

**ESTABLISHMENT OF POOLS OF SPECIALIST CONSULTANTS
CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

Trade, Oceans and Natural Resources Advisory Directorate

OVERVIEW

The Oceans and Natural Resources Advisory Division (ONR) of the Commonwealth Secretariat's Trade, Oceans and Natural Resources Advisory Directorate is mandated to provide technical assistance to member countries on matters relating to the management of oceans and natural resources through the provision of technical assistance.

A significant part of the ONR's work is of a consultancy and advisory nature, delivered through a combination of in-house and external expertise. ONR provides policy, legal, economic and technical advice and assistance on investment and related matters, focusing on the delivery of advice and assistance concerning the exploitation and development of natural resources, sustainable energy, the delimitation of maritime boundaries and ocean governance, including work under the Commonwealth Blue Charter.

To support this work, ONR maintains a pre-qualified rota of specialist consultants who can be engaged to undertake the following tasks in respect of the ONR focus areas:

1. Prepare policy, economic and legal background papers, advice, reports and negotiation briefs for review by ONR;
2. Deliver capacity building and training to Commonwealth member country Governments concerning the relevant ONR focus area(s);
3. Provide expert advice on scientific and technical issues where required in respect of the relevant ONR focus area(s);
4. Prepare drafting instructions, draft legislation and regulations and related legal advice concerning the relevant ONR focus area(s); and,
5. Assist in State-investor transactional matters and State-State negotiations as part of an ONR advisory team.
6. Programme financial models for petroleum, mining and deep-sea mining projects.

The current rota was established in August 2016 for a three-year term and is due to expire in August 2019. ONR is seeking to renew the pool for another three-year term per the Commonwealth Secretariat's procurement policy.

Accordingly, ONR is currently seeking Expressions of Interest from independent experts and consulting companies with expertise in the following focus areas (i) maritime boundary delimitation, (ii) marine management and ocean governance, (iii) natural resource management with a focus on petroleum and mining (iv) sustainable energy and global energy transition and, (v) the themes covered under the [Commonwealth Blue Charter Action Groups](#), who may be considered for the purpose of specific short-term assignments governed by terms of reference determined by ONR on a case-by-case basis in respect of particular projects for which additional expertise is required.

In this regard, expressions of interest are sought from individuals and firms with expertise and experience in any of the following matters:



EXPERTISE SOUGHT

1) MARINE MANAGEMENT AND OCEAN GOVERNANCE

Marine Policy and Legal Experts:

Policy experts and practising lawyers with *extensive expertise and experience* relating to the development and implementation of integrated national ocean policy frameworks, marine resource management and development of national legislation relating to marine sectors.

Scientific and Technical Experts:

Technical experts with a specific focus on any of the following key areas:

- marine resource management;
- fisheries management;
- marine conservation;
- marine spatial planning and ecosystem based management;
- collection and management of marine data;
- environmental economics (including the marine environment);
- marine scientific research;
- maritime transportation, safety and administration, pollution prevention and marine environmental protection;
- the themes covered under the Commonwealth Blue Charter Action Groups; and,
- marine tourism.
- Quantifying the economic value of blue economies including economic modelling of various sectors, valuing marine ecosystems

2) MARITIME BOUNDARIES

Legal Experts:

Practising Lawyers with *extensive expertise and experience* relating to:

- the delimitation of maritime boundaries and related law of the sea issues;
- the organization and conduct of maritime boundary negotiations;
- the preparation of national maritime zones legislation; and,
- the preparation and defence of extended continental shelf submissions and development of national legislation.

Scientific and Technical Experts:

Technical experts with *extensive experience* in the fields of hydrography, geo-science and cartography, with particular application to the conduct of maritime boundary negotiations and the preparation of extended continental shelf submissions.

3) NATURAL RESOURCES (PETROLEUM, MINING AND DEEP-SEA MINING)

Legal Experts



The Commonwealth

Practising lawyers with *extensive expertise and experience* in the following matters:

- development and review of legal and contractual frameworks related to oil, gas, mining and deep-sea mining across the value chain - upstream, midstream and downstream);
- provision of advice on the development of contracts and agreements, and the negotiation of contracts for oil, gas, mining and deep-sea mining
- development and review of policy and legislative frameworks and provision of legal advisory support for the energy sector and in particular clean energy solutions; and
- drafting tax legislation, particularly for the oil, gas, mining and deep-sea mining sectors.

Economists and Financial/Commercial Experts

Experts with *extensive expertise and experience* in:

- developing economic models of oil, gas, deep-sea mining and mining projects including value chain models;
- designing and analysing fiscal regimes for the oil, gas, mining and deep-sea mining sectors;
- negotiating fiscal terms in the oil, gas, mining and deep-sea mining industries
- tax policy, particularly in relation to the oil, gas, mining and deep-sea mining industries
- the design and management of sovereign wealth funds for natural resource rich countries;
- drafting and advising on investment policy for natural resource sovereign wealth funds; and
- portfolio maximisation modelling and other financial modelling of investment policies.

Technical experts with a specific focus on any of the following key areas:

- development of policy and strategies for the effective and sustainable development of oil, gas and mining sectors including licensing rounds
- development of energy policy with a particular focus on decarbonisation pathways.
- Monetisation of natural gas e.g. development of natural gas master plans, experience in liquefied natural gas projects, development of domestic gas markets, economic modelling of gas developments
- artisanal and small scale mining
- local content and in-country value maximisation for the petroleum and mining sectors
- environmental protection including HSE relating to natural resource developments

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Specialist Pools will be established for an initial period of three years, after which the pools will be reviewed. Experts who are currently registered on the two existing Specialist Pools will not be automatically added to the revised pools. Such experts are therefore encouraged to re-submit their details to ensure they are included in the revised Specialist Pools.

Indicatives pay rates for experts included in the Specialist Pools will be up to £650.00 per day depending on skills and experience. Individuals and firms submitting expressions of interest should indicate the applicable day rates that they expect to be paid for such work.

Individuals and firms that are not shortlisted to be included in the Specialist Pools will be notified of the decision after the conclusion of the Specialist Pool evaluation process conducted by the Commonwealth Secretariat.