

## REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)

DATE: November 08<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**SUBJECT : RFQ21-258 – CONSULTANCY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY'S DISEASE THRESHOLD DETERMINATION**

1. You are requested to submit a quotation to carry out specific tasks as outlined in the Terms of Reference (Annex I).
2. Queries or questions may be emailed to Dr Jocelyn Cabarles: [jocelync@spc.int](mailto:jocelync@spc.int)
3. SPC reserves the right at the time of award of contract to vary the quantity of services and goods specified in the RFQ.
4. SPC reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal and to annul the solicitation process and reject all Proposals at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder(s) or any obligation to inform the affected bidder(s) of the grounds for the Purchaser's action.
5. Please email your quotation to Dr Jocelyn Cabarles [jocelync@spc.int](mailto:jocelync@spc.int) by **04:00 PM, Noumea Time on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. This letter is not to be construed in any way as an offer to contract with you or your organisation.

**ANNEX I**  
**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
**RFQ21-258**

## **5. Project Title and Background**

The International Health Regulation is an international legal instrument and capacity-building framework that binds member states to help prevent the spread of diseases across borders and ensure global health security.

The Pacific region had been beset by these public health threats and disease outbreaks such as dengue, measles, zika, chikugunya, influenza, and leptospirosis. Thus, it recognizes the need to strengthen public health surveillance network in the region.

Back in December 1995, the Pacific Community (SPC) organized the Interagency Meeting of Health Information Requirements (IAMHIR) in Noumea, New Caledonia, with the support of UNICEF and WHO. The meeting, attended by regional agencies, universities and health professionals from the Pacific Island countries and territories (PICT), discussed ways to better prioritize and integrate public health surveillance in the Pacific. As a result, the basic principles of a public health surveillance network in the Pacific were spelled out, and a regional working group was established to pursue the initiative.

The Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network (PPHSN) was set up by SPC and WHO in 1996 following the abovementioned meeting as a voluntary network of the departments and ministries of health of the 22 Pacific island countries and territories and allied partners that is supported by a Coordinating Body. SPC plays the role of the focal point to the PPHSN Coordinating Body. In response to calls made by Ministers of Health in the region the 6 services of PPHSN had been developed over the years and they are namely PacNet for alert and communication, LabNet for verification and confirmation, EpiNet for rapid response, PICNet for infection prevention and control, the Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System (PSSS) for early warning and the capacity building in epidemiology programme, Data for Decision-making (DDM) and Strengthening Health Interventions in the Pacific (SHIP). These service delivery networks provide the technical support and means for the PICTs to strengthen their surveillance and outbreak response and management. However, PICTs declaring an outbreak and calling the outbreak over remain a challenge. Although some PICTs had identified their disease threshold, most are still expressing the need to have a standard tool to measure the disease threshold.

## **6. Scope of Work**

The Pacific Community (SPC) seeks the service of technical assistance provider(s) to develop a tool for determining threshold for priority infectious diseases in the Pacific. The goal of the consultancy is for the PICTs to use a standard tool of determining the country's disease threshold in declaring an outbreak. Additionally, the consultant will review the different existing tool in determining disease threshold and determine a tool applicable to the Pacific regional resources and capacities. The disease threshold tool will guide the Pacific Epi Net teams in deciding the declaration of an outbreak for any infectious disease.

### **Specific Objectives**

- i. To review existing tool or health information system used by countries in determining their disease threshold (if available) or for reporting infectious diseases;
- ii. To develop a tool that can easily integrate data from PICTs existing HIS for infectious diseases and calculate the disease threshold for specific diseases.

## **7. Outputs**

The expected outputs are:

- b. Tool for Determining Disease Threshold of Infectious Disease;
- c. Field Guide on the tool describing the data to be collected, encoding process and analysis of data displaying the data encoded with disease threshold;
- d. Technical report on the consultancy work.

## **8. Institutional Arrangements**

The consultancy is an off-site arrangement and will be managed by the Team Leader – Surveillance, Preparedness and Response Programme of the Public Health Division (PHD). PHD will facilitate the coordination and communication with PICTs when necessary for the completion of the tasks agreed on the inception report.

The final draft version of the tool and field guide together with the technical report will be submitted to the Team Leader no later than by the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

The tool will be presented and discussed with the Surveillance, Preparedness and Response Programme, Public Health Division programme. The tool will be consequently presented to the members of the EpiNet teams.

## **9. Duration of the Work**

The work is expected to commence by 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and conclude on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022 for a maximum of 30 working days.

## **10. Duty station**

The consultancy work will be done off-site. He/she will be based on his/her country of residence and will be providing progress update weekly through virtual meeting.

## **11. Qualifications, Skills and Experience**

### **Qualifications required**

A master or higher-level degree in public health is essential. Training in software development is highly desirable.

### **Experience required**

Minimum of 5 years' experience in epidemiology and surveillance of communicable diseases. Experience working with multiple Pacific Island countries and territories is preferable. Demonstrated experience in developing data base is preferable. Experience in information systems is desirable.

### **Skills / Technical skills and knowledge**

Demonstrated ability to consult with stakeholders and facilitate an effective and productive feedback process. Demonstrated knowledge of the challenges of infectious diseases surveillance and control in Pacific Island countries and territories. Demonstrated ability to develop strategy, action plan, operational manual, or public health guidance documents. Excellent written and oral communication skills.

### **Language requirements**

Written and spoken fluency in English is essential.

## 12. Scope of bid price and Schedule of Payments

The contract price is comprised of lump sum payments based on milestones.

## 13. Proposal Evaluation Matrix

<b>Competency Requirements</b>	<b>Score Weight (%)</b>	<b>Points obtainable</b>
Qualification	35	200
Skills and technical knowledge	30	200
Experience	25	200
Language	10	100
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>700</b>

**ANNEX II**  
**Technical and Financial Proposal Submission Form**  
**RFQ21-038**

**PART A – Background**

	<b>RESPONSE BY BIDDER</b>
Name:	
Physical Address:	
Postal Address:	
Telephone Contact:	
Email:	
Two contacts of referees or references. Attach additional details considered as relevant	

**PART B – Evaluation Criteria**

<b>CRITERIA</b>	<b>RESPONSE BY BIDDER</b>
Qualification	
Skills and technical knowledge	
Experience	
Language	
Remuneration (Please provide a daily rate in EUR)	

**ANNEX III**  
**Proposal Submission Form**  
**RFQ21-038**

**Part A: Undertaking**

7. I agree that if this proposal is accepted, to enter into an agreement with the Owner, to commence and to complete all the work specified or indicated in the contract documents.
8. In submitting this proposal, I confirm that I have examined all the RFQ documents to provide technical services related to the Consultancy for the Development of Country's Disease Threshold Determination.
9. I agree to complete the services for the price stated in the remuneration.

**Part B: Conflict of interest**

6. I confirm that I, my family members, and the organisation or company that I am involved with are independent from SPC. To the best of my knowledge, there are no facts or circumstances, past or present, or that could arise in the foreseeable future, which might call into question my independence.
7. If it becomes apparent during the procurement process that I may be perceived to have a conflict of interest, I will immediately declare that conflict and will cease to participate in the procurement process, unless or until it is determined that I may continue.

OR

I declare that there is a potential conflict of interest in the submission of my bid. Please provide an explanation with your bid.

**Part C: Privacy notice**

- A. I understand that my bid and my personal information will be stored and used by SPC in accordance with SPC's *Privacy Policy and Guidelines for handling personal information of bidders and grant applicants*. Please inform SPC if you would like copies of the policy or guidelines.
- B. If successful, I understand that SPC will disclose information such as my name and my company's name, and the amount of the award of SPC's website.

Date:

Name:

Signature:

Title:

**ANNEX IV**  
**Due diligence questionnaire**  
**RFQ21-038**

Please complete the following questionnaire and provide supporting documents where applicable.

**For individuals operating a business in their personal capacity**

B. Please provide any two of the following documents to verify identity and proof of address:

- C. Passport
- D. Driver's license
- E. Voter card or other government-issued identity card
- F. Bank statement with the individual's name displayed

G. Have you been convicted for criminal offences relating to anti-money laundering or terrorism financing? Yes No

If you answered 'yes', please provide further details.

1. Have you ever been the subject of any investigation, indictment, conviction or civil enforcement action related to financing terrorists? Yes No

If you answered 'yes', please provide further details.

**For companies and other legal entities**

1. Please provide the following documents to verify identity and proof of address:

- 1. Evidence of Power of Attorney/Board Resolution granted to the officers to transact business on its behalf; and
- 1. Any of the following documents:
  - a. Certificate of Incorporation
  - b. Memorandum and Articles of Association
  - c. Telephone bill in the name of the company
  - d. Bank statement with the entity's name displayed

2. Does your entity have foreign branches and/or subsidiaries? Yes No

3. If you answered 'yes' to the previous question, please confirm the areas of your entity covered by responses to this questionnaire

Head Office & domestic branches Yes No N/A

Domestic subsidiaries Yes No N/A

Overseas branches Yes No N/A

Overseas subsidiaries Yes No N/A

4. Is your entity regulated by a national authority? Yes No

If you answered 'yes' please specify the name: .....

5. Does your entity have a written policy, controls and procedures reasonably designed to prevent and detect money laundering or terrorist financing activities? Yes No  
If you answered 'yes', please send SPC your policy in English

6. Does your entity have an officer responsible for an anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing policy? Yes No

If yes, please state that officer's contact details:.....

7. Does your entity provide financial services to customers determined to be high risk including but not limited to:

- Foreign Financial Institutions Yes No
- Casinos Yes No
- Cash Intensive Businesses Yes No
- Foreign Government Entities Yes No
- Non-Resident Individuals Yes No
- Money Service Businesses Yes No

8. If you answered 'yes' to any of the boxes in question 7, does your entity's policies and procedures specifically outline how to mitigate the potential risks associated with these higher risk customer types? If yes, how?

9. Has your entity ever been the subject of any investigations or had any regulatory or criminal enforcement actions resulting from violations of laws and regulations relating to either money laundering or terrorism financing? Yes No

If you answered 'yes' please provide details

10. Has the director or CEO of your entity ever been the subject of any investigations or had any regulatory or criminal enforcement actions resulting from violations of laws and regulations relating to either money laundering or terrorism financing? Yes No

If you answered 'yes' please provide details

I declare that none of the funds received or to be received by my organisation will be used to finance terrorism or involve money laundering.

I declare that the particulars given herein above are true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge, and the documents submitted in support of this form are genuine and obtained legally from the respective issuing authority.

Date:

Name:

Signature:

Title:

**ANNEX V**  
**SPC GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT**  
**RFQ21-038**

**1 LEGAL STATUS OF THE PARTIES**

- 1.1 SPC and the Contractor will be referred to as a "Party" individually or the "Parties" collectively.
- 1.2 Pursuant to the Canberra Agreement, the Pacific Community has full juridical personality and enjoys such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent fulfilment of its purposes.
- 1.3 The Contractor has the legal status of an independent Contractor vis-à-vis SPC. The Contractor's personnel and sub-contractors are not to be considered in any respect employees or agents of SPC.

**2 SOURCE OF INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1 The Contractor will only accept instructions from SPC in the performance of the Contract. The Contractor will refrain from any action that may adversely affect SPC and will fulfil its commitments with the fullest regard to the interests of SPC. Should any authority external to SPC seek to impose any instructions concerning or restrictions on the Contractor's performance under the Contract, the Contractor will promptly notify SPC and provide all reasonable assistance required by SPC.

**3 CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES**

- 3.1 The Contractor will be responsible for the professional and technical competence of its employees and will select, for work under the Contract, reliable individuals who will perform effectively in the implementation of the Contract, respect the local laws and customs, and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.
- 3.2 The Contractor shall not discriminate against any person because of race, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, impairment or disability, religious or political beliefs, age, marital or relationship status, pregnancy, breastfeeding or other family responsibilities.

**4 SPECIFIED PERSONNEL**

- 4.1 The Contractor must ensure that the services are performed in accordance with the Contract. Where personnel have been specified, they must provide those services. SPC may remove any personnel (including Specified Personnel) from work in respect of the Contract. If it does so, or if Specified Personnel are unable or unwilling to perform the Contract, the Contractor will provide replacement personnel (acceptable to SPC) of suitable ability and qualifications at no additional cost and at the earliest opportunity.

**5 ASSIGNMENT**

- 5.1 The Contractor may 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 SPC.

**6 SUB-CONTRACTING**

- 6.1 No subcontracting will be permitted under the Contract unless it is proposed in the initial submission or is agreed to by SPC in writing. In any event, the total responsibility for the Contract remains with the Contractor. The Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that all subcontracts shall be fully consistent with the Contract and shall not in any way prejudice the implementation of any of its provisions.
- 6.2 Prior to employing individuals or engaging subcontractors to perform services under the Contract, the Contractor agrees, at its own expense, to perform due diligence necessary to ensure compliance with the terms of the Contract.

**7 PURCHASE OF GOODS**

- 7.1 To the extent that the Contract involves any purchase of goods, and unless specifically stated in the Contract, the following terms and conditions apply to any purchases of goods:

**Delivery of the goods**

- 7.2 The Contractor shall hand over or make available the goods, and SPC shall receive the goods, at the place for the delivery of the goods and within the time for delivery of the goods specified in the Contract.
- 7.3 The Contractor shall provide to SPC such shipment documentation (including, bills of lading, airway bills, and commercial invoices) as are specified in the Contract or otherwise, as are customarily utilised in the trade.
- 7.4 Unless otherwise specified in the Contract, (including, but not limited to, in any "INCOTERM" or similar trade term), the entire risk of loss, damage to, or destruction of the goods shall be borne exclusively by the Contractor until physical delivery of the goods to SPC in accordance with the terms of the Contract. Delivery of the goods shall not be deemed in itself as constituting acceptance of the goods by SPC.

**Packaging of the goods**

- 7.5 The Contractor shall package the goods for delivery in accordance with the highest standards of packaging for the type and quantities and modes of transport of the goods. The goods shall be packed and marked in a proper manner in accordance with the instructions stipulated in the Contract or, otherwise, as customarily done in the trade, and in accordance with any requirements imposed by applicable law or by the transporters and manufacturer of the goods. The packing, in particular, shall mark the Contract or Purchase Order number and any other identification information provided by SPC as well as such other information as is necessary for the correct handling and safe delivery of the goods. Unless otherwise specified in the Contract, the Contractor shall have no right to any return of the packing materials.

## Transportation and freight

- 7.6 Unless otherwise specified in the Contract (including, but not limited to, in any "INCOTERM" or similar trade term), The Contractor shall be solely liable for making all transport arrangements and for payment of freight and insurance costs for the shipment and delivery of the goods in accordance with the requirements of the Contract. The Contractor shall ensure that SPC receives all necessary transport documents in a timely manner so as to enable SPC to take delivery of the goods in accordance with the requirements of the Contract.

## Warranties

- 7.7 In addition to and without limiting any other warranties, remedies or rights of SPC stated in or arising under the Contract, the Contractor warrants and represents that:
- a) The goods, including all packaging and packing thereof, conform to the specifications of the Contract, are fit for the purposes for which such goods are ordinarily used and for any purposes expressly made known in writing in the Contract, and shall be of even quality, free from faults and defects in design, material, manufacturer and workmanship;
  - b) If the Contractor is not the original manufacturer of the goods, the Contractor shall provide SPC with the benefit of all manufacturers' warranties in addition to any other warranties required to be provided under the Contract;
  - c) The goods are of the quality, quantity and description required by the Contract, including when subjected to conditions prevailing in the place of final destination;
  - d) The goods are new and unused;
  - e) All warranties, even after the end of the Contract, will remain fully valid following any delivery of the goods and for a period of not less than one (1) year following acceptance of the goods by SPC in accordance with the Contract;
  - f) During any period in which the Contractor's warranties are effective, upon notice by SPC that the goods do not conform to the requirements of the Contract, the Contractor shall promptly and at its own expense correct such non-conformities or, in case of its inability to do so, replace the defective goods with goods of the same or better quality or, at its own cost, remove the defective goods and fully reimburse SPC for the purchase price paid for the defective goods; and,
  - g) The Contractor shall remain responsive to the needs of SPC for any services that may be required in connection with any of the Contractor's warranties under the Contract.

## Acceptance of the goods

- 7.8 Under no circumstances shall SPC be required to accept any goods that do not conform to the specifications or requirements of the Contract. SPC may condition its acceptance of the goods upon the successful completion of acceptance tests as may be specified in the Contract or otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties. In no case shall SPC be obligated to accept any goods unless and until SPC has had a reasonable opportunity to inspect the goods following delivery. If the Contract specifies that SPC shall provide a written acceptance of the goods, the goods shall not be deemed accepted unless and until SPC in fact provides such written acceptance. In no case shall payment by SPC constitute acceptance of the goods.

## Rejection of the goods

- 7.9 Notwithstanding any other rights of, or remedies available to SPC under the Contract, in case any of the goods are defective or otherwise do not conform to the specifications or other requirements of the Contract, SPC, at its sole option, may reject or refuse to accept the goods, and within thirty (30) days following receipt of notice from SPC of such rejection or refusal to accept the goods, the Contractor shall, in sole option of SPC:
- a) Provide a full refund upon return of the goods, or a partial refund upon a return of a portion of the goods, by SPC; or,
  - b) Repair the goods in a manner that would enable the goods to conform to the specifications or other requirements of the Contract; or,
  - c) Replace the goods with goods of equal or better quality; and,
  - d) Pay all costs relating to the repair or return of the defective goods as well as the costs relating to the storage of any such defective goods and for the delivery of any replacement goods to SPC.

## Title to the goods

- 7.10 Unless otherwise expressly provided in the Contract, title in and to the goods shall pass from the Contractor to SPC upon delivery of the goods and their acceptance by SPC in accordance with the requirements of the Contract.

## 8 PROVISION OF SERVICES

- 8.1 To the extent that the Contract involves any provision of services, whether in whole or in part, and unless specifically stated in the Contract, the following terms and conditions shall apply to any provision of services:

### Examination and acceptance

- 8.2 SPC reserves the right to assess the services provided under the Contract, at any time prior to the expiry of the Contract. In the event that the services are not performed in accordance with the terms of reference and/or the provisions of the Contract, and at no additional cost, the Contractor shall make such adjustments as SPC may request in writing to provide the services in accordance with the terms of the Contract, so as not to unduly delay delivery.

### Delay and defaults

- 8.3 If there should be any delay in the performance of the Contract or any part thereof, the Contractor shall notify SPC in writing giving the cause.
- 8.4 If the Contractor is unable to obtain any services necessary for the performance of the Contract from its normal sources, it shall remain liable for any delays when equivalent services can be obtained from other sources in good time.
- 8.5 In any event, if the Contractor fails to complete the services required within the time specified in the Contract, or within any extension that may be granted, SPC may, without prejudice to any further rights it may have under the Contract:
- a) Suspend or cancel the right of the Contractor to proceed further with any services – or part thereof – in which there has been a delay;
  - b) Obtain elsewhere upon such terms and conditions as may be deemed appropriate replacement services similar to those which the Contractor failed to provide;

- c) Make a corresponding adjustment to the consideration payable to the Contractor; provided, however, that the Contractor shall continue performance of the Contract to the extent not suspended or cancelled under the provisions of this paragraph.
- 8.6 The Contractor shall be liable for any excess costs or damages caused to SPC by a failure or delay on the part of the Contractor in the performance of its obligations under the Contract, except where such failure or delay is due to:
- causes which are attributable to SPC; or,
  - Force Majeure.
- 8.7 SPC shall determine the effects of any delay or default particularly in regard to an adjustment of the consideration due to the Contractor and to excess costs or damages caused to SPC and its findings shall be binding.
- 8.8 If the Contractor doesn't cure the default or delay for providing the services within a reasonable timeframe, SPC may terminate the Contract for cause, according to article 29 of these General Terms and Conditions.

## 9 EXECUTION OF WORKS

- 9.1 To the extent that the Contract involves any execution of works, whether in whole or in part, and unless specifically stated in the Contract, the following terms and conditions shall apply to any execution of works:

### Obligation to Perform in Accordance with the Contract

- 9.2 The Contractor shall execute and complete the works and remedy any defects therein in strict accordance with the Contract, with due care and diligence and to the satisfaction of SPC, and shall provide all labour, including the supervision thereof, materials, constructional plant and all other things, whether of a temporary or permanent nature, required in and for such execution, completion and remedying of defects, as far as the necessity for providing the same is specified in or is reasonably to be inferred from the Contract. The Contractor shall comply with and adhere strictly to SPC's instructions and directions on any matter, touching or concerning the works.
- 9.3 The Contractor shall execute and complete the works in accordance with article 26 of these general terms and conditions, in particular with regard to health and safety requirements, insurance, working conditions for workers, construction, administration and environmental law.

### Insurance of the works

- 9.4 The Contractor shall insure at its own costs, immediately following signature of the Contract, in the joint names of SPC and the Contractor for the entire duration of the Contract, including the defect liability period, against all loss or damage from whatever cause arising, other than cause of Force majeure and against loss or damage for which the Contractor is responsible.
- 9.5 The Contractor shall insure against his liability for any death, material or physical damage, loss or injury which may occur to any property (including that of SPC) or to any person (including any employee of SPC) by or arising out of the execution of the works or in the carrying out of the Contract.
- 9.6 The Contractor shall insure against the liability of any accident or injury any workman or other person in the employment of the Contractor or any subcontractor.

### Responsibility of the Contractor

- 9.7 The Contractor shall take full responsibility for the adequacy, stability, and safety of all site operations and methods of construction.
- 9.8 The Contractor shall be responsible for the true and proper setting out of the works in relation to original points, lines and levels of reference given by SPC in writing and for the correctness of the position, levels, dimensions and alignment of all parts of the works and for the provision of all necessary instruments, appliances and labor in connection therewith. If, at any time during the progress of the works, any error shall appear or arise in the position, levels, dimensions or alignment of any part of the works, the Contractor, on being required so to do by SPC, shall, at his own cost, rectify such error to the satisfaction of SPC.

### Delays or damage to the works

- 9.9 The Contractor shall give written notice to SPC whenever planning or progress of the works is likely to be delayed or disrupted unless any further drawing or order, including a direction, instruction or approval, is issued by SPC within a reasonable time. The notice shall include details of drawing or order required and of why and by when it is required and of any delay or disruption likely to be suffered if it is late.
- 9.10 In the event that any damage or loss should happen to the works or to any part thereof from any cause whatsoever (except as shall be due to Force Majeure), the Contractor shall at his own cost repair and make good the same so that, at completion, the works shall be in good order and condition and in conformity in every respect with the requirements of the Contract and SPC's instructions.

### Fossils, artifacts, and antiques

- 9.11 All fossils, coins, artifacts, articles of value or antiquity and structures and other remains or things of geological or archaeological interest discovered on the site of the works shall as between SPC and the Contractor be deemed to be the absolute property of SPC. SPC shall then decide how such discoveries are to be dealt with, taking due account of the law of the State in which the works are carried out. The Contractor shall take reasonable precautions to prevent his workmen or any other persons from removing or damaging any such article or thing and shall immediately upon discovery thereof and before removal acquaint SPC of such discovery.

### Ownership of paid material and work

- 9.12 All material and work covered by payments made by SPC to the Contractor shall thereupon become the sole property of SPC.

### Defect liability period

- 9.13 During a period of 12 months, calculated from the date of completion of the works, the Contractor shall be bound to SPC by a defect liability period. During this period, the Contractor shall finish the work outstanding, if any, and execute all such work of repair, amendment, reconstruction, rectification. Further, the Contractor shall make good defects, imperfections, shrinkages, or other faults as may be required of the Contractor in writing by SPC. The Contractor shall also be liable for any damage to the works occasioned by him in the course of any operations carried out during the defect liability period.

- 9.14 All such outstanding work shall be carried out by the Contractor at his own expense if, in the opinion of SPC, the necessity thereof is due to the use of material or workmanship not in accordance with the Contract, or to neglect or failure on the part of the Contractor to comply with any obligation expressed or implied, on the Contractor's part under the Contract. For this purpose, SPC may withhold payment of minimum 5% of the remuneration as a defect liability bond pending expiry of the defect liability period for claims relating to defects. The Contractor may redeem this bond by providing a defect liability guarantee.

## 10 TERMS OF PAYMENT

- 10.1 No invoice shall be submitted by the Contractor until the corresponding milestone has been formally accepted by SPC in accordance with the terms of the Contract. The payment term of 30 (thirty) days runs from the day the invoice is accepted by SPC, after successful completion of the related milestone.
- 10.2 Each invoice shall mention the reference number of the Contract/Purchase Order and shall be issued in the legal name and address of SPC's Headquarters or Regional office as follows:
- The Pacific Community SPC Headquarters**  
**95 Promenade Roger Laroque**  
**P D5, 98848 Noumea Cedex**  
**New Caledonia**
- 10.3 The contractually agreed price is not subject to any adjustment or revisions because of currency fluctuations or conversion rates, or the actual costs incurred by the Contractor in the performance of the Contract.
- 10.4 The Contractor shall be solely responsible for the arrangement of any visas required and the payment of any tax or any other liabilities incurred during the provision of the Services.
- 10.5 SPC shall not be responsible for any expenses incurred by the Contractor in performing the Contract unless specifically stated in the Contract.

## 11 OFFICIAL NOT TO BENEFIT

- 11.1 The Contractor warrants that no official of SPC has received or will be offered by the Contractor any direct or indirect benefit arising from the Contract or the award thereof. The Contractor agrees that breach of this provision is a breach of an essential term of the Contract.

## 12 INDEMNIFICATION

- 12.1 The Contractor shall indemnify, hold and save harmless, and defend, at its own expense, SPC, its officials, agents, servants and employees from and against all suits, claims, demands, and liability of any nature or kind, including their costs and expenses, arising out of acts or omissions of the Contractor, or the Contractor's employees, officers, agents or sub-contractors, in the performance of the Contract. This obligation does not extend to actions and omissions of SPC.

- 12.2 This provision shall extend, inter alia, to claims and liability in the nature of workmen's compensation, products liability and liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property by the Contractor, its employees, officers, agents, servants or sub-contractors.
- 12.3 The obligations under this clause do not lapse upon termination of the Contract.

## 13 FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

- 13.1 The Contractor shall adhere to the highest standard of ethical conduct and not engage in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices.
- 13.2 The Contractor agrees to bring allegations of corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices arising in relation to the Contract, of which the Contractor has been informed or has otherwise become aware, promptly to the attention of SPC.
- 13.3 For purposes of these General Terms and Conditions, the following definitions shall apply:
- (i) **"corruption"** means the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. It may include improperly influencing the actions of another party or causing harm to another party. The gain or benefit may be for the person doing the act or for others.
  - (ii) **"fraud"** means any dishonest act or omission that causes loss or detriment to SPC or results in an unauthorised benefit or advantage to either the person(s) acting or omitting or to a third party. The act or omission can be either deliberate or reckless in relation to the harm caused or the benefit or advantage obtained.
- 13.4 Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle SPC to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, at no cost to SPC.

## 14 INSURANCE AND LIABILITIES TO THIRD PARTIES

- 14.1 SPC shall have no responsibility for the purchase of any insurance which may be necessary in respect to any loss, injury, damage or illness occurring during the execution by the Contractor of the present Contract.
- 14.2 The Contractor will hold insurance against all risks in respect of its employees, sub-contractors, property and equipment used for the execution of the Contract, including appropriate worker's compensation for personal injury or death.
- 14.3 The Contractor will also hold liability insurance in an adequate amount to cover third party claims for any claims arising from or in connection with the provision of services under the Contract.
- 14.4 The Contractor shall, upon request, provide SPC with satisfactory evidence of insurance cover as required under this clause.

## 15 ENCUMBRANCES/LIENS

- 15.1 The Contractor shall not cause or permit any lien, attachment or other encumbrance by any person to be placed on file or to remain on file in any public office or on file with SPC against any monies due or to become due for any work done or materials furnished under the Contract, or by reason of any other claim or demand against the Contractor.

## 16 TITLE TO EQUIPMENT FURNISHED BY SPC

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

## 17 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- 17.1 SPC is entitled to all intellectual property and other proprietary rights including but not limited to patents, copyrights, and trademarks, with regard to products, or documents and other materials which bear a direct relation to or are produced or prepared or collected in consequence of or in the course of the execution of the Contract. This includes derivative works created as a result of products created pursuant to the Contract. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that such products, documents and other materials constitute works made for hire for SPC.
- 17.2 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, SPC does not and shall not claim any ownership interest thereto, and the Contractor grants to SPC a perpetual license to use such intellectual property or other proprietary right solely for the purposes of and in accordance with the requirements of the Contract.
- 17.3 At SPC's request, the Contractor shall take all necessary steps, execute all necessary documents and generally assist in securing such proprietary rights and transferring them to SPC.
- 17.4 Subject to the foregoing provisions, all maps, drawings, photographs, mosaics, plans, reports, estimates, recommendations, documents, and all other data compiled by or received by the Contractor under the Contract shall be the property of SPC, shall be made available for use or inspection by SPC at reasonable times and in reasonable places, shall be treated as confidential, and shall be delivered only to SPC authorised officials on completion of work under the Contract.

## 18 TITLE TO DELIVERABLES

- 18.1 The Contractor warrants that the contractual deliverables are unencumbered by any third party's proprietary rights. Unless otherwise expressly provided in the Contract, title to contractual deliverables shall pass to SPC when they are handed over to it.

## 19 USE OF NAME, EMBLEM OR OFFICIAL SEAL OF SPC

- 19.1 The Contractor shall not advertise or otherwise make public for purposes of commercial advantage or goodwill the fact that it is a Contractor with SPC, nor shall the Contractor, in any manner whatsoever use the name, emblem or official seal of SPC, or any abbreviation of the name of SPC in connection with its business or otherwise without SPC's prior written approval.

## 20 CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION

- 20.1 All documents and information relating to the Contract as well as any other information of which the Contractor becomes aware in the course of performing the Contract that is not in the public domain must be treated as confidential during and beyond the term of the Contract. The Contractor shall not be permitted to make use of any such data and information for the Contractor's own purposes.
- 20.2 The Contractor may not communicate at any time to any other person, Government or authority external to SPC, any information known to it by reason of its association with SPC which has not been made public except with the authorisation of SPC; nor shall the Contractor at any time use such information to private advantage.
- 20.3 SPC undertakes to treat as confidential and not to disclose to any third-party information concerning the Contractor's trade secrets or business affairs disclosed by him for the purposes of the Contract.
- 20.4 These obligations do not lapse upon termination of the Contract.

## 21 USE OF AND LIABILITY FOR DATA

- 21.1 The Contractor's use of all data supplied to him by SPC is restricted exclusively to the purpose of performing his obligations under the Contract.
- 21.2 The Contractor must ensure that personal data is processed in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations and general principles on the protection of personal data. Where the Contractor is to process personal data on behalf of SPC, such processing will be governed by and carried out in accordance with [SPC's Privacy Policy](#).

## 22 TAX EXEMPTION

- 22.1 Under host country agreements and legislation of SPC members conferring privileges and immunities, as an intergovernmental organization, SPC is exempt from all direct taxes, except charges for public utility services, and is exempt from customs duties and charges of a similar nature in respect of articles imported or exported for its official use. In the event any governmental authority refuses to recognise SPC's exemption from such taxes, duties or charges, the Contractor shall immediately consult with SPC to determine a mutually acceptable procedure.
- 22.2 The Contractor authorises SPC to deduct from the Contractor's invoice any amount representing such taxes, duties or charges, unless the Contractor has consulted with SPC before the payment thereof and SPC has, in each instance, specifically authorised the Contractor to pay such taxes, duties or charges under protest. In that event, the Contractor shall provide SPC with written evidence that payment of such taxes, duties or charges has been made and appropriately authorised.
- 22.3 The Contractor is responsible for payment of their own income taxes.

## 23 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 23.1 The Contractor must take all the necessary measures to prevent any situation of conflict of interest or professional conflicting interest.

23.2 The Contractor must notify SPC in writing as soon as possible of any situation that could constitute a potential conflict of interest during the performance of the Contract. The Contractor must immediately take action to rectify the situation. SPC may do any of the following:

- (i) verify that the Contractor's action is appropriate,
- (ii) require the Contractor to take further action within a specified deadline.

## 24 SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

24.1 SPC has committed to ethically and sustainably managing social and environmental risks and impacts of its activities through its [Social and Environmental Responsibility Policy](#).

24.2 Accordingly, SPC requires the Contractor to comply with the following obligations as set out in [SPC's Chapter XI Manual of Staff Policies](#).

### Child protection

24.3 The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it, nor any of its suppliers is engaged in any practice inconsistent with the rights set forth in [the Convention on the Rights of the Child](#). This includes, among other things, Article 3 which requires the best interests of the child to be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children; Article 32 which protects children from economic exploitation and child labour; and Article 34 which protects children from sexual exploitation and abuse.

Where the Contractor is providing services directly related to or involving children, the Contractor will either have its own Child protection policy in place or use its best endeavours to act in accordance with the principles of [SPC's child protection policy](#).

The Contractor agrees to bring allegations of any abuse or exploitation of children arising in relation to the Contract, of which the Contractor has been informed or has otherwise become aware, promptly to the attention of SPC.

24.4 Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle SPC to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, at no cost to SPC.

### Human rights

24.5 The Contractor is committed to respecting, and acting in a manner which avoids infringing on, human rights, and ensures that they are not complicit in human rights abuses committed by others.

24.6 Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle SPC to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, at no cost to SPC.

### Gender equality and social inclusion

24.7 SPC is committed to progress gender equality and social inclusion in all area of its work. The Contractor is expected to respect gender equality and diversity in the workplace.

24.8 The Contractor is expected to have measures in place to ensure equal pay for work of equal value, to prevent bullying and any forms discrimination; and to ensure a safe workplace environment for women and men of all diversities.

### Sexual harassment, sexual abuse or sexual exploitation

24.9 SPC will not tolerate any form of sexual harassment, abuse or exploitation. As per [Chapter XI of SPC's Manual of Staff Policies](#), the Contractor shall refrain from and shall take

all reasonable and appropriate measures to prohibit its employees or other persons engaged and controlled by it from engaging in sexual harassment, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

24.10 The Contractor agrees to bring allegations of sexual harassment, sexual abuse or sexual exploitation arising in relation to the Contract, of which the Contractor has been informed or has otherwise become aware, promptly to the attention of SPC.

24.11 For purposes of these General Terms and Conditions, the following definitions shall apply:

- (i) "sexual harassment" means behaviour that is unwelcome, unsolicited, unreciprocated of a sexual nature. It is behaviour that is likely to offend, humiliate or intimidate.
- (ii) "sexual abuse" means actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.
- (iii) "sexual exploitation" means any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust for sexual purposes. It includes profiting monetarily, socially, or politically from sexual exploitation of another.

24.12 Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle SPC to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, at no cost to SPC.

### Environmental responsibility

24.13 The Contractor must ensure a rational use and management of natural resources and ecosystems.

24.14 The Contractor shall use all efforts to prevent or, where not possible, to minimise the impact of their activities towards climate change and damage to the environment.

## 25 ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING/COUNTER TERRORISM FINANCING

25.1 SPC systematically carries out enhanced checks on the entities with which it collaborates to ensure that none of them is involved in money laundering or terrorism financing.

25.2 The Contractor agrees to take all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the funds received under the Contract are used for money laundering or for terrorism financing.

25.3 The Contractor agrees that the recipients of any amounts provided by SPC hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via: <https://scsanctions.un.org/fop/fop?xml=htdocs/resources/xml/en/consolidated.xml&xslt=htdocs/resources/xsl/en/consolidated.xsl>

25.4 For purposes of these General Terms and Conditions, the following definitions shall apply:

- (i) "money laundering" means the conversion or transfer of property, knowing that such property is the proceeds of crime, for the purpose of concealing or disguising the illicit origin of the property or of helping any person who is involved in the commission of the predicate offence to evade the legal consequences of his or her actions, or the concealment or disguise of the true nature, source, location, disposition, movement or ownership of or rights with respect to property, knowing that such property is the proceeds of crime.

(ii) "terrorism financing" means directly or indirectly, unlawfully and wilfully, provides or collects funds with the intention that they should be used or in the knowledge that they are to be used, in full or in part, in order to carry out acts of terrorism.

25.5 Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle SPC to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, at no cost to SPC.

## 26 GOVERNING LAW AND OBSERVANCE OF THE LAW

26.1 These General Terms and Conditions will be governed by the general principles of international law to the exclusion of any single national system of law. General principles of law shall be deemed to include the UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts 2016.

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

## 27 AUTHORITY TO MODIFY

27.1 No modification or change, nor waiver of any of the provisions of the Contract and/or these General Terms and Conditions will be valid and enforceable against SPC unless provided by an amendment to the Contract signed by the authorised official of SPC.

27.2 If the Contract shall be extended before its expiry for additional periods in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract, the terms and conditions applicable to any such extended term of the Contract shall be the same terms and conditions as set forth in the Contract, unless the Parties shall have agreed otherwise pursuant to a valid amendment concluded in accordance with Article 27.1, above.

## 28 FORCE MAJEURE AND OTHER CHANGES IN CONDITIONS

28.1 Force majeure for the purposes of these General Terms and Conditions means 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 Parties.

28.2 In the event of the occurrence of any cause constituting force majeure and within fifteen (15) days of the occurrence of the force majeure event, the affected Party shall give notice and full particulars in writing to the other Party, of such occurrence or cause if the affected Party is thereby rendered unable, wholly or in part, to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under the Contract. The affected Party should notify the other Party of any other changes in conditions or the occurrence of any event which interferes or threatens to interfere with its performance of the Contract.

28.3 The notice shall include steps proposed by the affected Party to be taken, including any reasonable alternative means for performance that is not prevented by force majeure. On receipt of the notice or notices required hereunder, the Party not affected by the occurrence of a cause constituting force majeure shall take such action as it reasonably considers to be appropriate or necessary in the circumstances, including the granting to the affected Party of a reasonable extension of time in which to perform any obligations under the Contract.

28.4 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, SPC shall have the right to suspend or terminate the Contract on the same terms and conditions as are provided for in clause 29 "Termination", except that the period of notice shall be seven (7) days instead of thirty (30) days.

## 29 TERMINATION

29.1 Either party may terminate the Contract for cause, in whole or in part, with fifteen (15) days' written notice to the other party. The initiation of arbitration proceedings in accordance with clause 30 "Settlement of Disputes" below shall not be deemed a termination of the Contract.

29.2 SPC reserves the right to terminate without cause the Contract, at any time with thirty (30) days written notice to the Contractor, in which case SPC shall pay the Contractor for all reasonable costs incurred by the Contractor prior to receipt of the notice of termination.

29.3 In the event of any termination of the Contract by SPC, no payment shall be due from SPC to the Contractor except for work and services satisfactorily performed in conformity with the express terms of the Contract. The Contractor shall take immediate steps to terminate the work and services in a prompt and orderly manner and to minimise losses and further expenditure.

29.4 Should the Contractor be adjudged 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, SPC may, without prejudice to any other right or remedy it may have, terminate the Contract forthwith. The Contractor shall immediately inform SPC of the occurrence of any of the above events.

## 30 SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

30.1 The Parties will use their best efforts to settle amicably any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of, or relating to the Contract or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof.

30.2 If a dispute is not settled within sixty (60) days of one Party notifying the other of a request for amicable settlement, the dispute can be referred by either Party to arbitration in accordance with the general principles of international law. The arbitration will be governed by the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as at present in force. The arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award punitive damages. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of any such controversy, claim or dispute.

## 31 PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

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