REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Consultancy to Undertake National Assessments and Identify National Priorities for Chemicals and Waste Management in Zambia

1. Background

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in partnership with the Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA), is implementing the Special Programme project titled "To Strengthen Institutional Capacity for the Sound Management of Chemicals and Wastes in Zambia."

The project seeks to enhance national institutional capacity through strengthened coordination, implementation of the Globally Harmonized System (GHS), national preparedness and recovery planning, legislative reform, improved reporting under Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), and capacity for emergency response to chemicals and waste-related incidents, including pandemics.

The Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) now invites suitably qualified and experienced individuals("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the services for the consultancy to Undertake national assessments and identify national priorities for chemicals and waste management in Zambia.

2. Rationale for the Consultancy

Effective implementation of chemicals and waste-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements(MEAs) requires a clear understanding of existing institutional arrangements, coordination mechanisms, reporting systems, and priority gaps. Zambia currently faces fragmented coordination structures and varying levels of institutional capacity across sectors.

This consultancy will provide a comprehensive national assessment and identify prioritized national actions for national chemicals and waste management.

3. Objectives of the Consultancy

The overall objective is to undertake a national, multi-sectoral assessment of chemicals and waste management in Zambia and identify prioritized national actions aligned with MEA obligations.

Specific objectives include:

a) Assessing the current national chemicals and waste management systems, coordination mechanisms, policies, and reporting frameworks.
b) Identifying national priorities aligned to obligations under Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Minamata and SAICM/Global framework for chemicals, including emergency preparedness for chemical and waste-related crises.
c) Mapping national stakeholders and affected communities across value chains and identify gaps, overlaps, and opportunities for strengthened inter-sectoral coordination.
d) Recommending roles, communication pathways, and reporting mechanisms for an effective national coordination structure under the National Multi-Stakeholder Coordinating Committee (NMCC).

e) Supporting the national validation and endorsement process at national and regional levels.

4. Scope of Assignment

a) The Consultant will:
a) Conduct a comprehensive national review to establish the current chemicals and waste management system, including institutional roles, coordination mechanisms, reporting structures, and priority gaps.
b) Identify and validate national chemicals and waste management priorities aligned to MEAs and national development frameworks.
c) Develop a strengthened understanding of institutional roles and coordination requirements to support improved chemicals and waste management.
d) Establish a clear foundation for future strengthening of national reporting, compliance, and preparedness mechanisms under the chemicals MEAs
e) Develop a complete national stakeholder engagement and participation picture for chemicals and waste management.
f) Produce a consolidated national assessment and priorities report endorsed by the National Multi-Stakeholder Coordinating Committee (NMCC).

5. Expected Deliverables

Key deliverables include:

a) Draft and Final National Assessment Report
b) Draft and Final National Chemicals and Waste Management Priorities Report
c) Stakeholder mapping report
d) Final Consolidated Report integrating assessment findings, priorities and coordination recommendations.

6. Duration of Assignment

The consultancy will be undertaken within five (5) months from contract effective date.

7. Reporting and Supervision

The Consultant will work under the strategic oversight of the National Multi-Stakeholder Coordinating Committee (NMCC) and report through the Project Secretariat at ZEMA. All deliverables will be submitted for review, validation and endorsement through established national coordination mechanisms.

8. Selection Criteria

Interested consultants should demonstrate:

- A minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Management, Natural Resource Management, Chemical Engineering, Public Policy or related field;
- At least eight (8) years' experience in chemicals and waste management, MEA implementation or environmental governance;
- Proven experience conducting national assessments and facilitating multi-stakeholder consultations;

- Strong analytical and report-writing skills;
- Knowledge of Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions and SAICM/Global Framework on Chemicals and Waste.

9. Submission

Interested Individual consultants are requested to submit their sealed and bound expression of interest (EoI) documents clearly marked **'' Expression of interest (EoI): Consultancy to Undertake National Assessments and Identify National Priorities for Chemicals and Waste Management in Zambia".** This should include an interest letter, contact information and relevant professional skills and experiences**.**

One original and three copies of the EOI well bound documents in a sealed envelope must be submitted to the address below (either in person, by mail or by email) not later than 20th February 2026 at 15:00hours.

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