



## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### **International Consultant on EU approximating Moldovan legal framework for the roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers**

<b>Job title:</b>	International Consultant on legal framework for the roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers
<b>Duty station:</b>	Chisinau, Moldova
<b>Reference to the project:</b>	Building Institutional Capacity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration
<b>Contract type:</b>	Individual Contract (IC)
<b>Expected workload:</b>	Up to 25 working days
<b>Starting date:</b>	July 2014

## **BACKGROUND:**

Relations between the Republic of Moldova (RM) and the European Union (EU) formally started with the signing of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) in 1994 that entered into force in 1998. The PCA established the basic principles of cooperation between RM and EU and was designed for a 10 year period.

The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement will soon be replaced by an Association Agreement which includes a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA). The documents provide for political association and economic integration and have been initialed in Vilnius in November 2013.

For the Republic of Moldova the AA represents a reform agenda which is based on a comprehensive program of legal harmonization with EU norms.

Exceeding the classical arrangements of free trade, DCFTA provides not only a mutual opening of markets for most goods and services but requires a gradual rapprochement of norms and standards such as

quality standards and rules, sanitary rules, intellectual property rights, trade facilitation, public procurement and competition, energy trade and other.

Except for European Economic Area and EU candidate states, never before has the EU opened its internal market to such an extent to a third country. This reality is possible due to the commitment of the Republic of Moldova to take over the *acquis communautaire*.

In exchange to effective implementation of EU legislation Moldova will gradually become part of the EU internal market.

A deeper economic integration through DCFTA will boost the country's economic growth, will create business opportunities and promote real economic modernization and integration into the EU. The direct result of establishing free trade area with EU is that citizens will benefit from higher quality and safer goods and services while manufacturers will be supported to access international markets.

UNDP and its international partners are committed to assist Moldova, through technical and financial assistance, in promoting costly legal and institutional reforms that DCFTA entails.

The Project "Building Institutional Capacity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (MFAEI)" aims at strengthening the institutional capacity of the MFAEI as lead institution in the AA negotiation process.

In the same context, the Project seeks to contribute to developing EU integration capacities of key line ministries through aligning relevant policies, administrative and institutional arrangements, legislation, procedures and best practices to EU standards and requirements.

Roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers in the Republic of Moldova are performed by 76 vehicle testing centers. All of them are private owned and authorized and supervised by the Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure (MTRI) and National Road Transport Agency. The Government Decision Nr.1047 from 8.11.1999 provides legal framework for roadworthiness tests and describes the procedures and requirements.

Many of the requirements of the Directive 2009/40/EC are already met in Government Decision Nr.1047. MTRI started to prepare amendments to this Decision and Law Nr.131 on Road Traffic Safety to ensure full compliance with the Directive 2009/40/EC. In addition, there is a need to specify the requirements for the technical condition of vehicles and equipment and the requirements for the assessment because no such requirements are specified in the Moldovan legislation.

Technical assistance to the Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure and National Road Transport Agency (hereinafter – the Beneficiaries) is needed to revise existing legislation and draft amendments prepared, revise operational practice of the Beneficiaries and prepare necessary legislative and operational acts for the full compliance with the EU requirements (Directive 2009/40/EC) and best practices in this field.

## **Objective**

The project will contract an International Consultant to consult the Beneficiaries in the area of roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers.

This objective should be met through the following activities:

## Key activities

- Assess and report on current situation – legislation, amendments to the legislative acts prepared, institutional arrangements, national procedures and documentation in the area of roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers;
- Develop, jointly with the Beneficiaries, a mission action plan for remedying gaps and lacks;
- Together with the Beneficiaries, draft legislative acts/amendments and supporting documentation (e.g. legislative impact analysis) for remedying gaps and lacks on implementation of EU requirements
- Together with the Beneficiaries, draft a package of operational documentation for the institutions involved, internal regulations, guidelines and manuals in compliance with EU requirements and EU best practices to ensure implementation of EU requirements and best practices;
- Present the final mission report during a workshop with Beneficiaries and other relevant stakeholders.

## Deliverables

- Report on the current situation of the legislation in force
- Mission Action Plan for removing deficiencies
- Draft legislative amendments, operational and supporting documentation (internal regulations, guidelines and manuals)
- Workshop with Beneficiaries including presentation of final mission report.

## Result

Moldovan legal framework for the roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers is approximated to relevant EU and International norms, standards and practices.

## Resources

25 working days (a minimum 18 of which in Moldova) within maximum two missions.

## Mission Schedule:

The mission shall be undertaken, tentatively, in the period July-September 2014 with detailed timetable to be agreed with the Beneficiaries.

The 25 working days allocated for this task should be used approximately as follows:

Deliverables, activities and milestones follow this tentative schedule:

Deliverable/milestone	Indicative timeframe
1. Preparatory Work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Inception study of available information;</li><li>- Preparation of a detailed work plan to be applied for the respective assignment, submitted to and agreed with the Beneficiary;</li></ul>	2 days
2. Report on gap analysis and needs assessment for harmonization of current national legislation, procedures and documentation in the sphere of security of roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers, based on EU requirements and best international practice prepared and submitted for approval;	4 days

3. Review the findings of the gap analysis and needs assessment with the Beneficiary and key stakeholders;	1 day
4. Draft report on the possible options, steps and actions (including timeline) needed to align Moldovan legislation with the EU requirements (Directive 2009/40/EC) and best practices prepared and submitted for approval;	4 days
5. Discussions and agreement with the Beneficiary on the steps, actions and main principles of implementation of the EU requirements;	1 days
6. Based on agreement reached, draft legislative acts and procedural documents, internal regulations, guidelines and manuals on how to apply the provisions of the EU requirements	10 days
7. Presentation on the specific requirements and procedures in the field of roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers and a plan for harmonization of the national legislation with the EU Directive 2009/40/EC drafted, submitted for approval, and delivered during a one-day workshop with representatives of key stakeholders;	2 days
8. Final report with mission findings and final recommendations drafted, submitted for approval and discussed with key stakeholders.	1 day
9. Total	25

All deliverables should be agreed with the UNDP and the Beneficiaries, and be provided in English or Romanian, in hard and electronic copy.

#### **Institutional arrangements:**

The International Consultant will work in close collaboration with the UNDP and the Beneficiaries – for substantive aspects of the assignment, and under the direct supervision of the Project Manager – for administrative aspects.

The International Consultant will be located in the premises of the Ministry of Transport and will work closely with the staff of Beneficiaries. The Ministry will provide the Consultant working space, access to Internet, printer and telephone line.

#### **Qualifications Required:**

##### Academic Qualification

- Bachelor's degree in Mechanics, Road construction, Economy, or other relevant to the assignment field. Bachelor's degree or Master's degree in Law would be an advantage;

##### Experience

- Minimum 10 years of work experience related with the supervision of the roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers in EU countries;
- Experience in transposing of EU requirements in the area of roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers into national procedures;
- Specific experience in supervision and authorization of private owned vehicle testing centers would be an advantage;
- Knowledge of and experience in assisting government institutions within projects funded by international organizations in the region, candidate or EU member states would be an asset;

#### Competencies

- Strong analytical and drafting skills.
- Ability to analyse, plan, communicate effectively with stakeholders and present ideas clearly and effectively.
- Demonstrated interpersonal and diplomatic skills.
- Ability to enter new environments, adapt quickly and produce immediate results.
- Computer literacy - competent user of Microsoft Office programs.

#### Language requirements

- Fluency in written and spoken English. Knowledge of Romanian or Russian would be an asset.

#### **Documents to be included when submitting the proposals:**

Interested individual consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:

- Proposal: explaining why they are the most suitable for the work;
- Financial proposal specifying a total lump sum amount;
- Personal CV including past experience in similar projects and **at least 3 references.**