1. The East African Community (EAC) Secretariat has received a Grant from the African Development Fund (ADF) to finance the EAC Payment and Settlement Systems Integration Project (EAC-PSSIP). The Protocol of Agreement for an amount of Fifteen Million Units of Account (UA 15,000,000) was signed between the EAC Secretariat and the ADF to fund the 4 years project.

2. The principal objective of this project is to develop a robust environment for both wholesale and retail payment and settlement systems and to facilitate market integration, support effective application of monetary policy and financial markets aimed at enhancing safety and efficiency in the overall payment and settlement systems. This will ultimately contribute to the pursuit of sound macroeconomic policies and improve the functioning of regional integrated financial markets.

3. The project includes the following components:
   (i) *Integration of financial market infrastructure*. This will involve support for the conclusion of the regional East African Payment System (EAPS) Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) system, followed by the structured integration of the remaining retail payment streams and development of capital markets together with securities, and equities that are traded on the national exchanges.
   (ii) *Harmonization of supporting legal, regulatory, policy and oversight arrangements*. This component will support the recruitment of consulting services in the drafting of legislation and policy to ensure that the payment and settlement systems are adequately integrated and supported, throughout the EAC in order to protect payment flows in all payment streams.
   (iii) *Capacity building*. This component will strengthen capacity of the EAC Secretariat and Core Project Team (CPT); external regulatory institutions, Central Banks, Ministries of Finance, Stock Exchanges, Bankers Associations (that would include the EAC Bankers Association that is under establishment), and Capital Market Authorities in the area of Payment and Settlement Systems.

The Procurement modes are as follows:
   a) **International Competitive Bidding (ICB)**. This will involve:
      i. Procurement of a Real Time Gross Settlement System (RTGS), Central Securities Depository (CSD) and Supporting Business continuity plan (BCP) for Burundi.
      ii. Procurement of Disaster Recovery Centre (BCP), Network upgrading for Rwanda.
      iii. Procurement of Retail Payment System (RPS) Automation hardware, ACH Software and RTGS system for Uganda.
      iv. Procurement Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Center (BCP) and System
upgrade for Tanzania.

v. Procurement of Supporting Disaster Recovery Center (BCP) for Kenya.

b) **Services (Firms).** This will involve:
   i. Consultancy services for Integration of the Burundi and Rwanda RTGS with the East African Payment System (EAPS);
   ii. Consultancy services for drafting of a regional payment systems legislation;
   iii. Consultancy services to support for the development of an EAC oversight framework;
   iv. Consultancy Services to Support the Development of enabling regulations and the NPS (National Payment Systems) Act in EAC partner states;
   v. Consultancy services for capacity building needs assessment for payment systems;
   vi. Consultancy services for training and skills improvement support to strengthen the capacity of the EAC Core Project Team (CPT), National Central Banks, Commercial Banks and other stakeholders in the area of Payment and Settlement Systems;
   vii. Consultancy services for the annual Audit services.

c) **Services – (Individual Consultants).** This will involve:
   i. Technical Assistance for Drafting of the Central Securities Depository (CSD) law and enabling regulations in Burundi.
   ii. Technical Assistance for Drafting and Implementation of rules and regulations for ACH for Tanzania.

4. Procurement of goods will be done in accordance with the Bank's Rules and Procedures for the Procurement of Goods and Works. Acquisition of the services of Consultants will follow the Bank's Rules and Procedures for the Use of Consultants. Bidding documents are expected to be available in April 2014.

5. Interested bidders may obtain further information, and should confirm their interest, by contacting:

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