



Terms of Reference

Trade and Facilitation Expert

1. Background

1.1 The Oceania Customs Organization (OCO) was established in 1986 by the Heads of Oceania Customs Administrations to promote efficiency and effectiveness in all aspects of Regional Customs Administrations. The OCO has a membership of 23 countries and territories from the Pacific region, and its principal activity is facilitating and where appropriate assisting member administrations to align with Customs international standards and best practice, leading to greater economic prosperity and increased border security within the Oceania region.

1.2 OCO is partnering with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) through EDF11 Funding to improve trade facilitation through the regions trading potential and enhancing export competitiveness, reduce costs of essential imports and improve transparency.

2. Terms of Reference

2.1 The terms of reference for the Trade Facilitation Experts are to:

- i) Conduct an assessment on the level of implementation of the Customs-related measures contained in the WTO TFA, RKC, and EPA.
- ii) Review existing Customs procedures for Export, Import and Transit and conduct relevant trainings.
- iii) Provide recommendations on Gaps identified and provide an action plan to address identified Gaps
- iv) Validation of the Action Plan and assist OCO members to implement Action Plan.
- v) Provision of Progress and Final Reports
- vi) Develop Trade Facilitation Assessment Framework including Time Release Study
- vii) FTA (including i-EPA) Compliance
- viii) Improve Customs-Business Partnership

3. Evaluation Criteria

3.1 Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

| Content of Application | Percentage |
|--|------------|
| Relevant Qualification and Specialized trainings in Trade Facilitation and Customs | 20% |
| Demonstrated Relevant Trade Facilitation Experience in the Oceania Region | 40% |
| Demonstrated Knowledge and Experience of International Trade and Customs | 25% |
| Cost | 15% |



4. Qualifications & Skills

4.1 The Trade Facilitation Experts for this engagement are required to have the following relevant qualifications and skills:

Education/Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree or higher, in International Trade, Business Administration, Economics, Trade and Development or related fields, preferably a Master's Degree in these fields or equivalent. Specialized trainings in Customs and Trade Facilitation, or the equivalent are desirable.
- Minimum 15 years of practical experience in International Trade and preferential Trade arrangements in Oceania countries as well as on matters concerning Customs operations, Trade Facilitation, and Determination of Rules of Origin of Goods, among other relevant works.
- Demonstrated experience in performing similar assignments in Trade Facilitation, Customs Modernization, Customs Automation and/or application of Risk Management, in the Oceania region is an asset.

5. Governance and Management

5.1 The Trade Facilitation Experts will work in close collaboration with both, the Trade & Revenue Management Advisor and Customs Enforcement Advisor, however, under the direct supervision of the Operations Manager.

6. Contract Duration:

6.1 Work activities for the Trade Facilitation Experts will be spread over a period of **2 years**.