



INTERGOVERNMENTAL STANDING COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING (ISCOS)

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR UNDERTAKING A STUDY ON THE STATE OF SHIPPING AND LOGISTICS ALONG THE EAST AFRICAN COAST & WESTERN ISLANDS: CURRENT STATUS, FREIGHT RATES TO AND FROM EAST AFRICA PORTS, DESTINATION CHARGES, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

1. BACKGROUND

ISCOS is an Intergovernmental maritime and shipping body established by Treaty in 1967 by the Governments of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia to protect and promote their Shipping and Maritime interests in the region. A permanent Secretariat headquartered in Mombasa, Kenya, was established in 1974.

In 2006, ISCOS's mandate was reviewed to realign its activities to the emerging challenges and opportunities of international trade and associated developments in the region. The transformation entailed expanding the Organisation's functions and mandate to cover the land bridge and the total logistical chain.

ISCOS' main objective is to serve the region and the international community as a one-stop centre of excellence for regional maritime matters and total logistics.

2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In the quest to fulfil its mandate, ISCOS requires to generate updated information on the state of maritime and shipping services in the Member States and the region at large to enable development of actionable areas to enhance efficiency and sustainability in the industry.

Currently, there are no local or regional coastal shipping services along the Western Indian Ocean coastline. This means that huge amounts of money are paid to foreign shipping companies through freight rates, insurance and other surcharges, thus denying the region much desired finances for investment.

In order to establish the extent of the problem within ISCOS Member States and the neighbouring countries, ISCOS intends to engage a consultant to review the state of both deep sea and coastal shipping along the Indian Ocean coastline and its environs to enable the Secretariat ascertain the adequacy of the shipping services, viability of establishing coastal shipping service (covering the main islands of the Western Indian Ocean); and engagement in the blue economy along the coast with the associated Islands. Additionally, in the quest of containing the cost of doing business through major ports of Mombasa, Dar es Salaam, Zanzibar and others, ISCOS wishes to take stock of the numerous destination and origin charges on imports and exports respectively. This is due the fact that there has been complaints from the consumers of the services on the number, types and rates levels of the service charges payable to service providers (shipping lines as well as other service providers) before getting the services, whose justification has always been questionable.

In addition, the Secretariat wants to know all the opportunities the ocean presents to the Member States and region at large for exploitation.

3. OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this assignment is to undertake a thorough study on the current state of coastal shipping covering Kenya and Tanzania (including Zanzibar/Pemba and other relevant Islands) coastline with a view of:

- a) Analysing the current state of shipping services, including capacity and charges for freight and passenger transportation.
- b) Analysing the destination and origin charges and surcharges on imports and exports respectively through ISCOS Member States main sea ports.
- c) Assess the adherence to international Conventions on marine environment, safety and security (including IMO amendment on SOLAS container VGM, FAL) by operators, national maritime administrators and relevant Other Government Agencies (OGAs).

- d) Reviewing existing studies and identifying gaps and investment opportunities (private, joint ventures, PPP) that can enhance and promote development and growth of the viable and efficient maritime and multimodal transport services in the region.
- e) Assess the possibility of venturing into the establishment a regional shipping line.
- f) Assess and identify the potential, size and untapped/underutilized investment opportunities and recommend the way forward for Sustainable Blue Economy in ISCOS Member States.
- g) Identify policy and operational solutions for sustainable coastal transportation.
- h) Identify the costs and challenges associated with container deposits/guarantees and suggest best options to minimize/eliminate them in line with global best practices.
- i) Make recommendations and conclusions.

4. SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work for the Consultant will include but not be limited to:

- a) Inception Report and Meeting for introduction and further clarification of issues;
- b) Conduct study to assess the current status, opportunities in establishing viable coastal shipping services and challenges facing deep sea and coastal shipping services, destination and origin charges/surcharges on imports and exports respectively;
- c) Develop a matrix of required activities to mitigate the challenges; and
- d) Propose policy changes (if any) and strategies for achieving the activity objectives and key results.

ISCOS is therefore seeking services of a qualified firm to undertake the above assignment.

5. EXPERTISE

The team leader needs to have relevant expertise preferably as stated below:

a) Academic Qualifications

At least a degree in the relevant field, preferably in the area of Shipping, Maritime Transport, Ports Management, Economics, Logistics, Public Policy and Development Studies.

b) Experience

- i. At least five years professional experience in maritime and shipping or port operations.
- ii. Demonstrate experience in working with the public and private sector development programs in the area of maritime transport logistics, trade facilitation and coastal economic clusters.

c) Skills and Competencies:

- i. Ability to work with minimal supervision;
- ii. Ability to beat deadlines;
- iii. High level of written and oral communications skills in English;
- iv. Demonstrate excellent interpersonal and professional skills in interacting with government, key stakeholders, development partners and other relevant players in the industry;
- v. Evidence of having undertaken similar assignments;
- vi. Experience in research, policy development, management and programming;
and
- vii. Any other skills and competencies that can be deemed relevant for this assignment.

6. DELIVERABLES

Comprehensive report giving current status of shipping services in the region including destination charges and surcharges, possibility of establishing viable coastal shipping services, future planned developments, challenges, opportunities, and implementable recommendations.

7. TIME SPAN

The assignment is expected to be carried out within a period of two months and Consultant is expected to submit the methodology and scheduled activities during tendering.

8. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Consultant will report directly to the Secretary General.

ISCOS will provide relevant background documents, if requested by the consultant, necessary for the assignment and shall provide introduction letters to enable the researchers visit relevant stakeholders, according to consultant's requests, if any.

9. APPLICATION MODE

Kindly submit your technical proposal on how you intend to carry out the assignment, the financial bid and all other relevant documents to support the application, EITHER in hard copies OR via E-mail to:

The Secretary General

ISCOS Secretariat

Nyali, Off Links Road, Opposite Nyali Health Care Ltd.

P O Box 89112 – 80100(GPO), Mombasa, Kenya

Tel: +254 20 2332670 / +254 722 207940

Email: opportunities@iscosafricashipping.org

10. Deadline: Submit your application not later than **15th June 2020** at **1700hrs.**