



Advert

Consultancy: Concept Note for the commemoration of the Day of the African Child (DAC) 2016

The Community Law Centre’s Children’s Rights Project is calling for a consultant to produce a concept note for the commemoration of the Day of the African Child (DAC) 2016 on the theme, “Conflict and Crisis in Africa: Protecting all children’s rights”.

The Community Law Centre (CLC) is a member of a consortium of child-rights focused organisations that, together with the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), and the Department of Social Affairs of the African Union Commission, administer the ‘African Children’s Charter Project’ (ACCP). The ACCP is aimed at supporting the ACERWC in effectively fulfilling its mandate to promote and protect children’s rights in terms of the African Children’s Charter. The Children’s Rights Project of the CLC, which is the lead partner on activities relating to the drafting of general comments and concept notes for the annual DAC, among others, hereby makes this call.

The ACERWC is mandated by article 42(a) of the African Children’s Charter to promote and protect the rights enshrined in the Charter. In this regard, the ACERWC has taken the lead role in the celebration of the Day of the African Child, established by the then Organization of African Unity in commemoration of the uprising by school children in apartheid South Africa, resulting in the shooting of innocent children. The ACERWC sets a theme each year for the celebrations, focusing attention on an issue affecting children to which AU member states have committed themselves to address. The theme is elaborated in a Concept Note shared with all AU Member States, Civil Society Organisations and Child-focused Organisations to guide the celebrations for the Day and follow-on steps to ensure that the selected thematic focus is sustained through and by future action.

During its 25th ordinary session in April 2015, the ACERWC decided on the theme for the Day of the African Child for 2016 as “Conflict and Crisis in Africa: Protecting all children’s rights”.

Objective of the Consultancy:

The primary objective of this consultancy is to draft the Concept Note for the celebration of the 2016 Day of the African Child on the theme, “Conflict and Crisis in Africa: Protecting all children’s rights”.

Specific Objectives:

The draft Concept Note will be expected to meet the following objectives:

- Set out the situational context of conflict and crisis in Africa and the impact on children;
- Highlight the challenges in ensuring that conflicts and crises are eliminated from Africa;
- Note the importance of Article 22 and other relevant provisions of the African Children’s Charter and other relevant African human rights instruments in safeguarding girls and boys in Africa from conflicts and crises and their attendant consequences;
- Emphasize the importance of creating and maintaining a safe and conducive environment for children to grow, develop and mature properly during the period of childhood;
- Highlight examples of best practice in the elimination of conflict and crisis situations across Africa;
- Make recommendations for a holistic and integrated approach to eliminating conflicts and crises in Africa;

- Make recommendations on some strategic ways in which the Day of the African Child on the specified theme can be celebrated; and
- Develop a monitoring framework for the celebration of the DAC for the use of AU member states to assist the ACERWC in monitoring national progress of the DAC 2016 on the theme, “Conflict and Crisis in Africa: Protecting all children’s rights”.

Expected Outcome:

The Consultant will be expected to submit a Draft Concept Note including a Monitoring Framework on the theme for the 2016 Day of the African Child for consideration and adoption by the ACERWC.

Scope of Work:

The Consultant will be at liberty to consult members of the ACERWC, the Secretariat of the ACERWC and the DSA-AUC for relevant information and policy directives on how to protect children from the impacts of conflicts and crises in Africa, while ensuring that the child protection agenda is promoted and upheld in conflict and crisis situations across the continent. The Consultant may also consult child-focused organisations and other human rights organisations whose expertise, input and contribution will be necessary for the completion of the task. The Consultant may also rely on the Charter and other relevant African human rights instruments and AU policy documents, declarations and resolutions. The Consultant may also adopt any other appropriate methodology for collecting information to assist in drafting the Concept Note.

Time Frame:

The Consultant will be expected to complete the task within ten (10) working days commencing on 31st August 2015 and ending on 11th September 2015. Any work carried out on week-ends and public holidays within the stipulated time-frame are not factored into the calculation of remuneration for the Consultancy.

Working environment:

The Consultant will work from his/her duty station. For the purposes of the reporting framework, e-mail communication between the Consultant and CLC will be considered official communication.

Transmission of the document and draft to the Chairperson of the ACERWC through the Secretariat as well as progress report will be done by CLC via e-mail.

The Committee and other stakeholders will make their comments and inputs on the draft Concept Note within a period of 10 days after submission of the first draft by the Consultant. These comments will thereafter be forwarded to the Consultant by the Secretariat of the Committee and/or the CLC.

The Consultant shall thereafter have five (5) working days within which to incorporate the comments (28th September-02 October 2015) and finalise a second draft.

The second draft shall thereafter be submitted to the CLC and/or the Secretariat of the ACEWRC ahead of the 26th ordinary session of the ACERWC (October 2015) when it will be presented to the ACERWC for an additional round of comments.

Comments received shall thereafter be transmitted to the Consultant by the CLC after which the consultant shall have an additional five (5) working days within which to incorporate the comments (02-06 November 2015) and finalise a third and final draft.

Final documents will be submitted to the CLC and/or the Secretariat of the ACEWRC for onward transmission to the Chairperson of the ACERWC.

Reporting lines:

The Consultant will work under the direct supervision and guidance of the CLC contact person and the Secretary of the ACERWC. However, the Consultant will be expected to liaise and consult directly with the CLC for financial matters.

Qualifications and Experience:

The Consultant must possess the following qualifications, expertise and experience:

- A Post Graduate degree in social science, human rights law, children's rights or other related discipline;
- Experience in working in social and cultural rights context;
- Experience in conducting multi-disciplinary and multi-country research;
- Experience and/or research in working with or on inter-governmental bodies and treaty-bodies;
- Excellent drafting and communications skills are a must;
- Extensive knowledge and experience of the African Union, the African human rights system, and in particular, the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child are essential;
- Proven track record of professional delivery on tasks, ensuring high quality of work with agreed deadlines; and
- Knowledge of French is desirable.

Remuneration:

The Consultant will be paid a total amount of US\$5000 (five thousand United States Dollars, broken down as follows:

- US\$500 per day x 10days = US\$5000.

The payment schedule will be as follows:

- 30% upon signing of contract; and
- 70% upon submission of a final acceptable draft

Documentation:

The title rights, copyrights and all other rights of whatever nature in any materials used or generated under the provisions of this Consultancy will exclusively be vested with the Secretariat of the ACERWC.

Application process:

The following should be included in the application:

- A cover letter
- A brief curriculum vitae

- A two-page proposal on how the Consultant intends to carry out the tasks under the Consultancy
- A minimum of three (3) contactable referees

A complete application should be submitted no later than Friday, 21st August 2015 at 1600 hours [South African time (GMT +2)] to:

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Copying:

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Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and a final decision reached no later than Friday, 28th August 2015.