



Centre for Multiparty Democracy

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Centre for Multiparty Democracy

Terms of Reference for the Review of CMD Strategic Plan

Introduction

The Centre for Multiparty Democracy - Malawi (CMD-M) is a platform for dialogue for political parties. It was officially registered in October 2005. The Centre sets out to promote dialogue for the entrenchment of multiparty democracy in the country. It further strives to contribute to development of capacity of political parties in order for them to deliver on their core functions. Membership to the Centre is open to political parties that have representation in the National Assembly. In order to achieve inclusivity non parliamentary parties are given block membership on the CMD Board.

The Centre believes that for a multiparty democracy to work and to be effective there is need for strong and well-institutionalized political parties that can channel the demands of citizens, govern in the public good and satisfy the basic needs of the people. However, political parties in Malawi continue to face many challenges. These include inadequate institutionalisation, limited internal democracy and capacity to generate alternative policy positions on issues of national interest, as well as to resolve internal conflicts in a constructive manner. For all these reasons, political parties fail to perform to the expectations of the citizenry.

Since its inception, the CMD has had two strategic plans. The first strategic Plan (2007-2012) assisted in the actual creation of the organization and the identification of its unique niche. The second strategic plan (2012-2015) set out to consolidate the role of CMD as a unique player in the political arena. The third Strategic Plan (2016 to 2020) was an effort to further consolidate the role of CMD as a platform for dialogue for political parties. In light of the rapidly changing political context particularly the enactment of the Political Parties Act (2018) which is a major milestone in the political

arena, as well as the fact that the third strategic has run its full course, CMD intends to develop a new strategic plan that takes into account the present realities.

Scope of the Assignment

Having been in existence for 15 years now and having implemented three strategic plans, the Centre for Multiparty Democracy is in need of a fourth Strategic Plan (2021-2025) to guide the implementation of its mandate. The new strategic plan is primarily expected to take into account the gains and challenges experienced through implementation of previous plans and should be aligned to the overall vision and positioning of the organization. Principally, the exercise is expected to identify or affirm the CMD's Vision, Mission, Strategic Objectives and core values. Bearing in mind that the CMD exists primarily to serve political parties, the new strategic plan is expected to guide the Centre in addressing the capacity and institutional gaps that exist in political parties in Malawi. The new Strategic Plan is also expected to leverage CMD on the Political Parties Act of 2018.

Objectives of the assignment

The main objectives of the assignment include:

1. Identifying or affirming CMD's vision, mission and strategic objectives
2. Stocktaking of the performance, achievements and challenges in the implementation of previous strategies and how far the strategies were relevant to Malawi, in general, and the needs of political parties, in particular.
3. Development of the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan
4. Position CMD in the light of the Political Parties Act (2018) and the national and international development goals.
5. Ensure that CMD is well position to assist political parties to become accountability actors.

Specific Activities

The Consultant will be required to undertake the following:

1. Review all the documents pertaining to the development and implementation of the previous Strategic Plans.
2. Undertake a stock of activities carried out over the years and assess how far they were responding to the Strategic Plan.
3. Consult widely all principle stakeholders such as political parties, government ministries and departments, civil society organisations, and development partners with the aim of determining the relevance of CMD, as an organisation, to Malawi politics, and its role in the years ahead.
4. Conduct value chain analysis of CMD and its comparative advantage for purposes of informing the development of the new Strategic Plan.
5. Consult relevant stakeholders in order to establish capacity and institutional gaps within political parties
6. Specifically review the study on “Benchmarking Capacities of Political Parties” and ensure that the strategic plan addresses the issues raised in the study.
7. Relate the formulation of the new Strategic Plan with the ongoing Public Sector Reforms, particularly the light of the Political Parties Act of 2018.
8. Facilitate the formulation of the Strategic Plan for CMD that seizes on the existing opportunities and also comprehensively addresses the challenges being faced by political parties in Malawi.
9. Carry out any other activities that the consultant, in consultations with the Executive Director of CMD may deem relevant to the process of developing the Strategic Plan.

Deliverables

At the end of the assignment the consultant is expected to produce a Strategic Plan for the Centre for Multiparty Democracy covering the period 2021 - 2025.

Management and Coordination of the Assignment

1. The Consultant will work closely with the Executive Director of CMD and any other person that may be designation for the strategic planning function.
2. The Schedule of deliverables is as follows;
 - Work Plan and Methodology (Inception Report) to be presented within three (3) days after signing the contract.
 - 1st draft Strategic Plan Document to be discussed before finalization.
 - Final Strategic Plan Document incorporating comments and any proposed changes by the secretariat

Qualifications and Experience

The assignment will require a high level of technical competence in strategic and project Management. Experience and exposure to parliamentary, public evaluations and management will be an added advantage.

The consultant should therefore have:

1. A university degree, preferably a Masters in either Development Studies or Public Administration or political Sciences or any other related discipline.
2. Minimum 5 years demonstrated experience in assessment, reforms and organisation development (OD) of Public Sector, civil society organizations (CSOs) and /or Political Parties.
3. An in-depth understanding of Malawi's politics, political system and political party system.
4. Have conducted similar assignments for reputable organisations, in Malawi or within the region.
5. Demonstrate analytical and facilitation skills.

Submission of the Technical and Financial Proposal

Interested consultants are expected to submit both technical and financial proposal to the Executive Director through email at cmdmalawi.general@gmail.com

Expressions of interest must be sent by e-mail to the same address as above by CoB on 8th of September, 2020. When submitting please put subject line: **Review of CMD Strategic Plan.**

Reporting

The Consultant shall report to the Executive Director for the Centre for Multiparty Democracy.