



## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE OPERATION OF THE DOTAFRICA

In their Olivier Tambo Declaration adopted at their extraordinary Conference held in Johannesburg, South Africa, 2-5 November 2009, the African Union Ministers in charge of Communication and Information Technologies (CITMC) acknowledge the necessity to "*Establish DotAfrica as a continental Top-Level Domain for use by organizations, businesses and individuals with guidance from African Internet agencies*".

And in their Abuja 2010 Declaration adopted at their Third Ordinary Conference (CITMC-3) held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 6 – 7 August 2010, the Ministers requested the African Union Commission (AUC) to "*Set up the structure and modalities for the implementation of the DotAfrica project.*"

This decision followed the acknowledgement of the benefit of the DotAfrica domain name to Africa, by the African Union Heads of State and Governments (HoSG) Summit held in February 2010 in Addis Ababa.

DotAfrica (.Africa) is that specific Internet namespace for Africa and which is likely to be endorsed for operation during the next round of new Gtlds which ICANN will be launching soon.

DotAfrica will be adding value to the namespace as a recognizable phrase which focuses on the African identity. DotAfrica will serve a community which spans over a large portion of region, therefore providing registrants with accrued possibilities for establishing their Internet presence. It is expected that the Africa small and medium size enterprises will greatly benefit from DotAfrica, as they thrive beyond their local markets to invade the regional and continental marketplace. The Internet will therefore become a platform for growth of the Africa business.

The introduction of the DotAfrica will create an attractive regional home for the Pan-African Internet community; this will be the first sponsored registry to be operating from Africa and therefore serving the specific needs of its communities.

Within this background, the African Union Commission is seeking the services of interested entities to operate the DotAfrica gtld.

Interested firms or consortium should submit the following documents along with signed and sealed Letter of Expression of Interest:

- i. Detailed company profile indicating verifiable previous experiences within the last three years,
- ii. Copies of registration certificates and business licenses,
- iii. Audited Financial Statement for the past three years

### **Communication and Enquiry**

Additional information could be obtained from

**M. Moctar YEDALY,**

**Head of Information Society Division**

**African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

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Or

**Hussain Usman, Procurement Unit,**

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### **Submission of Expression of Interest**

One original and three copies of EOIs (in either English or French Language) must be received in one sealed envelope not later than **Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2011 at 1530hours local time**. Late bid would be rejected and return unopened.

The address for submission is: **The Chairperson of Tender Board; African Union Commission; Roosevelt Street, Building C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 327, P. O. Box 3243, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Tel: +251 11-551-7700; Fax: +251 11-551-0430**

Information on the outer envelope should include: on the top left side, boldly written; **Expression of Interest for the Operation of the Dotafrica.**

In the middle of the envelope should be the address.

At the bottom right corner; write **"Do not open, except in the presence of Evaluation Committee"**

All EOIs received would be evaluated based on the company's experience in similar assignment; valid registration certificates and annual turnover

Bidding Document would be sent to short listed companies that met our technical requirements for the final stage of the selection process.