Regional Program “Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia”

TERMS OF REFERENCE

for the Services of National Legal Consultant

TA-P111139-TAS-TF091437

Background

The regional program “Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia” (the “Program”) is aimed at putting in place improved forest governance arrangements through the effective implementation of the main priorities set out in the St. Petersburg Ministerial Declaration and Indicative Plan of Actions for the Europe and North Asia Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (ENA-FLEG) process.

The Program will be carried out over a three-year period, from July 2008 through June 2011. It will specifically cover seven countries of the ENA Region, including six members of the European Neighbourhood Policy Initiative (ENPI) – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine – and the Russian Federation.¹ The Program will support selected pilot activities to be implemented with the active involvement of governments, civil society and the private sector. Most activities will be at a country level, complemented by strategically targeted sub-regional and regional actions. It is also envisaged that the Program will facilitate preparation of the 2nd ENA-FLEG Ministerial Conference in 2010.

The Program is supported by the European Commission and other donors contributing to a special multi-donor trust fund administered by the World Bank (WB). Implementation of the Program is led by the World Bank, working in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) (all three collectively referred to as the “Implementing Organizations” or “IO’s”) and in close coordination with governmental and nongovernmental stakeholders of the participating countries.

Implementation of the program will depend on synchronization of Program activities between the IO’s, and their ability to communicate the agreed Program objectives with stakeholders. To this end, the IO’s have agreed to establish a Program Management Team (PMT) consisting of three Program Managers (PMs), one from each IO.

¹ Representatives of the five Central Asian countries – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan – may also be invited to participate in the Program’s subregional and regional activities.
**TASKS**

The Consultant will work in a team with one international and one additional local legal expert. The Consultant’s main tasks include:

- collection of available data and information on the existing legal regulatory framework in the forestry sector, and international conventions Azerbaijan is party to;
- collection of information on similar projects/activities/programs carried out in Azerbaijan in the forestry management sector (both on national and regional level);
- identification of inconsistencies (if any), within the local forestry legislative base, and between the local legal forestry framework and provisions of the relevant international conventions;
- support for stakeholder consultations to be carried out during the assignment (preparation of the consultation materials, communication with, and mobilization of stakeholder etc.)
- Support to the international consultant with draft amendments also changes and updates of National forest legislations if it necessary

The Consultant will work under the overall guidance and supervision of an International Legal Expert and in collaboration with another Local Legal Expert. The assignment should be closely coordinated with the other FLEG activities in Azerbaijan and regionally, as appropriate.

**TIMING AND REPORTING**

The duration of the assignment is 7 month, starting in December, 2010. The Consultant will contribute to the brief progress reports on a monthly basis\(^2\). The timing of the deliverables for which the Consultant shall provide his inputs will be as follows:

- first draft report – 2 months after commencement of the assignment (first reviewed by the Program Coordinator and then discussed with stakeholders);
- final draft report – 6 months after commencement of the assignment (first reviewed by the Program Coordinator and the then discussed with stakeholders);
- final report – within the last month of the assignment. The final version should incorporate all comments submitted by stakeholders, WB FLEG team, FLEG PCT, FLEG WB Program Coordinator.
- stakeholder consultations – throughout the whole duration of the assignment (precise schedule, audience and specific arrangements to be agreed with the FLEG WB Program Coordinator)

The Consultant will be guided by the International Legal Consultant and report to the FLEG WB Program Coordinator in Azerbaijan. The Consultant will provide the FLEG WB Program Coordinator with all information relevant to his assignment and area of expertise, as might be needed and requested, including inputs for press/media events, and publications on the national and regional ENPI/FLEG web-sites.

\(^2\) Monthly Progress Reports are to be prepared by the International Consultant, with inputs from the two Local Consultants
QUALIFICATIONS

The position requires an individual with proven experience and knowledge of legislation related to the forest and natural resources use and to the rights of local residents and small business. Consultant should have at least 10 years of relevant professional experience. The following specific qualifications should be met:

• Masters or advanced degree in a forest management and forestry legislation;
• Knowledge or experience with current forest or natural resource management and governance issues on national level. Regional experience is an advantage;
• Experience with issues on governance, public awareness and participation in decision making;
• Strong expertise in the development and implementation of applied research tools and survey methods;
• Wide experience of working with clients from governmental bodies, businesses, civil society, particularly NGOs;
• Proven team work experience in projects on national and local level;
• Ability to analyse and clearly articulate complex issues in an understandable fashion to decision-makers;
• Highly developed communication skills, including the preparation of high quality reports and the delivery of presentations;
• Ability to work under pressure, sometimes with extended hours, and to meet tight deadlines without compromising the quality of outputs;
• Ability to maintain confidentiality and use discretion when dealing with sensitive political issues;
• Knowledge of World Bank work globally and regionally is an asset;
• Computer literacy;
• Good command of oral and particularly written English is an asset; knowledge of Russian is an advantage;
• Cultural awareness and sensitivity to gender issues;
• Availability and willingness to travel within Azerbaijan.