



A NEW
PERSPECTIVE
ON TB DRUG
PROCUREMENT.

General Notice

GLOBAL TB DRUG FACILITY

Search for Procurement Agent

The *Global TB Drug Facility (GDF)*, housed within the World Health Organization, is seeking a qualified *Procurement Agent (PA)* to manage the *purchase of first-line*¹ anti-Tuberculosis (TB) drugs and related supplies**²* from an existing number of prequalified manufacturers for delivery to GDF customers around the world. The anti-TB drugs and related supplies are expected to have a *value of approximately US\$40 million per annum* and will be financed through the GDF.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued by GDF to procurement agents who have expressed interest in becoming the PA and who meet the minimum requirements listed below.

Procurement agents interested in becoming a GDF PA are invited to submit their Expressions of Interest (EOI), together with supporting documents, to the GDF.

Procurement agents will, at a minimum, be required to meet the following criteria in order to be eligible to receive the RFP from GDF:

- 1) At least 3 years of experience in purchasing pharmaceutical and other commodities from foreign-based manufacturers on behalf of governmental and/or non-governmental organizations operating internationally.
 - Please provide a comprehensive list of (a) clients/countries purchased from, (b) types of commodities purchased with the corresponding value per type of commodity, and (c) clients/countries supplied to in the past 3 years.
 - Please submit general company information, including a recently *Certified Statement from the Chamber of Commerce* and *Certified Annual Reports* from the past 3 years.
- 2) Experience in issuing Limited International Competitive Bids (LICB) and awarding contracts based on adjudication thereof for purchasing pharmaceuticals and other commodities.

¹* The PA will be required to purchase primarily *first-line* TB drugs and related supplies - as opposed to *second line* TB drugs required for the treatment of multi-drug resistant (MDR) TB. However, circumstances may arise where the PA may also be called upon to procure *second line* TB drugs and related commodities.

²** Commodities – consumables and non-consumables – required for the diagnosis of TB and drugs required for TB-HIV preventative therapy e.g. Isoniazid and Co-trimoxazole.

- Please provide at least 2 examples of LICBs issued, a description of the award process and at least 2 examples of resulting contract(s) from the same LICB. Confidential details may be deleted, if necessary.
- 3) Experience in monitoring and appraising the performance of pharmaceutical manufacturers and other subcontractors.
- Please provide a comprehensive, yet detailed description of the parameters monitored for suppliers and at least 2 examples of monitoring reports.
- 4) Experience in (a) issuing Limited International Competitive Bids (LICB) and awarding contracts for pre-shipment inspections including laboratory analysis for the pharmaceutical products purchased and/or (b) organization and management of pre-shipment inspections and laboratory analyzes for the pharmaceuticals and other commodities purchased.
- Please provide an example of an LICB issued and adjudicated and/or of established procedures for the management of pre-shipment inspections and laboratory analyzes of drugs supplied internationally during the past 3 years.
- 5) Experience in issuing International Competitive Bids (ICB) and awarding contracts for shipping and insurance at preferential rates and/or arranging and managing of shipping and transport insurance contracts.
- Please provide details of freight forwarding contracts that are currently in place or were executed in the past for the shipment and insurance of goods to be supplied internationally, including freight rates and transit times and shipping agent details. It is expected that the PA, if necessary, can provide air freight and sea freight alternatives for outbound traffic from India (Mumbai) and The Netherlands (Amsterdam, Rotterdam) to destinations including, but not limited to: Africa, Central, South and South East Asia, Eastern Europe and the Caribbean.
- 6) Ability to offer, manage and maintain an internet-based data collection and processing system capable of (a) allowing clients to place order requests electronically, (b) informing clients/consignees, GDF, manufacturers, subcontractors and other interested parties of the day to day progress of the procurement and supply process, and (c) generating reports on the procurement and supply process. This internet-based system should be able to receive direct data inputs including procurement orders and order status from contracted manufacturers, inspection agents and transport companies.
- Please provide details of the existing internet based system utilized or the system to be put into operation by your organization (in case of latter specify expected date of operationalization).
- 7) Ability to effectively manage a buffer stock of priority TB drugs and related supplies (either directly or via a sub-contractor) which are subject to internationally recognized standards for storage and distribution, for rapid delivery to select destinations around the globe.

- Please provide details on your organizations capacity to establish and manage a buffer stock.
- 8) Possess an adequate number of experienced, qualified and capable staff.
- Please provide *Curriculum Vitae*s of the managers and core staff who would be involved in the tendering, contracting, ordering, delivery and monitoring of the purchases.

The supplied documents will be reviewed by GDF to ensure that minimum requirements have been met. Qualifying agents will receive the RFP in March 2006.

For this General Notice procurement agents in all countries are invited to express interest.

Please submit EOIs and supporting documentation to the address below before **16:00 hours, February 28 2006**. Please address any questions related to this EOI to the GDF at the e-mail address indicated below using the Subject: “*GDF EOI/PAs 2006*”.

STOP TB Partnership
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