

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ



Ministry of Environment and Energy

Male', Republic of Maldives.

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Ref No: (IUL)438-ENV/438/2017/201

Date: 12 Oct 2017

Invitation for Expressions of Interest

Minamata Initial Assessment for Maldives (Strengthen national decision making towards ratification of the Minamata Convention and build capacity towards implementation of future provisions): Recruitment of a Technical Advisor to assist development of Minamata Initial Assessment for Maldives

The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a major international treaty aiming at protecting human health and the environment from anthropogenic (man-made) releases of mercury and mercury compounds. Mercury is considered as a dangerous pollutant and is listed by the WHO as one of the top ten chemicals of major public health concern. It can travel long distances through the oceans and the atmosphere, bio-accumulate in micro-organisms and bio-magnify along the food chain. Humans are exposed to mercury through emissions in the air and from eating certain foods (mainly marine fish) and this can pose significant health risks.

Maldives has received funding from the GEF to implement the Minamata Convention Initial Assessment (MIA) in order to adequately prepare for acceding to and effectively implementing the Minamata Convention.

The Ministry of Environment and Energy invites individual consultants to submit their expressions of interest and financial proposal to be as a Technical advisor to provide overall technical support to the National Project Team for helping to plan and oversee mercury emission data collection and analysis, and provide support in drafting the National Mercury Profile and Initial Assessment Report.

The Ministry of Environment and Energy now invites interested eligible **individual consultants** to submit their Expressions of Interest.

Interested consultants must provide following:

- Expression of Interest (letter)



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Date- 12 October 2017

No: (IUL)438-ENV/438/2017/201

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INTERNATINATONAL TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO ASSIST DEVELOPMENT
OF MINAMATA INITIAL ASSESSMENT FOR MALDIVES**

Duty Station:

Male', Maldives

Project Name:

Minamata Initial Assessment for Maldives (Strengthen national decision making towards ratification of the Minamata Convention and build capacity towards implementation of future provisions)

Description of Assignment:

Provide overall technical backstopping support to the National Project Team and be responsible for helping to plan and oversee data collection and analysis. Help national team to monitor and evaluate implementation of project activities, and provide support to draft the National Mercury Profile and Initial Assessment Report.

Duration of Assignment:

Approximately 25 consultancy days (out of which two missions to Male', Maldives, each for 5 days and 15 days of home-based consultancy).

BACKGROUND:

The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a major international treaty aiming at protecting human health and the environment from anthropogenic (man-made) releases of mercury and mercury compounds. Mercury is considered as a dangerous pollutant and is listed by the WHO as one of the top ten chemicals of major public health concern. It can travel long distances through the oceans and the atmosphere, bio-accumulate in micro-organisms and bio-magnify along the food chain.



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Humans are exposed to mercury through emissions in the air and from eating certain foods (mainly marine fish) and this can pose significant health risks.

The Government of Maldives represented by the Ministry of Environment and Energy, on 22 March 2016 sent letters to UNEP and to GEF expressing its commitments and confirmation that the country is taking meaningful steps towards becoming a Party to the Minamata Convention. The Republic of Maldives has ratified Basel (1992) Rotterdam (2006) and Stockholm (2006) Conventions.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

The project's objective is to undertake a Mercury Initial Assessment (MIA) to enable the Government of Maldives to determine the national requirements and needs for ratification of the Minamata Convention and establish a sound foundation to undertake future work towards the implementation of the Convention. The project is funded by the GEF, and the project framework, including envisaged activities, are entirely in line with the GEF Initial Guidelines for Enabling Activities for the Minamata Convention on Mercury (GEF/C.45/Inf.05).

The project will be implemented through NIM (national implementation modality) with the Ministry of Environment and Energy as the execution agency – the national partner. The Ministry is responsible to coordinate this project with relevant line ministries, government agencies, academia, universities and civil society.

The proposed project has been organized into the following components:

Component 1: Enabling environment for decision-making on the ratification of Minamata.

Component 2: Development of the National Mercury Profile and Mercury Initial Assessment Report.

Component 3: Monitoring and Evaluation

OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The International Technical Advisor will be responsible for helping to plan the overall activities under the project, contribute to the capacity building at the national level, advise with data collection, oversee data collection and data analysis, help to monitor and evaluate activities being implemented, and provide support in writing the National Mercury Profile and Initial Assessment Report. S/he will work closely with UN Environment and the Ministry of Environment and Energy. The overall supervision of the Project will be conducted jointly by UN Environment Project Coordinator and the Project Director. The outcome of the assignment will be developing National



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capacity needs and barriers (legal and functional) to meet the requirements of the Convention;

- Design and facilitate national capacity training(s) for both the National Project Team (including consultants collecting data) and key personnel of Government institutions. Prepare and deliver training materials as necessary. The trainings will be undertaken during the mission;
- Provide support to develop and analyze cost related to the implementation of the Convention and description of potential sources of funds, including existing bilateral sources;
- Jointly with National consultants assess existing legislation on the governance of mercury and its alternatives and identify gaps for meeting the Convention's requirements;
- Assist Preparation of recommendations on the pieces of legislation which need to be urgently updated and/or drafted for the ratification and further implementation of the Convention;
- Help to analyze environmental and health impact conducted to support government decisions;
- Through email and Skype contact, support the national team during preparation of the Mercury Inventory Level 2 to be conducted;
- Through the entire assignment period provide advisory support to the Project Team on mercury awareness-raising activities targeting decision makers and population groups at risk;
- Participate in the final workshop and present the results to the stakeholders (during the second mission to Maldives); reflect provided comments in the assessment report (if relevant);
- Review and provide inputs into project reports as requested by the UN Environment, GEF and Ministry;
- Take a leading role in drafting the National Mercury Profile, based on the Mercury inventory, and support the national team in its presentation;





- Advise the Ministry of Environment and Energy and Project team on the establishment of a National Mercury Coordination/Consultation Mechanism (to initiate policy discussions and define country strategy and specific steps for the ratification of the Convention);
- Assist and provide guidance on any other technical issues arising within the project as needed

DELIVERABLES AND TIMETABLE

Deliverables	Time-table (payment)
1. Advance payment	20% of the total upon signing of contract
Deliverable 2. Upon submission of work plan; Preparation of Inception Report based on inception workshop and first mission to Male'; Provision of trainings on Awareness-raising and Capacity Building during the first mission to Male'; Support the national level consultations on the data collection, organization and analysis as well as national mercury profile formulation; Oversee data collection and data analysis delivered by national consultants; Help to develop a methodology for the Mercury inventory by using toolkit for Mercury Inventory Level 2	20% of the total amount
Deliverable 3. Assist the national team in assessing national legislation on the mercury (and its alternatives) use/management and prepare recommendations to identify gaps for meeting the Convention's requirements; Together with the local legal consultant prepare recommendations on the pieces of legislation, which need to be updated; propose national decision-making structure on mercury for strengthening legal and regulatory framework on mercury governance;	20% of the total amount
Deliverable 4. Support the national consultants on the preparation of the National Mercury Profile, based on the Mercury Inventory and first draft of the Mercury Initial Assessment Report; Prepare Progress report on project activities.	20% of the total amount





Total: 100%

Point system for the evaluation:

REQUIRED SKILLS, EXPERIENCE AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

- Minimum Master's degree or equivalent in environmental sciences/engineering/policy/management or natural sciences
- Minimum 7 years of experience in preparation of national reports and assessments related to chemicals in the environment.
- Record of experience in assisting countries in implementation of various international treaties applicable to chemicals and waste/hazardous waste; Record of specific experience with Mercury inventories, especially Level 2 will be an asset
- Demonstrable experience in designing and providing capacity building trainings to stakeholders;
- Prior UN agencies /GEF project experience and knowledge of UN agencies and GEF procedures and guidelines is an advantage.
- Previous experience working in Small Island Developing will be an asset
- Advantage of the proposed methodology and work approach;
- Fluency in written and spoken English.

COMPETENCIES

- Demonstrated commitment to UN Environment's mission, vision and values;
- Sensitivity and adaptability to cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age;
- Highest standards of integrity, discretion and loyalty.
- Advanced computer skills including Microsoft Office and web-based applications;
- Proven ability to deliver quality output working under tight deadlines;
- Excellent communication and facilitation skills;
- Ability to work together with UN Environment Project Manager, the Project Team;
- Ability to work in a complex environment with different national and international experts;
- Planning, organizing;
- Analytical thinking.
- Respond positively to feedback and differing points of view;



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CONTRACT PAYMENT

- 1st tranche/ advance payment - 20% of the total amount
- 2nd tranche – 20% of the total amount;
- 3rd tranche – 20% of the total amount;
- 4th tranche – 20% of the total amount;
- 5th tranche – 20% of the total amount;

