

Term of Reference

Event management service for the Orientation on Strengthening Pharmaceutical Capacities in Africa: through collaboration between AU recognized Regional Economic Communities of Africa and the People's Republic of China

Background

Since the 1960s, China has been involved in the health sector in Africa through medical assistance and missions of skilled personnel. A commitment to support Public Health and the local production on the continent was made at the 2nd Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) in December 2015 and framed in the Johannesburg Action Plan (2016-2018). Today, this priority is materialized in the volume of Chinese exports of medicines and medical products increased from 2.1 billion USD to 2.4 billion in 2017. Chinese companies have already invested to establish pharmaceutical plants in some African countries, including Ethiopia, South Africa, Mali and Uganda. However, the pharmaceutical production in sub-Saharan Africa lags behind comparable regions. According to data from the McKinsey report in 2019, The continent overall has roughly 375 drug makers, mostly in North Africa, to serve a population of around 1.3 billion people compared with over 5,000 companies serving a similar population in China. While in 2017, Africa is only producing 3% of the medicines consumed locally and bears 25% of the world's disease burden, the SDGs and Agenda 2063 targets of ending AIDS, TB and Malaria by 2030 will not be met without access to affordable and quality medicines. There is an urgent need to strengthen local manufacturing capabilities to ensure sustainable and equitable access to medicines towards achievement of Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

In this context, the African Union is encouraging an accelerated implementation of continental policies by Member States and Regional Economic Communities of (1) the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA) (Assembly/AU/Dec.55 (IV) EX.CL/Dec.361(XI)) endorsed by our Heads of State and Government at the summit in Accra in 2007 and (2) African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) Initiative established in 2009 by the NEPAD agency to address the lack of regulatory harmonization within the continent.

To enhance access to health, UNAIDS partnered with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the International Health Exchange and Cooperation Center of the National Health Commission (IHECC) to hold an orientation meeting on the theme Access to Medicine & Local Production Orientation from the 16th to 21st August 2018. This meeting took place in Beijing before the FOCAC and gathered 8 Member States (Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) including Ministers of Health, the African Union Commission Division of Health, Nutrition and Population, IHECC, private sector representatives from both sides to foster and leverage China-Africa partnerships in the pharmaceutical sector. Recommendations to establish win-win partnerships and reduce gaps in knowledge, infrastructures and financial resources were formulated at continental, regional and country levels.

The African Union (AU) 8 recognized Regional Economic Communities (RECs as listed below) and their respective Regional Health Organizations (RHOs) (established to address specific health issues;

for examples, the West African Health Organization (WAHO) in ECOWAS, the East African Health Research Commission (EAHRC) in ESA) will be playing an **increasing role in improving access to health and medicines regulatory harmonization in Africa** by enabling local manufacturers to grow within their respective regions.

- Arab Maghreb Union (UMA)
- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- Community of Sahel–Saharan States (CEN–SAD)
- East African Community (EAC)
- Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
- Southern African Development Community (SADC)

An assessment on the current status of the pharmaceutical manufacturing and regulatory capacities of the AU recognized RECs and RHOs is being carried out by the AUC and UNAIDS to identify the gaps in implementation of the PMPA and AMRH. Findings will be discussed at the occasion of a side-event involving the RECs health focal points on the sidelines of the 1st Mid-Year Coordination Meeting between the AU and the RECs in Niamey, Niger early July 2019.

FORMAT

Building upon the recommendations of the first orientation meeting and the findings of the assessment of RECs pharmaceutical capabilities, a second orientation meeting is expected to be organized by UNAIDS in partnership with Gates Foundation and China National Health Commission(NHC) to address the specific needs of the RECs and Regional Health Organizations in a form of (1) a roundtable with Chinese counterparts to share knowledge on existing initiatives and create opportunities of partnerships (Beijing) and (2) visits of Chinese pharmaceutical plants (Suzhou and Shanghai). Participants are expected to arrive on 23rd February 2020 and departure on either evening flight of 28th February or 29th February according to the ticket availability.

Mission Date: 24-28 February 2019

To this end, due to limited human resources for logistic support, UNAIDS China Country Office outsources a well-qualified and competitive service provider to provide event management support for the above-mentioned mission.

Timeframe

- Proposed contract start date: 13 January to 31 March 2020

Scope of Services and expected deliverables

- **Facilitate delegation's honorarium**

The vender will pay honorarium to the delegates around CNY 400 per person per day (maximum 6 day according to the exact day's stay in China)

- **Airport and other local transportation for programme purpose**

The vender is required to provide terminal transportations to transfer the delegates from/to the airport and train station.

Group transportation from the hotel to the meeting venues and various sites should be organized by the vender. Any other transportation needs not part of the programme should be arranged by the participants themselves at their own cost. The vender will oversee local transportation via shuttle bus in Beijing, Suzhou and Shanghai. Travel from Suzhou to Shanghai will be by shuttle bus. The vender is asked to provide the arrangement for the transportation for the shuttle bus.

- **Accommodation and meals**

Accommodation should be secured for all delegates by the vender on a single room bed and breakfast basis for the entire duration of the mission in Beijing, Suzhou and Shanghai. Please note that any additional charges will be covered by participants with their incidental. The vender should cover the following arrangements:

- Accommodation in Beijing from 23rd to 24th and 27th, 28th February 2020 (4 nights)
- Accommodation in Suzhou from 25th February 2020 (1 night)
- Accommodation in Shanghai from 26th February 2020 (1 night)
- Dinner on 23rd February and all meals from 24th to 28th February

Note: Accommodation in Beijing, Suzhou and Shanghai should within CNY 845 per night including breakfast; Lunch and Dinner should within CNY 250 for each meal.

- **Conference related arrangement**

The vender is required to secure the meeting venues for the orientation session in Beijing, preferably in the same hotel as the accommodation. The vender is also expected to provide other conference related arrangement, including but not limited to VIP rooms, LED backdrop, flowers, setting, printing, equipment, tea breaks and related services.

- **Consultancy**

The vender is required to hire photographer, interpreter, rapporteur for supporting the meeting throughout the event.

Budget

The budget should be calculated in Chinese Yuan.

**See attached budget proposal template.*

Payment Modality

UNIADS will allocate the 50% upon countersigned contract; 50% upon receipt of invoice and satisfactory completion of work.

Request Profile of the bidding vendor

- Relevant event management experience over 10 years; Working experience with UN agencies will be desirable
- Strong skills of logistic arrangement for workshops/meetings.

- Demonstrated ability to work in details, fast track requirement and solve problems under pressure.

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Bidding process

Potential vender is invited to submit a budget proposal for the above subject to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, UNAIDS. No later than **00:00, 23rd December 2019**, the bidder shall complete and return by email to UNAIDS:

- **Email for submissions of acknowledgement:** China@unaids.org
- **Email subject:** RFP-AU Orientation