# Liberia Telecommunications Authority

Congtown, Back Road
Monrovia, Liberia

March 18, 2014

**Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) for Wireless Network Services (Consultant Services)**

The LTA invites Proposals from qualified and credible firms or Individuals to perform the below listed scope of work relative to its Wireless Network services and WLAN infrastructure.

SCOPE:

The Liberia Telecommunications Authority has moved to a new location which already has data services in place, but will need to be enhanced by installing and/or re-configuring a WLAN infrastructure for redundancy.

EXISTING LAN STRUCTURE:

Our current local area network is in place and is somehow operable. However, topology used by the building providers does not conform to current standards of cabling. The Ring topology was used in anUntwisted or Twisted Pair Category 3 & 5 environment instead of a Star topology which has caused some great deal of impedance in connectivity.Offices located at the far end away from the switches have this problem of limited connectivity as described above. The Ring topology uses coaxial cable and BNC connector which runs in a single chain format terminating at end and the beginning of the next line to form a ring. The preferred topology, the Star, uses the UTP and RJ11/RJ45 connectors and lines run from centralized panels/hubs/switches directly to drop points or individual jacks.

In light of the above, it would be highly recommended to use a hybrid system (LAN and WLAN) to help resolve some of the connectivity issues we are faced with. Besides our existing LAN, deploying a Wireless Local Area Networks (WLANs) will not only expand our enterprise network but leverage the advantages for growth in capability and availability.
We need to consider the total cost of ownership (TCO) if re-wiring the building is an option for solution, especially when we are only here for less than a year and will not remove nor take along cabling infrastructure. With WLAN, we can remotely deploy our network especially with the inaccessibility to most areas of the building. Secondly, re-wiring seems almost impossible even with surface mounts and even by arrangements with Lessors which forbids serious drilling.Thirdly, enabling WLAN via our main source of Internet, which is now transported via radio links, will be seamless.

SUMMARY SCOPE OF WORK

Therefore, I would like to recommend that we hire the services of a reputable firm or consultant to plan, deploy and configure a WLAN to tie in with our current system, thus making it a hybrid network system. Setting up a hybrid network to accommodate our current operational setting is envisaged by the scenario based on summary below:

1. The proposed wireless network will be based on standalone Access Points (AP) that rely on the integrated functionality of each AP to enable wireless services, authentication and security.
2. The configuration for this hybrid WLAN can be characterized to operate as an independent network for redundancy, encryption and decryption done at the AP's level.
3. Each AP has its own configuration file.
4. Static network configurations which do not respond to changing network conditions such as interfering rogue APs or failures of neighboring APs.
5. The configuration should be based on a centralized or coordinated wireless network, an access controller communicating with the APs to provide scalable centralized control, management, and policy enforcement across the wireless network.
6. A centralized WLAN can be characterized as one with AP activity coordinated by a wireless centralized controller.

The LTA now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.) Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

The LTA reserves the right to undertake a per-qualification exercise of the interested firms/individuals. The per-qualification will be made using such criteria as firm's good standing, capacity, experience, references, samples of similar services performed, and etc. The LTA further reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal without incurring any liability whatever or any obligation to inform the affected firms/individuals relative to LTA's action.
The pre-qualified firms/individuals will then be invited to compete for the contract governed by the guidelines and procures specified and approved by the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC). Please note that the participation of the interested firms or individuals in this would be at no cost to LTA.

The proposals and the above mentioned accompanying criteria documents must be received in sealed envelope not later than 2:00 PM on Friday, April 4, 2014 and should be forwarded to the following address:

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Liberia Telecommunications Authority Building # D-168
Congo Town Back Road, Monrovia – Liberia
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Signed: _____

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