

CENTRAL BANK OF SOMALIA(CBS)

TERMS OF REFERENCE: PAYMENT SWITCH PROJECT ICT CONSULTANT

Job Description	
Title:	Payment Switch Project ICT Consultant
Department:	Somali Payment Switch
Reports to:	Project Team Leader
Duty Station:	Mogadishu, Somalia
Duration:	1 Year (Full Time)
1- General Role and Description	
<p>The Ministry of Finance of the Federal Republic of Somalia has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Somalia Capacity Advancement, Livelihoods and Entrepreneurship, Through Digital Uplift Project (SCALED-UP). The overall purpose of the project is to support progress towards increased access to basic digital financial and government services targeting entrepreneurship and employment, particularly for women. The project's components include: 1) Strengthening Institutions; 2) Enabling Financial and Digital Services; and 3) Project Management and Coordination. The Ministry intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments towards hiring Payment Switch Project ICT Consultant.</p> <p>The consultant will support the technical aspects of the national payment switch project and the execution of all the IT strategic and operational objectives under the direction of the project team leader. The consultant will lead the team responsible for the project's network infrastructure, hardware, physical and cyber security, and compliance with international standards for payment systems. In addition, the consultant collaborates with IT service providers to support internal and external customers in planning and coordinating project deliverables to ensure sustainable services.</p>	
2- Main Duties and Responsibilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide strategic direction and oversight for IT related design, development, implementation, operation and support of IT systems and programs that fulfil the needs and objectives of the project.• Support growth objectives to fulfil the project's goals regarding information technology according to the adopted mission, vision, and core values.• Create and implement strategies to ensure network capacity, transmission, storage, data security, business continuity, disaster recovery and high reliability and availability of technology resources.• Provide leadership and guidance, creating and maintaining a productive work environment and ensuring staff have the appropriate skills and tools to perform their jobs.• Analyze complex business needs presented by other project departments and recommend technical solutions.• Ensure project's ability to evolve with a rapidly changing environment and anticipate changes in	

technology.

- Effectively review new technologies for inclusion into the project's products, processes, and information management systems to ensure the business remains innovative, creative, and abreast of information technology trends.
- Assess and control all costs associated with the project's technology, communications, and information systems.
- Effectively present information and respond to questions from various levels of internal/external customers, executive management.
- Participate in all hardware and software systems evaluations.
- Review and approve all business requirements prior to implementing technical solutions.
- Act as a liaison with IT vendors, technical consultants, technology providers and regulatory agencies.
- Prepare IT budgets and recommend systems improvements and capital improvements.
- Develop new standards, techniques and procedures for service as may be required.
- Serve on the project IT Steering committee.
- Other duties and responsibilities, as assigned by the project team leader.

3- Qualifications and Experience

- A degree in Computer Science or a related field is required. Postgraduate qualifications will be an advantage.
- Minimum of 7 years of senior leadership experience in managing IT departments or organizations is required. Preferably in a banking industry.
- Recent working knowledge of the following technologies is desirable: Cloud computing environment, Active Directory management and group policies, VMware, Large Network management, Cybersecurity, Storage, Datacenter design and configuration and Core banking solutions experience.
- Experience in a strategic and tactical leadership role in a fast-paced, dynamic and ever-changing technology environment.
- Proven project management experience - including experience in allocating and coordinating resources to ensure proper execution considering key dependencies.
- General and practical knowledge of ITIL, EMV standard, PCI/DSS guidance is preferable.
- Experience in implementing a payment SWITCH in a commercial bank or SWITCH company and worked with a vendor to successfully deliver the project as per project scope and schedule.
- Experience in supporting ATM/POS switching, Debit Card issuance/management, Digital Channels interfaces, ISO 8583 and ISO 20022 interface messaging standards.
- Experience in working on EMV Contact/Contactless cards, VISA, Mastercard Issuing and Acquiring Schemes compliance and requirements.
- Practical experience in testing ATM/POS Switching, payment cards and QR code systems.
- Understanding of national payments technology trends, challenges, and strategies.
- Capacity to write reports, business correspondence and procedure manuals.

- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral.
- Exceptional organization skills, detail oriented and excellent time management skills.
- Ability to apply technical problem-solving techniques.
- Demonstrated analytical thinking.
- Banking experience is an advantage, but not a requirement.

Duration

The duration of the assignment is initially for a period of 12 months with possible extension based on performance and availability of funding.

Working conditions

The successful candidate may be subject to a criminal background check prior to taking up the post.