered without the prior consent of IRENA.

The organisation of the joint venture/consortium/association must clearly define the role of each of its component/member entities in the course of performing the Services.

Where a joint venture/consortium/association is presenting its track record and experience in a similar undertaking as those required in the TOR, it should present such information in the following manner:

- Those that were undertaken together by the joint venture/consortium/association; and
- Those that were undertaken by the individual members of the joint venture/consortium/association expected to be involved in the performance of the Services.

Previous contracts completed by individual experts working privately but who are permanently or were temporarily associated with the joint venture/consortium/association or any of its members cannot be claimed as the experience of the joint venture/consortium/association or those of any of its members but should only be claimed by the individual experts themselves in their presentation of their credentials.

19. Alternative Proposals

Unless otherwise specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 6), alternative proposals shall not be considered. Where alternative proposals are allowed in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 6), IRENA reserves the right to award a Contract based on an alternative proposal when the conditions for its acceptance are met.

20. Period of Validity

Proposals shall remain valid for the period specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 8), commencing on the deadline for submission also indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 20). A Proposal valid for a shorter period shall be immediately disqualified and rejected by IRENA.

In exceptional circumstances, prior to the expiration of the proposal validity period, IRENA may request Proposers to extend the period of validity of their Proposals. The request and the responses shall be made in writing, and shall be considered integral to the Proposal.

D. SUBMISSION AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS

21. Submission and Opening of Proposals

21.1 The Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal files must be completely separate and each of them must be clearly marked on the name of the file as either “TECHNICAL PROPOSAL” or “FINANCIAL PROPOSAL”. The files shall:

- be addressed to IRENA as specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 19); and
- bear a warning that states: “**DO NOT OPEN BEFORE** the time and date for Proposal

opening specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 21)”.

The Proposer shall assume the responsibility for the misplacement or premature opening of Proposals due to improper sealing and labelling.

21.2 Proposers must always submit their Proposals by email ONLY.

21.3 Proposers shall be as specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 18). The Proposal shall be signed or initialled on every page by the Proposer or a person duly authorised to commit the Proposer.

21.4 Proposers must be aware that the mere act of submission of a Proposal, in and of itself, implies that the Proposer accepts the General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services in full as attached hereto as Section 4.

22. **Deadline for Submission of Proposals and Late Proposals**

22.1 Proposals must be received by IRENA at the address and no later than the date and time specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS nos. 19 and 20).

22.2 IRENA shall not consider any Proposal that arrives after the deadline for submission of Proposals. Any Proposal or modification of a Proposal that is received by IRENA after the deadline for submission of Proposals shall be declared late, rejected, and returned unopened to the Proposer.

23. **Withdrawal, Substitution, and Modification of Proposals**

23.1 Proposers are expected to have sole responsibility for taking steps to carefully examine in detail the full consistency of their Proposals to the requirements of the RFP, keeping in mind that material deficiencies in providing information requested by IRENA or a lack of clarity in the description of services to be provided may result in the rejection of the Proposal. IRENA shall not assume any responsibility regarding erroneous interpretations or conclusions made by the Proposer in understanding the RFP.

23.2 A Proposer may withdraw, substitute or modify its Proposal after it has been submitted by sending a written notice in accordance with Clause 21.1 of this Section 2, duly signed by an authorised representative, and shall include a copy of the authorisation (or a Power of Attorney). The corresponding substitution or modification of the Proposal must accompany the written notice. All notices must be received by IRENA prior to the deadline for submission of Proposals and submitted in accordance with Clause 21.1 of Section 2 (except that withdrawal notices do not require copies). The respective envelopes shall be clearly marked “WITHDRAWAL,” “SUBSTITUTION,” or “MODIFICATION”.

23.3 Proposals requested to be withdrawn shall be returned unopened to the Proposers.

23.4 No Proposal may be withdrawn, substituted, or modified in the interval between the deadline for submission of Proposals and the expiration of the period of proposal validity specified by the Proposer on the Proposal Submission Form or any extension thereof.

24. Proposal Opening

- 24.1 IRENA will open the Proposals in the presence of an ad-hoc committee of at least two (2) members formed by IRENA.
- 24.2 The Proposers' names, withdrawals, substitutions and modifications, the condition of the labels/seals of the envelope, the presence or absence of required documents, and such other details as IRENA may consider appropriate will be announced at the opening. No Proposal shall be rejected at the opening stage, except for late submission, for which the Proposal shall be returned unopened to the Proposer.

25. Confidentiality

- 25.1 Information relating to the examination, evaluation, and comparison of Proposals and recommendation of contract award shall not be disclosed to Proposers or any other persons not officially concerned with such process, even after publication of the contract award.
- 25.2 Any effort by a Proposer to influence IRENA in the examination, evaluation and comparison of the Proposals or contract award decisions may, at IRENA's decision, result in the rejection of its Proposal.
- 25.3 In the event that a Proposer is unsuccessful, the Proposer may seek a meeting with IRENA for a debriefing. Such debriefing shall be limited to discussing the strengths and weaknesses of the Proposal of said Proposer in order to assist the Proposer in improving future proposals to IRENA. The content of other Proposals, their evaluation and how they compare to the Proposer's Proposals shall not be discussed.

26. Clarification of Proposals

To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of Proposals, IRENA may, at its discretion, ask any Proposer for a clarification of its Proposal.

IRENA's request for clarification and the response shall be in writing. Notwithstanding the written communication, no change in the prices or substance of the Proposal shall be sought, offered, or permitted, except to provide clarification, and confirm the correction of any arithmetic errors discovered by IRENA in the evaluation of the Proposals, in accordance with Clause 30 of this Section 2.

Any unsolicited clarification submitted by a Proposer in respect to its Proposal, which is not a response to a request by IRENA, shall not be considered during the review and evaluation of the Proposals.

E. EVALUATION AND COMPARISON OF PROPOSALS

27. Preliminary Examination of Proposals

- 27.1 IRENA shall examine the Proposals to determine whether they are complete, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the Proposals are generally in order. IRENA reserves the right to reject any Proposal after preliminary examination of the Proposal, if IRENA finds a reason for such rejection, including but not limited to the discovery of significant or material deviation, conflict of interest or fraud, among others.

- 27.2 IRENA shall reject the Proposal of any Proposer found to appear in a United Nations Security Council sanctions list or such ineligibility lists as may be established or recognised by IRENA in accordance with its applicable rules, policies and procedures.

28. Evaluation of Proposals

- 28.1 IRENA shall examine the Proposal to confirm that the IRENA General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services and any Special Conditions of the RFP have been accepted by the Proposer without any deviation or reservation.
- 28.2 In the first stage, the evaluation committee shall review and evaluate the Technical Proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference and other requirements in the RFP, applying the evaluation criteria, sub-criteria, and point system specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 26). Each responsive Proposal will be given a technical score. A Proposal shall be rendered non-responsive at this stage if it does not substantially respond to the RFP, and particularly the Terms of Reference, or if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in the Terms of Reference. No changes shall be made by IRENA to the criteria, sub-criteria and point system indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 26) after all Proposals have been received.
- 28.3 In the second stage, only the Financial Proposal of those Proposers that achieve the minimum technical score will be opened for evaluation. The Financial Proposals corresponding to Technical Proposals that did not meet the minimum passing technical score shall be returned to the relevant Proposers unopened. The overall evaluation score will be based either on a combination of the technical and financial scores, or on the lowest evaluated financial proposal of the technically qualified Proposers. The evaluation method that applies for this RFP shall be as indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 22).
- 28.4 IRENA reserves the right to undertake a post-qualification exercise aimed at determining to its satisfaction the accuracy, authenticity and validity of information provided by the Proposer through verification and reference checking, among other means that it deems appropriate, at any stage within the selection process.
- 28.5 When the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 22) specifies that the evaluation method to be used shall be the combined scoring method, the formula for evaluating the Proposals shall be as follows:

$$p = y (x/z)$$

where:

p = weighted percentage points for the Financial Proposal being evaluated

y = maximum weighted percentage number of points for the Financial Proposal, as indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 22)

x = price of the lowest priced Proposal

z = price of the Proposal being evaluated based on a combination of the technical and financial scores

29. Responsiveness of Proposal

- 29.1 IRENA's determination of a Proposal's responsiveness is to be based on the contents of the Proposal itself.

29.2 A substantially responsive Proposal is one that conforms to all the terms, conditions, and specifications of the RFP without material deviation, reservation, or omission.

29.3 If a Proposal is not substantially responsive, it shall be rejected by IRENA and may not subsequently be made responsive by the Proposer by correction of the material deviation, reservation, or omission.

30. Nonconformities, Errors and Omissions

30.1 Provided that a Proposal is substantially responsive, IRENA may waive any non-conformities or omissions in the Proposal that do not constitute a material deviation.

30.2 Provided that a Proposal is substantially responsive, IRENA may request the Proposer to submit the necessary information or documentation, within a reasonable period of time, to rectify nonmaterial nonconformities or omissions in the Proposal related to documentation requirements. Failure of the Proposer to comply with the request may result in the rejection of its Proposal.

30.3 Provided that the Proposal is substantially responsive, IRENA shall correct arithmetical errors on the following basis:

30.3.1 If there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the line item total that is obtained by multiplying the unit price by the quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the line item total shall be corrected, unless in the opinion of IRENA there is an obvious misplacement of the decimal point in the unit price, in which case the line item total as quoted shall govern and the unit price shall be corrected;

30.3.2 If there is an error in a total corresponding to the addition or subtraction of subtotals, the subtotals shall prevail and the total shall be corrected; and

30.3.3 If there is a discrepancy between words and figures, the amount in words shall prevail, unless the amount expressed in words is related to an arithmetic error, in which case the amount in figures shall prevail subject to the above.

30.4 If the Proposer does not accept the correction of errors made by IRENA, its Proposal shall be rejected.

F. AWARD OF CONTRACT

31. Right to Accept, Reject, or Render Non-Responsive Any or All Proposals

IRENA reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal, to render any or all Proposals as non-responsive, 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 Proposer(s), or any obligation to inform the affected Proposer(s) of the grounds for IRENA's action. Furthermore, IRENA shall not be obliged to award the Contract to the Proposer that submitted the lowest priced Proposal.

32. Award Criteria

Prior to the expiration of Proposal validity, IRENA shall award the Contract to the qualified Proposer with the highest score based on the evaluation method indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 22).

33. **Contract Signature**

Within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the Contract negotiated between IRENA and the successful Proposer, the successful Proposer shall sign and date the Contract and return it to IRENA.

34. **Performance Security**

34.1 A performance security, if required, shall be provided in the amount and form and by the deadline indicated in the **Data Sheet** (DS nos. 9 and 10), as applicable.

34.2 Failure of the successful Proposer to comply with the requirement of RFP Clause 33 or RFP Clause 35 shall constitute sufficient grounds for the annulment of the award and forfeiture of the performance security if any, on which event IRENA may award the Contract to the Proposer with **the second highest rated Proposal, or call for new Proposals.**

35. **Right to Vary Requirements at the Time of Award**

At the time of award of Contract, IRENA reserves the right to vary the quantity of services and/or goods, by up to a maximum ten per cent (10%) of the total offer, without any change in the unit price or other terms and conditions.

36. **Bank Guarantee for Advance Payment**

Except when the interests of IRENA so require, it is IRENA's policy to make no advance payment(s) on contracts. In the event that the Proposer requires an advance payment and if such request is duly accepted by IRENA, and the said advance payment exceeds 20% of the total proposal price or the amount of \$30,000, IRENA shall require the Proposer to submit a bank guarantee in the same amount as the advance payment and in the form provided in Section 11.

37. **Proposer's Conference**

When appropriate, a pre-proposal conference will be conducted at the date, time and location specified in the **Data Sheet** (DS no. 7). All Proposers are encouraged to attend. Non-attendance, however, shall not result in disqualification of an interested Proposer. Minutes of the Proposers' conference will be either posted on the IRENA website or disseminated to the individual firms that have registered or expressed interest in the RFP, whether or not they attended the conference. No statement made during the conference shall modify the terms and conditions of the RFP unless such statement is issued as an amendment in the form of a Supplemental Information to the RFP.

38. **Vendor Protest**

The IRENA vendor protest procedure provides an opportunity for appeal to those persons or firms not awarded a purchase order or contract through a competitive procurement process. This procedure is not available to Proposers whose Proposals were rejected. In the event that you believe you have not received fair treatment, the following email provides further details regarding IRENA vendor protest procedures: awardreview@irena.org.

Instructions to Proposers

DATA SHEET

The following data for the services to be procured shall complement, supplement, or amend the provisions in the Instruction to Proposers. In the case of a conflict between the Instruction to Proposers and the Data Sheet, the provisions in the Data Sheet shall prevail.

DS no.	Data	Specific Instructions
1.	Reference number:	RFP-2024-011
2.	Title of Services/Work:	The External Audit of The Financial Statements of IRENA and its Staff Provident Fund For Four Years Period From 2025 To 2028
3.	Country:	Abu Dhabi, UAE
4.	Language of the Proposal:	English only
5.	Conditions for submitting Proposals for parts or sub-parts of the TOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Allowed <i>[if yes, describe how and ensure that requirements properly define the sub-parts.]</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not allowed
6.	Conditions for submitting alternative Proposals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shall not be considered <input type="checkbox"/> Shall be considered <p>A Proposer may submit an alternative Proposal, but only if it also submits a Proposal that meets the base case. IRENA shall only consider the alternative Proposals offered by the Proposer whose Proposal for the base case was determined to be the Proposal with the highest evaluated score.</p>
7.	A pre-proposal conference will be held:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

8.	Period of Proposal validity commencing on the deadline of submission of Proposals	<input type="checkbox"/> 90 days <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 120 days
9.	Performance security	<input type="checkbox"/> Required <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Amount: <i>[insert]</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Deadline: <i>[insert]</i> days after execution of the Contract</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not required
10.	Acceptable forms of performance security	<input type="checkbox"/> Bank guarantee (See Section 11 for template) <input type="checkbox"/> Manager's cheque/cashier's cheque/certified cheque <input type="checkbox"/> Others <i>[please specify]</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
11.	Validity of performance security	<i>[indicate number of days, but minimum of 90] days from the last day of Proposal submission – N/A</i>
12.	Proposal prices shall be subjected to taxation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please submit Proposal prices inclusive of all applicable taxes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, please submit Proposal prices exclusive of all taxes
13.	Advanced payment upon signing of contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Allowed up to a maximum of ____% of the contract price <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not allowed
14.	Liquidated damages	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Will not be imposed <input type="checkbox"/> Will be imposed under the following conditions: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Percentage of contract price per day of delay: <i>[insert]</i></p>

		<p>Maximum number of days of delay: <i>[insert]</i></p> <p>After which IRENA may terminate the Contract.</p>
15.	Preferred currency of Proposal and method for currency conversion	USD/AED/EUR/GBP
16.	Deadline for submitting requests for clarifications/questions	Five (05) days before the submission date.
17.	Contact Details for submitting clarifications/questions	<p>Focal Person in IRENA: Amel ElTayeb</p> <p>E-mail address dedicated for this purpose: AEITayeb@irena.org</p>
18.	No. of copies of Proposal that must be submitted	<p>Original: One (01) Technical and One (01) Financial Proposal</p> <p>Copies: Proposal.- N/A</p>
19.	No. of copies of Proposal that must be submitted electronically only	“Covid19 precautionary measures”: Technical Proposal One (1), Financial Proposal One (1)
20.	Submission of proposals via email	<p>In this instance; IRENA will accept bids via email at its secure address Bids@IRENA.Org - bids are to be submitted as two (02) separate pdf files – (i) Technical Proposal & (ii) Financial Proposal. Note – the technical proposal must not contain any financial data. Failure to adhere to this requirement could lead to the disqualification of your bid.</p>
21.	Deadline of submission of Proposals	<p>Date: 23 September 2024</p> <p>Time: 15.00 H Gulf Standard Time</p>
22.	Date, time and venue for opening of Proposals	<p>Date: 23 September 2024</p> <p>Time: 16.00 H Gulf Standard Time</p> <p>Venue: IRENA HQ, Abu Dhabi, UAE</p>

23.	Evaluation method to be used in selecting the most responsive Proposal	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Lowest financial offer of technically qualified Proposals. The minimum passing technical score for Technical Proposals shall be <i>[insert]</i>.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Combined scoring method, using the 70%-30% distribution for Technical and Financial Proposals, respectively.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Combined scoring method, using the 60%-40% distribution for Technical and Financial Proposals, respectively.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Combined scoring method, using the 50%-50% distribution for Technical and Financial Proposals, respectively.</p>
24.	<p>Required documents that must be submitted to establish qualification of Proposers (In “Certified True Copy” form only)</p> <p><i>[Check all that apply, delete those that are not required.]</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Company profile, which should <u>not</u> exceed forty (40) pages, including CVs of all personnel that shall be performing the Services, projects implemented, and details relevant to the Services being procured.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valid certificate of registration of the business, including Articles of Incorporation or equivalent document if Proposer is not a corporation.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality certificate (e.g., ISO, etc.) and/or other similar certificates, accreditations, awards and citations received by the Proposer, if any.</p> <p><i>[Insert more as needed]</i></p>
24.	Other information related to the RFP	<i>[All other instructions and information not yet mentioned so far in this Data Sheet but that are relevant to the RFP must be cited here, and any further entries that may be added below this table row. If there is no other information to be included here, please write “Not applicable”.]</i>
25.	Expected date for commencement of Contract	1 February 2025

26.	Criteria for the evaluation of Proposals	<p>As specified in the TOR</p> <p><u>Important note:</u> The specified points are only suggested and may be modified based on the nature and demands of the TOR. However, ABSOLUTELY NO CHANGES to this table may be made by IRENA after the deadline of submission of Proposals.</p>
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Section 3: Terms of Reference (TOR)

A. Background

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is an inter-governmental organisation founded in 2009 and established in 2011. The Agency has 161 Members (160 States and the European Union), and 22 additional countries are in the accession process and actively engaged. IRENA supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future, and serves as the principal platform for international co-operation, a centre of excellence, and a repository of policy, technology, resource and financial knowledge on renewable energy. IRENA promotes the widespread adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy – bioenergy, geothermal energy, hydropower, ocean energy, solar energy and wind energy – in the pursuit of sustainable development, energy access, energy security and low-carbon economic growth and prosperity. More information about IRENA can be found at: <http://www.irena.org>

IRENA Secretariat is headed by Mr. Francesco La Camera, who has been IRENA's Director General since April 2019, as elected by the IRENA Assembly.

IRENA's Secretariat consists of six Divisions:

- 1) Office of the Director General (ODG)
- 2) Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre (KPFC)
- 3) IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre (IITC)
- 4) Country Engagement and Partnerships (CEP)
- 5) Project Facilitation and Support (PFS)
- 6) Administration and Management Services (AMS)

Accounting and financial management practices of IRENA are governed by its Financial Regulations and Financial Procedures. Financial Statements of IRENA are prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) or, where no such standards have yet been formulated, International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The accounts and financial management of all IRENA funds are subject to an annual audit. In accordance with the IRENA Statute, the auditor shall examine the accounts of the Agency and shall make such observations and recommendations as deemed necessary with respect to the efficiency of the management and the internal financial controls.

Personnel responsible for accounting, financial management and administration are:

- Ms. Jelena Barnes, Director of Administration and Management Services (+971 2 414 7151)
- Mr. Ziyaad Asvat, Chief Finance Officer (+971 2 414 7146)

IRENA Headquarters is based in Masdar City, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates with its Innovation and Technology Centre based in Bonn, Germany at the following addresses:

IRENA Headquarters
Masdar City
PO Box 236
Abu Dhabi (UAE)

IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre
Willy-Brandt-Allee 20
53113 Bonn
Germany

In addition to the Agency's financial operations, a Staff Provident Fund (SPF) of IRENA is established for the exclusive purpose of providing participating staff members in the SPF, upon separation from their service, with a benefit in the form of a lump sum. The SPF is established as a segregated entity with a distinct governance structure. The assets of the SPF are segregated from all other assets of the Agency, and are received, invested and disbursed wholly and exclusively for the purpose of the SPF. The operations of the SPF are managed by the SPF Management Board. The SPF financial statements are separate from IRENA financial statements and are to be audited by the external auditors of the Agency.

B. Audit Scope

These terms of reference address the requirement for external audit of financial statements of IRENA and SPF for the four calendar years from 2025 to 2028, each lasting from 1 January to 31 December.

A draft audit report should be submitted by 30 April and a final signed audit report with certified statements by 15 May and a management letter by 20 May of the year following the end of the period under audit. The financial statements for the financial year will be made available by the Secretariat no later than 31 March following the end of the financial year.

If requested, the External Auditor will have to present the annual audit report to the IRENA governing bodies (comprising of the IRENA Assembly and Council) and any of their committees during the sessions following the finalization of the annual audits. The External Auditor is expected to provide any clarifications as required by IRENA Members.

The audits should be carried out in accordance with either ISAs¹ or INTOSAI² auditing standards . The audits are also conducted in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of IRENA .

Sufficient audit evidence should be gathered to substantiate in all material respects the accuracy of financial statement.

The audit report of the auditors should state if the audit was not in conformity with any of the above and indicate the alternative standards or procedures followed.

¹ International Standards of Auditing (ISA) published by the International Auditing Practices Committee of the International Federation of Accountants

² International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions

C. Audit Report and Management Letter

i. The Audit Report

The audit report should clearly indicate the auditor's opinion. This would include at least the following:

- The title, addressees, and an opening or introductory paragraph containing
 - a) identification of the financial information audited including the period covered; and
 - b) statement of the responsibility of the entity's management and the responsibility of the auditor.
- A scope and methodology paragraph describing the nature of the audit referencing
 - a) the accounting standards that have been applied and indicate the effect of any deviations from those standards;
 - b) the audit standards that were applied (INTOSAI standards, ISAs, or national standards that comply with one of these in all material respects); and
 - c) the work the auditor performed.
- An opinion paragraph disclosing
 - a) whether the financial statements and supporting schedules fairly present the cash receipts and expenditure in all material respects and that the funds were used for the purposes defined by the work programme;
 - b) whether the financial transactions reflected in the statements are in accordance with financial regulations and procedures, budgetary provisions and other applicable directives; and
 - c) summary assessment of the efficiency of the management and internal control system.

The auditor may expand the report to include other information and explanations not intended as a reservation. Audit reports will be provided English.

ii. The Management Letter

The auditor should submit a letter to the management at the completion of the audit. The topics/issues to be covered in the letter should include:

- An assessment of the efficiency of the administration, management and internal control system of IRENA.
- A description of any specific internal control weaknesses noted in the financial management. Recommendations to resolve/eliminate the internal control weaknesses noted should be included.
- Management comments/response to audit findings and recommendations.

D. Auditor Independence and Qualification

The auditor must be completely impartial and independent from all aspects of management or financial interests in IRENA or the SPF. The auditor should not, during the period covered by the audit nor during the undertaking of the audit, be employed by, serve as director for, or have any financial or close business relationships with any senior participant in the management of IRENA of the SPF. The auditor should disclose any relationship that might possibly compromise his/her independence.

The auditor should be experienced in applying either ISA or INTOSAI audit standards, whichever is applicable for the audit. The auditor must employ adequate staff with appropriate professional qualifications and suitable experience with ISA or INTOSAI standards, including experience in auditing the accounts of entities comparable in size and complexity to IRENA.

Curriculum vitae (CVs) should be provided to IRENA by the principal of the audit institution who would be responsible for signing the opinion, together with the CVs of managers of the proposed audit team. CVs should include details on audits carried out by the applicable staff, including ongoing assignments indicating capability and capacity to undertake the audit and experience in auditing financial statements compliant with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

E. Access to Facilities and Documents

The financial systems are automated using Oracle Fusion ERP.

The auditor will have full and complete access at any time to all records and documents (including books of account, legal agreements, minutes of committee meetings, bank records, invoices and contracts etc.) and all IRENA personnel. The auditor will have a right of access to banks and depositories, consultants, contractors and other persons or entities engaged by IRENA over the period under the audit review

TECHNICAL EVALUTION CRITERIA

Summary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms		Score Weight	Points Obtainable
1.	General Information on Audit Expertise of the Proposer	10%	10
2.	Management Structure and Qualification of Key Personnel proposed to conduct the Audit CV of Audit Manager (min 7 years' experience / or Senior Manager (min 7 years' experience) / or Director (min 12 years' experience) / or Partner (min 12 years' experience), all to be provided	25%	25
3	Previous audit experience with International Organisations	25%	25
4.	Training and expertise , on application of IPSAS, and IAS	20%	20
5.	Audit approach and strategy Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan	10%	10
6.	Outputs, including Audit Reports and Management Letters	10%	10
Total			100

Note:

- i. Proposers must score a minimum of 70 Points in the technical proposal to be deemed Technically Compliant and considered for financial evaluation.
- ii. The scoring/rating, 70% Technical and 30% Financial, is deemed relevant to this requirement exercise as they provide a fair ground for evaluating offers.

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Section 4: General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services

1. DEFINITIONS

In these General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services (hereinafter referred to as “General Terms and Conditions”) the following definitions shall apply:

“Agency” means the International Renewable Energy Agency.

“Contract” means the written agreement relating to the provision of Services entered into by the Agency and the Contractor and includes these General Terms and Conditions.

“Contractor” means the legal entity named in the Contract and with whom the Contract has been entered, or its successors.

“Parties” means the Contractor and the Agency collectively, and “Party” means either one of them.

“Services” means any service provided, or to be provided, to the Agency by the Contractor (or any of the Contractor’s sub-contractors) pursuant to or in connection with the Contract.

2. LEGAL STATUS

The Contractor shall be considered as having the legal status of an independent contractor vis-à-vis the Agency. Neither the Contractor, and any subcontractor, nor any of their personnel shall be considered to be employees or agents of the Agency.

3. PAYMENT TERMS

(a) The Agency shall, unless otherwise specified in the Contract, make payment within 30 days of receipt of the Contractor’s invoice which is issued only upon the Agency’s acceptance of the work specified in the Contract.

(b) The prices shown in the Contract cannot be increased except by express written agreement by the Agency. The Agency will not pay any charge for late payment unless expressly agreed to in writing.

4. CONTRACTOR’S RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES AND ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL

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

(b) The Contractor shall not replace or withdraw any personnel referred to in the Contract for the performance of the Services without the prior written approval of the Agency or unless requested by the

Agency. The Agency shall not unreasonably refuse or delay approval of any such withdrawal or replacement.

(c) Prior to assignment, replacement or withdrawal of personnel for the performance of the Services, the Contractor shall submit to the Agency for its consideration, the curriculum vitae or detailed justification to permit evaluation by the Agency of the impact which such assignment, replacement or withdrawal would have on the Services.

(d) In the event of replacement or withdrawal of personnel, all costs and additional expenses resulting from the replacement, for whatever reasons, of any of the Contractor’s personnel shall be for the account of the Contractor. Such replacement or withdrawal shall not be considered as termination in part or in whole of the Contract.

5. SOURCE OF INSTRUCTIONS

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

6. OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT

The Contractor warrants that it has not and shall not offer any direct or indirect benefit arising from or related to the Contract or the award thereof to any official or employee of the Agency. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that any breach of this Article is a breach of an essential term of the Contract.

7. ASSIGNMENT AND INSOLVENCY

(a) The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, pledge or make 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 the Agency.

(b) Should the Contractor become insolvent, adjudged bankrupt, or should control of the Contractor change by virtue of insolvency, the Agency may, without prejudice to any other rights or remedies, immediately terminate the Contract by giving the Contractor written notice of termination.

8. SUBCONTRACTING

In the event the Contractor requires the services of one or more subcontractors, the Contractor shall obtain the prior written approval of the Agency for all such subcontractor(s). The Agency’s approval of a subcontractor shall not relieve the Contractor of any of

its obligations under the Contract, and the terms of any subcontract shall be subject to and in conformity with the provisions of the Contract.

9. INDEMNIFICATION

The Contractor shall indemnify, hold and save harmless and defend at its own expense the Agency, its officers, agents, servants and employees from and against all suits, claims, demands and liability of any nature or kind, including cost and expenses arising out of acts or omissions of the Contractor or its employees or subcontractors in the performance of the Contract. This requirement shall extend, inter alia, to claims or liabilities in the nature of workers' compensation, product liability and to liabilities pertaining to intellectual property rights. The obligations under this clause do not lapse upon termination of the Contract.

10. INSURANCE AND LIABILITIES TO THIRD PARTIES

(a) The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain all appropriate workers compensation insurance, or its equivalent, with respect to its employees to cover claims for personal injury, bodily injury or death arising from or in connection with the implementation of the Contract.

(b) The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain insurance against all risk in respect of its property and any equipment used for the execution of the Contract.

(c) The Contractor shall also provide and thereafter maintain liability insurance in an adequate amount to cover third party claims for death, bodily injury, loss of and damage to property arising from or in connection with the implementation of the Contract or from the operation of any vehicles, boats, airplanes and other equipment owned or leased by the Contractor or its agents, servants, employees or subcontractors performing work or services in connection with the Contract.

(d) Except for insurance mentioned in paragraph (a), the insurance policies under this clause shall:

- (i) Name the Agency as additional beneficiary (additional insured);
- (ii) Include a waiver of subrogation of the Contractor's rights to the insurance carrier against the Agency;
- (iii) Provide that the Agency shall receive thirty (30) days written notice from the insurers prior to any cancellation or change of coverage.

(e) The Contractor shall, upon request, provide the Agency with satisfactory evidence of the insurance required under this Article.

(f) The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that neither the requirement for taking out and maintaining

insurance as set forth in the Contract nor the amount of any such insurance, including, but not limited to, any deductible or retention relating thereto, shall in any way be construed as limiting the Contractor's liability arising under or relating to the Contract.

11. ENCUMBRANCES/LIENS

The Contractor shall not cause or permit any lien, attachment or other encumbrance by any person to be placed on file in any public office or on file with the Agency against any monies due or to become due for any Services provided under the Contract, or by reason of any other claim or demand against the Contractor.

12. TITLE TO EQUIPMENT

Title to any equipment and supplies that may be furnished by the Agency shall rest with the Agency and any such equipment shall be returned to the Agency at the conclusion of the Contract or when no longer needed. Such equipment, when returned shall be in the same condition as when delivered to the Contractor, subject to normal wear and tear, and the Contractor shall be liable to compensate the Agency for any damage or degradation of the equipment that is beyond normal wear and tear.

13. OBSERVANCE OF THE LAW

The Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, rules and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the terms of the Contract.

14. COPYRIGHT, PATENTS AND OTHER PROPRIETARY RIGHTS

(a) Except as otherwise expressly provided in the Contract, the Agency shall be entitled to all intellectual property and other property rights, including but not limited to copyrights, patents and trademarks, with regard to products, documents or other materials which bear a direct relation to or are produced, prepared or collected in consequence or in the course of the execution of the Contract. At the request of the Agency, the Contractor shall take all necessary steps, prepare and process all necessary documents and assist in securing such proprietary rights and transferring them to the Agency in compliance with the requirements of the applicable law.

(b) To the extent that any such intellectual property or other proprietary rights consist of any intellectual property or other proprietary rights of the Contractor: (i) that pre-existed the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract, or (ii) that the Contractor may develop or acquire, or may have developed or acquired, independently of the performance of its obligations under the Contract, the Agency does not and shall not claim any ownership

interest thereto, and the Contractor grants to the Agency a non-exclusive, perpetual and irrevocable license to use such intellectual property or other proprietary right.

15. CONFIDENTIALITY

(a) All technical, financial or other documentation and data the Contractor compiled for or received from the Agency under the Contract shall be treated as confidential and shall be delivered only to the Agency's authorised officials on completion of the work or services or as requested by the Agency.

(b) The Contractor may not communicate at any time to any other person, Government or authority external to the Agency, any information known to it by reason of its association with the Agency which has not been made public except with the authorisation of the Agency, nor shall the Contractor at any time use such information to private advantage. These obligations do not lapse upon termination of the Contract.

16. USE OF NAME, EMBLEM, OR OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE AGENCY

The Contractor shall not advertise or otherwise make public for purposes of commercial advantage that it is a Contractor of the Agency, nor shall the Contractor, in any manner whatsoever, use the name, emblem or official seal of the Agency or any abbreviation of the name of the Agency in connection with its business or otherwise, without the prior written approval by the Agency. These obligations do not lapse upon termination of the Contract.

17. FORCE MAJEURE

(a) *Force majeure* as used herein shall mean any unforeseeable and irresistible act of nature, any act of war (whether declared or not), invasion, revolution, insurrection, terrorism, or any other acts of a similar nature or force, provided that such acts arise from causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor.

(b) In the event of or as soon as possible after the occurrence of any cause constituting *force majeure*, the Contractor shall give notice and full particulars in writing to the Agency of such occurrence 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 the Agency of any other changes in conditions or the occurrence of any event which interferes or threatens to interfere with the Contractor's performance under the Contract. Upon receipt of the notice required under this Article, the Agency shall take such action as, in its sole discretion, it 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.

(c) If the Contractor is rendered permanently unable, wholly or in part, by reason of force majeure to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under the Contract, the Agency shall have the right to terminate the Contract on the same terms and conditions as are provided for in Article 19 ("Termination") of these General Terms and Conditions, except that the period of notice may be seven (7) days instead of thirty (30) days.

18. AMENDMENT

Except as otherwise expressly provided in the Contract, the provisions of the Contract and the annexes thereto may be amended or supplemented only by means of a written agreement signed by all of the Parties or their authorised representatives.

19. TERMINATION

(a) The Agency may terminate the Contract in whole or in part, and at any time, upon thirty (30) days' notice of termination to the Contractor. The initiation of arbitral proceedings in accordance with Article 20 ("Settlement of Disputes") of these General Terms and Conditions, shall not be deemed a termination of the Contract.

(b) The Agency may terminate forthwith the Contract at any time should the funding for the Agency be curtailed or terminated, in which case the Contractor shall be reimbursed by the Agency for all reasonable costs incurred by the Contractor prior to receipt of the notice of termination.

(c) In the event of termination by the Agency, no payment shall be due from the Agency to the Contractor except for work and services satisfactorily performed and accepted by the Agency in accordance with the express terms of the Contract.

(d) Should the Contractor be adjudicated bankrupt, or be liquidated or become insolvent, or should the Contractor make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or should a Receiver be appointed on account of the insolvency of the Contractor, the Agency may, without prejudice to any other right or remedy it may have under the Contract terminate the Contract forthwith. The Contractor shall immediately inform the Agency of the occurrence of any of the above events.

20. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

(a) **Amicable Settlement:** The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of this Contract or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof. Where the Parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through

conciliation, the conciliation shall take place in accordance with the Conciliation Rules then obtaining of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (“UNCITRAL”), or according to such other procedure as may be agreed between the Parties.

(b) **Arbitration:** Any dispute, controversy, or claim between the Parties arising out of the Contract or the breach, termination, or invalidity thereof, unless settled amicably under Article 20(a) above (“Amicable Settlement”), within sixty (60) days after receipt by one Party of the other Party’s written request for such amicable settlement, shall be referred by either Party to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules then obtaining. The decisions of the arbitral tribunal shall be based on general principles of international commercial law. The arbitral tribunal shall be empowered to order the return or destruction of goods or any property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, order the termination of the Contract, or order that any other protective measures

be taken with respect to the goods, services or any other property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, as appropriate, all in accordance with the authority of the arbitral tribunal pursuant to Article 26 (“Interim measures”) and Article 34 (“Form and effect of the award”) of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. The arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award punitive damages, nor to award interest in excess of the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) then prevailing, and any such interest shall be simple interest only. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of any such dispute, controversy or claim.

21. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Nothing in or relating to the Contract shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the Agency.

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Section 5: Form of Contract³

CONTRACT
BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY (IRENA)
AND
[Name of the Contractor]
FOR THE PROVISION OF [Insert description]

LTA Reference Number: [Reference Number]
Solicitation: [Reference Number]

This LTA comprises [Number in letters] ([Number]) pages, excluding this cover page and 3 (three) Annexes (1 to 3).

³ Drafting note: Please replace this with the LTA template if applicable to the RFP.

LONG TERM AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY (IRENA) AND [Name of the Contractor]
FOR THE PROVISION OF [Insert description]

This Long Term Agreement (“Agreement” or “LTA”) is made between the International Renewable Energy Agency, with its headquarters in Masdar City, P.O. Box 236, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, (hereinafter “IRENA”) and [Name of the Contractor] [located at] [with its headquarters at] (hereinafter the “Contractor”).

WHEREAS IRENA desires to enter into an LTA for the provision of services by the Contractor to IRENA, pursuant to which specific contractual arrangements may be concluded between IRENA and the Contractor, as provided herein;

WHEREAS the offer of the Contractor dated [date], submitted in response to the IRENA [Request for Proposal][Invitation to Bid] [number], dated [date], was accepted by IRENA;

NOW, THEREFORE, IRENA and the Contractor (hereinafter collectively the “Parties” and individually a “Party”) hereby agree as follows:

Article 1: DEFINITIONS

1. In this Agreement, words and expressions shall have the same meanings as respectively assigned to them in the IRENA General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services and the Terms of Reference, both annexed to this Agreement. In addition, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings hereby assigned to them:
 - 1.1 “Agreement” or “LTA” means this document, its Annexes and any further amendments as may be made thereto in accordance with Clause 18 of the IRENA General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services;
 - 1.2 “Annex 1” means the IRENA General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services;
 - 1.3 “Annex 2” means the Terms of Reference;
 - 1.4 “Annex 3” means the Price Schedule;
 - 1.5 “Contractor” means the legal entity named in the preamble of this Agreement or its successors. The Contractor shall be the only interface for all matters pertaining to execution of the Services under this Agreement;
 - 1.6 “Party(ies)” means IRENA and/or the Contractor, as the context requires;
 - 1.7 “Proposal” means the Contractor’s Proposal dated [date] submitted in response to the IRENA [Request for Proposal][Invitation to Bid] [number] dated [date], known to both Parties and not reproduced herein;
 - 1.8 “Purchase Order” means the order placed by IRENA from time to time to purchase specific types and quantity of Services from the Contractor at the price and under the terms and conditions

mutually agreed in this Agreement and which, when signed by both Parties, shall constitute a contract between the Parties;

- 1.9 “Services” means [Insert description] referred to as “[short name]” as defined in the Terms of Reference contained in Annex 2 to this Agreement. *Note: The text to be included in this provision should match whatever is included in the title of this Agreement as set forth on the cover page and in the header of the first page of text.*

Article 2: PURPOSE OF THE LTA

1. This Agreement is non-exclusive, and is established to allow IRENA to purchase the Services specified in Annex 2 from the Contractor, as and when required, at the price and under the terms and conditions specified herein.
2. IRENA does not warrant that any quantity of Services will be purchased during the term of this Agreement; nor does this Agreement create any financial commitment on the part of IRENA. IRENA shall not be liable for any cost, and the Contractor shall not be entitled to any compensation, in the event that no purchase of Services is made under this LTA.

Article 3: RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONTRACTOR

1. The Contractor shall provide IRENA with the Services at the price and under the terms and conditions set forth herein, for the entire duration of the Agreement, only in accordance with Purchase Orders placed by IRENA pursuant to this Agreement.
2. Upon receipt of a signed Purchase Order from IRENA, the Contractor shall sign and return it to IRENA within five working days of its receipt. Once signed by both Parties, the Purchase Order shall constitute a contract between IRENA and the Contractor.
3. In the conduct of its work under the LTA, the Contractor shall exercise the highest skill and judgement and cooperate with IRENA, including IRENA’s officials, consultants and agents, in best furthering the interests of IRENA and the aim of this LTA. The Contractor shall provide efficient business administration and supervision, and perform the Services to the highest standard and in the most expeditious and economical manner consistent with the requirements set forth in this LTA.

Article 4: RESPONSIBILITIES OF IRENA

1. IRENA shall designate members of its staff to act as points of contact for the Contractor, and shall promptly notify the Contractor thereof, to ensure that the Services are carried out in accordance with this Agreement. IRENA shall respond promptly to requests for information by the Contractor regarding the Services.
2. IRENA shall pay the Contractor for each Purchase Order and resulting delivery of Services made in accordance with the terms of this LTA, a sum which shall be based on the type and quantity of Services ordered by IRENA in the respective Purchase Order and delivered by the Contractor, at the price specified in this LTA. Payment shall be due by IRENA only subject to the full and satisfactory performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the LTA and acceptance by IRENA of the Services ordered under this

LTA.

Article 5: PRICING

1. For each Purchase Order placed under this Agreement, the Services shall be provided at the prices set forth in Annex 3.
2. Except as provided under Article 6 below, the prices shall remain in effect and fixed for the entire duration of this Agreement and any further extension thereof, and shall not be subject to escalation.
3. The prices set forth in Annex 3 shall cover all costs and expenses incurred by the Contractor for the full and proper performance of all obligations under the LTA (including management and remuneration of the personnel, national income tax, medical insurance, travel, and social security contributions). The price shall include all taxes, fees, duties and charges owed by the Contractor at the conclusion of this LTA or implementation of the Services ordered thereunder.

Article 6: CHANGES IN THE SERVICES AND/OR PRICING

1. In the event of any technical changes in the specification of the Services and/or lowering of the market prices for the Services during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor shall notify IRENA immediately. IRENA shall consider the impact of any such event and may request an amendment to the Agreement.
2. The Contractor shall be responsible to apply to the Purchase Orders issued under this Agreement any special offer or discounts (if applicable) which may become effective after entry into force of this Agreement or placement of a Purchase Order. Such offer or discounts shall be reflected in the corresponding Purchase Order or invoice, as applicable.

Article 7: NOTICES

Notices, invoices and other documentation under the LTA shall be delivered or sent to the relevant Party at the following address (or such address, facsimile number or email address as the Party may substitute by notice after the date of the LTA):

(a) IRENA:

Attn: Director of Administration and Management Services
International Renewable Energy Agency
IRENA Headquarters, Masdar City
P.O. Box 236, Abu Dhabi,
Tel.: +971 24179000
administration@irena.org

(b) [Name and contact details of the Contractor's point of contact]

Article 8: ACCEPTANCE

1. This Agreement supersedes all prior oral or written agreements, if any, between the Parties and,

together with the Purchase Orders concluded thereunder, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the provision of the Services hereunder.

2. Each Purchase Order under this Agreement shall incorporate by reference all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, including its Annexes 1 to 3. The IRENA General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services, contained in Annex 1, shall apply to this Agreement, as well as to any subsequent Purchase Orders concluded in accordance with the terms stated herein.

Article 9: ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the last signature by the representatives of the Parties as named below and shall remain in force for a duration of [one (1) year][two (2) years], and may be extended for up to a total cumulative duration of four years by mutual agreement of the Parties in writing. IRENA reserves the right to terminate this Agreement if the Contractor's performance is not satisfactory to IRENA.

Article 10: PRIORITY OF DOCUMENTS

If there are discrepancies or conflicts between any of the documents that are part of this Agreement, the document to prevail shall be given precedence in the following order:

- a. This Agreement;
- b. The IRENA General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services (Annex 1);
- c. The Terms of Reference (Annex 2) and the Price Schedule (Annex 3);
- d. The Contractor's Proposal dated [date], incorporated herein by reference.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorised representatives of the Parties have signed this Agreement on the date(s) set forth below.

For and on behalf of:

[Name of the Contractor]

IRENA

Name:

Name:

Title:

Title:

Date:

Date:

Section 6: Proposal Submission Form⁴

This form must be returned along with the submission signed and stamped by an authorised person.

To: IRENA, Chief Procurement Officer
[Insert IRENA address as indicated in the Data Sheet]

Dear Sir/Madam:

We, the undersigned, hereby offer to provide professional services as described in your Request for Proposal dated [date] and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes the Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal sealed under separate sealed envelopes.

We hereby declare that:

- a) All the information and statements made in this Proposal are true and we accept that any misrepresentation may lead to our disqualification.
- b) We are currently not on any United Nations sanctions list;
- c) We have no outstanding bankruptcy proceedings or pending litigation or legal action that could impair our operation as a going concern;
- d) We do not employ or otherwise engage, nor anticipate employing or engaging during the performance of the services required under the RFP any person who is or was recently employed by IRENA.

We confirm that we have read, understood and hereby accept the Terms of Reference describing the duties and responsibilities required of us in this RFP and the General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services of IRENA.

We agree to abide by this Proposal for [insert Proposal validity period as indicated in the Data Sheet] days.

⁴ No deletion or modification may be made to this form. Any such deletion or modification may lead to the rejection of the Proposal.

We fully understand and recognise that IRENA is not bound to accept this Proposal, that we shall bear all costs associated with its preparation and submission, and that IRENA will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the evaluation.

Yours sincerely,

Authorised Signature [*In full and initials*]: _____

Name and Title of Signatory: _____

Name of Firm: _____

Contact Details: _____

[Please mark this with your corporate seal, if available.]

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Section 7: Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Proposer

Proposer Information Form⁵

Date: *[insert date (as day, month and year) of Proposal Submission]*

RFP no.: *[insert number]*

Page _____ of _____ pages

1. Proposer's legal name: <i>[insert Proposer's legal name]</i>		
2. In case of Joint Venture (JV), legal name of each party: <i>[insert legal name of each party in JV]</i>		
3. Actual or intended Country/ies of registration/operation: <i>[insert actual or intended Country of registration]</i>		
4. Year of registration: <i>[insert Proposer's year of registration]</i>		
5. Countries of operation:	6. No. of staff in each Country:	7. Years of operation in each Country:
8. Legal address/es in Country/ies of registration/operation: <i>[insert Proposer's legal address in country of registration]</i>		
9. Value and description of top three (3) biggest contracts for the past five (5) years:		
10. Latest credit rating (if any):		
10. Brief description of litigation history (disputes, arbitration, claims, etc.), indicating current status and outcomes, if already resolved:		
12. Proposer's authorised representative information Name: <i>[insert authorised representative's name]</i> Address: <i>[insert authorised representative's name]</i> Telephone/Fax numbers: <i>[insert authorised representative's name]</i> Email address: <i>[insert authorised representative's name]</i>		
13. Attached are copies of original documents of: <input type="checkbox"/> All eligibility document requirements listed in the Data Sheet <input type="checkbox"/> If Joint Venture/Consortium – copy of the Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement or Letter of Intent to form a JV/Consortium, or Registration of JV/Consortium, if registered <input type="checkbox"/> If case of Government corporation or Government-owned/controlled entity, documents establishing legal and financial autonomy and compliance with commercial law.		

⁵ The Proposer shall fill in this Form in accordance with the instructions. Apart from providing additional information, no alterations to its format shall be permitted and no substitutions shall be accepted.

Joint Venture Partner Information Form (if registered)⁶

Date: *[insert date (as day, month and year) of Proposal Submission]*

RFP No.: *[insert number]*

Page _____ of _____ pages

1. Proposer's legal name: <i>[insert Proposer's legal name]</i>		
2. JV's party legal name: <i>[insert JV's Party legal name]</i>		
3. JV's party Country of registration: <i>[insert JV's Party country of registration]</i>		
4. Year of registration: <i>[insert Party's year of registration]</i>		
5. Countries of operation:	6. No. of staff in each Country:	7. Years of operation in each Country:
8. Legal address/es in Country/ies of registration/operation: <i>[insert Party's legal address in country of registration]</i>		
9. Value and description of top three (3) biggest contracts for the past five (5) years:		
10. Latest credit rating (if any):		
1. Brief description of litigation history (disputes, arbitration, claims, etc.), indicating current status and outcomes, if already resolved:		
13. JV's party authorised representative information Name: <i>[insert name of JV's party authorised representative]</i> Address: <i>[insert address of JV's party authorised representative]</i> Telephone/fax numbers: <i>[insert telephone/fax numbers of JV's Party authorised representative]</i> Email Address: <i>[insert email address of JV's Party authorised representative]</i>		
14. Attached are copies of original documents of: <i>[check the box(es) of the attached original documents]</i> <input type="checkbox"/> All eligibility document requirements listed in the Data Sheet <input type="checkbox"/> Articles of Incorporation or Registration of firm named in 2.		

⁶ The Proposer shall fill in this Form in accordance with the instructions. Apart from providing additional information, no alterations to its format shall be permitted and no substitutions shall be accepted.

☐ In case of government-owned entity, documents establishing legal and financial autonomy and compliance with commercial law.

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Section 8: Technical Proposal Form

TECHNICAL PROPOSAL [INSERT TITLE OF THE SERVICES]

Note: Technical Proposals not submitted in this format may be rejected. The financial proposal should be included in a separate envelope.

Name of Proposing organization / firm:	
Country of registration:	
Name of contact person for this Proposal:	
Address:	
Phone / Fax:	
Email:	

SECTION 1: EXPERTISE OF FIRM/ ORGANISATION

This section should fully explain the Proposer's resources in terms of personnel and facilities necessary for the performance of this requirement. All contents of this section may be modified or expanded depending on the evaluation criteria stated in the RFP.

1.1 Brief description of Proposer as an entity: Provide a brief description of the organisation / firm submitting the Proposal, its legal mandates/authorised business activities, the year and country of incorporation, types of activities undertaken, and approximate annual budget, etc. Include reference to reputation, or any history of litigation and arbitration in which the organisation/firm has been involved that could adversely affect or impact the performance of services, indicating the status/result of such litigation/arbitration.

1.2. Financial capacity: Provide the latest Audited Financial Statement (Income Statement and Balance Sheet) duly certified by a Public Accountant, and with authentication of receipt by the relevant government's Internal Revenue Authority. Include any indication of credit rating, industry rating, etc.

1.3. Track record and experiences: Provide the following information regarding corporate experience within the last five (5) years which are related or relevant to those required for this Contract.

Name of project	Client	Contract value	Period of activity	Types of activities undertaken	Status or date completed	References contact details (name, phone, email)

SECTION 2 - APPROACH AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This section should demonstrate the Proposer's responsiveness to the TOR by identifying the specific components proposed, addressing the requirements, as specified, point by point; providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics proposed; and demonstrating how the proposed methodology meets or exceeds the requirements.

2.1. Approach to the Service/Work required: Please provide a detailed description of the methodology for how the organisation/firm will achieve the Terms of Reference of the Project, keeping in mind the appropriateness to local conditions and project environment.

2.2. Technical quality assurance review mechanisms: The methodology shall also include details of the Proposer's internal technical and quality assurance review mechanisms.

2.3. Implementation timelines: The Proposer shall submit a Gantt chart or Project schedule indicating the detailed sequence of activities that will be undertaken and their corresponding timing.

2.4. Subcontracting: Explain whether any work would be subcontracted, to whom, how much percentage of the work, the rationale for such, and the roles of the proposed sub-contractors. Special attention should be given to providing a clear picture of the role of each entity and how everyone will function as a team.

2.5. Risks/mitigation measures: Please describe the potential risks for the implementation of this Project that may impact achievement and timely completion of expected results as well as their quality. Describe measures that will be put in place to mitigate these risks.

2.6. Reporting and monitoring: If required in the TOR, please provide a brief description of the mechanisms proposed for this project for reporting to IRENA and partners, including a reporting schedule.

2.7. Anti-corruption strategy: Define the anti-corruption strategy that will be applied in this project to prevent the misuse of funds. Describe the financial controls that will be put in place.

2.8. Partnerships: Explain any partnerships with local, international or other organisations that are planned for the implementation of the Project. Special attention should be given to providing a clear picture of the role of each entity and how everyone will function as a team. Letters of commitment from partners and an indication of whether some or all have successfully worked together on other previous projects is encouraged.

2.9. Statement of full disclosure: This is intended to disclose any potential conflict in accordance with the definition of "conflict" under Clause 5 of Section 2 of the RFP, if any.

2.10. Other: Any other comments or information regarding the Project approach and methodology that will be adopted.

SECTION 3: PERSONNEL

3.1 Management structure: Describe the overall management approach toward planning and implementing this activity. Include an organisation chart for the management of the Project describing the relationship of key positions and designations.

3.2 Staff time allocation: Provide a spreadsheet to show the activities of each staff member and the time allocated for his/her involvement. *(Note: This spreadsheet is crucial and no substitution of personnel will be tolerated once the contract has been awarded except in extreme circumstances. Any substitution shall be made only with IRENA's approval of the justification for the substitution and with IRENA's approval of the replacement, who shall be of either equal or superior credentials to the one being replaced and which shall not involve any additional cost to IRENA. No increase in costs will be considered as a result of any substitution.)*

3.3 Qualifications of key personnel: Provide the CVs for key personnel (team leader, managerial and general staff) that will be provided to support the implementation of this project. CVs should demonstrate qualifications in areas relevant to the Scope of Services. Please use the format below:

Name:		
Position for this Contract:		
Nationality:		
Contact information:		
Countries of work experience:		
Language skills:		
Educational and other qualifications:		
Summary of experience: <i>Highlight experience in the region and on similar projects.</i>		
Relevant experience (from most recent):		
Period: From – To	Name of activity/project/ funding organisation, if applicable:	Job title and activities undertaken/description of actual role performed:
<i>e.g. June 2004-January 2005</i>		
<i>Etc.</i>		
<i>Etc.</i>		
Reference no.1 (minimum of 3):	<i>Name</i> <i>Designation</i> <i>Organisation</i> <i>Contact Information – Address; Phone; Email; etc.</i>	
Reference no.2	<i>Name</i> <i>Designation</i> <i>Organisation</i> <i>Contact Information – Address; Phone; Email; etc.</i>	
Reference no.3	<i>Name</i> <i>Designation</i> <i>Organisation</i> <i>Contact Information – Address; Phone; Email; etc.</i>	
Declaration:		
I confirm my intention to serve in the stated position and present availability to serve for the term of the proposed contract. I also understand that any wilful misstatement described above may lead to		

my disqualification, before or during my engagement.

Signature of the Nominated Team Leader/Member

Date Signed

The Proposal should include a description of the Proposer's profile and provide the following information:

- a) Total number of audit professionals employed which should be distinguished by designation - audit partners, audit managers, audit seniors and audit assistants;
- b) a brief description of the Proposer's standards;
- c) Five major audit clients that are serviced by the Proposer, with a brief description of the nature and extent of the audit services rendered; and
- d) A description of the Proposer's experience in providing audit services to international development agencies or organizations, and the nature of the audit services rendered. A specific listing and description of engagements, current or prior.

1. Auditing standards, approach and methodology:

The Proposal should describe the auditing standards adopted by the Proposer, including the audit approach and methodology that will be applied by the Proposer to meet the objectives and scope of the audit services required by IRENA. This description should be accompanied with an indication of the level of personnel who will be involved in implementing each phase of the audit approach and, as applicable, a description of the statistical sampling techniques that will be used for that purpose.

2. Proposed audit team and time-effort:

The technical proposal should include a description of the proposed audit team and a breakdown by audit team member of the corresponding time-effort to be allocated for the services, expressed in number of working days. The proposed audit team should be detailed by designation, i.e., as applicable, audit partner, audit manager, audit senior and audit assistant. This information should be presented in accordance with the table in the financial proposal.

3. Audit Reports and Management Letters:

Describe the proposed structure and format of reports and management letters by which the results of audit work will be communicated to IRENA management.

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Section 9: Financial Proposal Form

The Proposer is required to submit the Financial Proposal in a separate envelope from the rest of the RFP response as indicated in Clause 13 of the Instructions to Proposers.

The Financial Proposal must provide a detailed cost breakdown. The format shown on the following pages is suggested for use as a guide in preparing the Financial Proposal. The format includes specific expenditures, which may or may not be required or applicable but are indicated to serve as examples.

A. Cost breakdown:

1. Financial Proposal: The Proposer is required to prepare the Financial Proposal in a separate envelope from the rest of the RFP response as indicated in the RFP Instruction to Proposers. Any cost-reimbursable items, such as travel and out-of-pocket expenses, should be included in the financial proposal, if applicable.
2. Cost Breakdown: Cost of external audit of financial statements of IRENA and its Staff Provident Fund (SPF) for the four calendar years from 2025 to 2028, each lasting from 1 January to 31 December.

For 2025 Audit			
Designation of staff proposed	No of working days.	Cost per /day	Total USD
1.			
2.			
3.			
Total cost			

For 2026 Audit			
Designation of staff proposed	No of working days.	Cost per /day	Total USD
1.			
2.			
3.			
Total cost			

For 2027 Audit			
Designation of staff proposed	No of working days.	Cost per /day	Total USD
1.			
2.			
3.			
Total cost			

For 2028 Audit			
Designation of staff proposed	No of working days.	Cost per /day	Total USD
1.			
2.			
3.			

Total cost	
<i>travel and out-of-pocket expenses, if applicable in USD</i>	
Grand Total fees for four years in USD	

Please fill in the above structure as the Financial Proposal. No other format will be accepted.

B. Mandatory criteria

Mandatory criteria	Acceptance (Yes/No)	Comments (if any)
Acceptance of IRENA General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services		
Acceptance of payment of thirty (30) calendar days from the date of receipt of invoices and satisfactory performance of the service		

Name of bidder/firm:

Address:

Signature of authorised person:

Stamp of bidder:

Section 10: Form for Performance Security⁷

This must be finalised using the official letterhead of the issuing bank. Except for indicated fields, no changes may be made to this template.

To: IRENA
[Insert contact information as provided in Data Sheet]

WHEREAS [name and address of Contractor] (hereinafter called “the Contractor”) has undertaken, in pursuance of Contract No. [insert Contract number] dated [insert Contract date], to execute Services (hereinafter called “the Contract”):

AND WHEREAS it has been stipulated by you in the said Contract that the Contractor shall furnish you with a Bank Guarantee by a recognised bank for the sum specified therein as security for compliance with his obligations in accordance with the Contract:

AND WHEREAS we have agreed to give the Contractor such a Bank Guarantee:

NOW THEREFORE we hereby affirm that we are the Guarantor and responsible to you, on behalf of the Contractor, up to a total of [amount of guarantee] [in words and numbers], such sum being payable in the types and proportions of currencies in which the Contract Price is payable, and we undertake to pay you, upon your first written demand and without cavil or argument, any sum or sums within the limits of [amount of guarantee as aforesaid] without your needing to prove or to show grounds or reasons for your demand for the sum specified therein.

This guarantee shall be valid until a date 30 days from the date of issue by IRENA of a certificate of satisfactory performance and full completion of services by the Contractor.

SIGNATURE AND SEAL OF THE GUARANTOR BANK

Date:

Name of Bank:

Address:

⁷ If the RFP requires the submission of a performance security, which shall be made a condition to the signing and effectivity of the Contract, the performance security that the Proposer’s bank will issue shall use the contents of this template

Section 11: Form of Bank Guarantee for Advance Payment

This must be finalised using the official letterhead of the issuing bank. Except for indicated fields, no changes may be made to this template.

Note: All italicized text is for indicative purposes only to assist in preparing this Form and shall be deleted from the final product.

_____ [Bank's name, and address of issuing branch or office]
Beneficiary: _____ [Name and address of IRENA as provided in Data Sheet]
Date: _____
Advance Payment Guarantee No.: _____

We have been informed that [name of company] (hereinafter called "the Contractor") has entered into Contract No. [reference number of the Contract] dated [insert date] with you, for the provision of [brief description of Services] (hereinafter called "the Contract").

Furthermore, we understand that, according to the conditions of the Contract, an advance payment in the sum of [amount in words] ([amount in figures]) is to be made against an advance payment guarantee.

At the request of the Contractor, we, [name of Bank], hereby irrevocably undertake to pay you any sum or sums not exceeding in total an amount of [amount in words] ([amount in figures])⁸ upon receipt by us of your first demand in writing accompanied by a written statement stating that the Contractor is in breach of its obligation under the Contract because the Contractor has used the advance payment for purposes other than toward providing the Services under the Contract.

It is a condition for any claim and payment under this guarantee to be made that the advance payment referred to above must have been received by the Contractor on its account number _____ at [name and address of Bank].

The maximum amount of this guarantee shall be progressively reduced by the amount of the advance payment repaid by the Contractor as indicated in copies of certified monthly statements which shall be presented to us. This guarantee shall expire, at the latest, upon our receipt of the monthly payment certificate indicating that the Consultants have made full repayment of the amount of the advance payment. Consequently, any demand for payment under this guarantee must be received by us at this office on or before that date.

This guarantee is subject to the Uniform Rules for Demand Guarantees, ICC Publication No. 458.

[signature(s)]

⁸ The Guarantor Bank shall insert an amount representing the amount of the advance payment and denominated in the currency of the advance payment as specified in the Contract.