HILL BANK OF LIBRER

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL /BID FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE AUDIT SERVICES RFP#: CBL/RFP/10/2025

CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA Lynch & Ashmun Streets 1000 Monrovia 10 Liberia

ISSUANCE DATE: JUNE 12, 2025 SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 26, 2025



CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

Lynch & Ashmun Streets 1000 Monrovia 10, Liberia

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Re: Letter of Invitation – Foreign Exchange Audit Services

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) intends to apply funds from its budget for fiscal year 2025 towards the provision of **Enhanced Reporting Audits on Foreign Exchange Movements and Balances (RFP No.: CBL/RFP/10/2025).**

The CBL seeks **qualified audit firms** to perform **enhanced reporting audits** on foreign exchange movements and balances. The purpose of this audit is to verify financial accuracy, strengthen compliance with **Investment Guidelines and authorization procedures**, and ensure transparent reporting of foreign exchange transactions.

CBL invites eligible firms to submit proposals for this service, covering two audit cycles:

- January 1 June 30, 2025
- July 1 December 31, 2025

The selected firm will analyze foreign exchange transactions, ensure compliance with regulations, and identify risks associated with foreign currency holdings.

Accordingly, interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the General Support Services Department (GSSD), 7th floor, Central Bank of Liberia, Lynch & Ashmun Streets, 1000 Monrovia 10 Liberia.

Sealed Proposal must be delivered to the Procurement section on the 7th floor of the CBL Head Office no later than 2:00 PM on Thursday, June 26, 2025, in hard copies and electronically to procurement@cbl.org.lr . Electronic submission should be protected by passwords. Late proposal will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed: _

Maakai A. Amblard DIRECTOR General Support Services Department Central Bank of Liberian

A. Introduction

 Scope of Bid
 1.1 The Central Bank of Liberia (hereinafter referred to as the Purchaser) wishes to receive bids for the provision of Enhanced Reporting Audits on Foreign Exchange Movements and Balances for the Central Bank of Liberia (hereinafter referred to as the Service).

1.2 All bids are to be completed and returned to the Purchaser in accordance with these Instructions to Bidder.

2. Source of Funds 2.1 The Purchaser shall fund this procurement from its approved budget to pay for the contract (hereinafter referred to as the "Contract") for which this Invitation for bid is issued toward the realization of the provision of Enhanced Reporting Audits on Foreign Exchange Movements and Balances.

- 2.2 Payments will be made only at the request of the Purchaser and upon approval by a designated official of the Central Bank of Liberia in accordance with terms and conditions of the contract agreement between the Purchaser and the Service provider (hereinafter referred to as the "**Contract**") and will be subject in all respects to the Financial Administration of the Republic of Liberia. No party other than the Service provider shall derive any rights from the Contract or have any claims to the funds.
- **3. Eligible Bidders** 3.1 This Invitation for Bid is open to all eligible service providers.
 - 3.2 State owned enterprises may participate only if they are legally and financially autonomous, operate under commercial law, and are not a dependent agency of the Purchaser.
- **4. Cost of Tender** 4.1 The Bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its bid, and the Purchaser will, in no case, be responsible or liable for those cost, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the Biding process.

B. THE BID DOCUMENTS

5.	Content or Tender Documents	f 5.1	The service required, bid procedures and contract terms are Prescribed in the Bid Documents. In addition to the Invitation for Bid, the Bid Documents include:	
			a. Instruction to Bidding (ITB).b. Bid Data Sheet.	
		5.2	The Bidder is expected to examine all instructions, forms, terms and specifications in the Bid Documents. Failure to furnish all information required by the Bid Documents or submission of a Bid not substantially responsive to the Bid Documents in every respect will be at the Bidder's risk and may result in the rejection of its Bid.	
6.	Clarification of Bid Documents	6.1	A prospective Bidder requiring any clarification of the bid Documents may request the Purchaser in writing at the Purchaser's address indicated in Bid Data Sheet. The purchaser will respond in writing or by email to any request for clarification of the bid documents which it receives no later than five (5) days prior to the deadline for the submission of Bid. The Purchaser's response (including an explanation of query without identifying the source of inquiry) will be sent in writing or email to all prospective bid, who have the bid Documents.	
	Amendment of Bid Documents	7.1	At any time prior to the deadline for submission of Bid, the Purchasers may, for any reason, modify the Bid Documents by issuing Addenda.	
		7.2	Any Addendum will be notified in writing to all prospective Bidders who have the bid Documents and shall be a part of the bid document.	
		7.3	Where the Purchaser issues the Addendum very close to deadline for submission of bid, the Purchaser may extend the deadline for submission of bid to afford prospective Bidders a reasonable time to take the Addendum into account in preparing their Bid.	

C. PREPARATION OF BID

8. Language of Bid	8.1	The Bid prepared by the Bidder and all correspondence and supporting documents relating to the bid exchanged by the bid and the Purchaser, shall be written in the English language.		
9. Bid Price	9.1	The Bidder shall indicate on the appropriate Price Schedule the unit prices (where applicable) and total bid price of the service it proposes to deliver under the contract.		
10. Currency of Bid	10.1	Prices shall be quoted in United States Dollars.		
11. Document Establishing Bidder's Eligibility and Qualifications	11.1	Pursuant to Clause 10, the Bidder shall furnish, as part of its Bid, documents establishing the Bidder's eligibility to bid and its qualifications to perform the contract if its Bid is accepted.		
Quanneations	11.2	The documentary evidence of the Bidder's eligibility to bid shall establish to the Purchaser's satisfaction that the Bidder, at the time of submission of its bid, is from an eligible country.		
	11.3	The documentary evidence of the Bidder's qualifications to perform the contract if its Bid is accepted shall establish to the Purchaser's satisfaction:		
		a. that the Bidder has the financial and technical capability necessary to perform the contract.		
		b. that the bidder must obtain the score of 75% with all evaluators combined in the technical to qualify for the financial opening		
		c. that the Bidder meets the Qualifications as specified in Bid Data Sheet.		
12. Bid Security	12.1	In order to encourage greater competition by limiting the barriers to bidder participation, bid security submission is hereby waived. Thus, bid security IS NOT required for this tendering process.		

Period of	13.1	Bids shall remain valid for the period as specified in the bid
Validity of		Data Sheet after the date of Tender opening prescribed by the
Bids		Purchaser. A bid valid for a shorter period shall be rejected by
		the Purchaser as non-responsive.
	Validity of	Validity of

- 13.2 In exceptional circumstances, the Purchaser may solicit the Bidders' consent to an extension of the period of bid validity. The request and the responses thereto shall be in writing or by email. The validity of Bid Security period shall also be suitably extended. A Bidder may refuse the request without forfeiting its Bid Security. A Bidder granting the request will not be required nor permitted to modify its bids.
- 14. Format and signing of Bids
 14.1 The Bidder shall prepare one original document comprising the bid and clearly marked "ORIGINAL". In addition, the Bidder shall submit Four (4) copies of the bid and clearly marked as "COPIES". In the event of discrepancy between them, the original shall prevail.
 - 14.2 The original and copy of the bid shall be typed written and shall be signed by the Bidder or a person or persons duly authorized to sign on behalf of the Bidder. The letter of authorization shall be indicated by written power-of-attorney accompanying the bid. All pages of the bid, where entries or amendments have been made, shall be initialed by the person or persons signing the Tender.

D. SUBMISSION OF BIDS

- 15. Sealing and 15.1 The Bidder shall seal the original and the copy of the bids in two inner envelopes and an outer envelope, duly marking the inner envelopes as "Original" and "Copy".
 - 15.2 The inner and outer envelopes shall:
 - a. Be addressed to the Purchaser at the address given in the *Bid Data Sheet:*
 - c. Provide a warning "Not to Open Before" the time and date for bid opening as specified in the *Bid Data Sheet*.
 - 15.3 If the outer envelope is not sealed and marked as required the Purchaser will assume no responsibility for the bid misplacement or premature opening.

16. Deadline for Submission of Bids	16.1	Bid must be received by the Purchaser at the address and no later than the time and date specified in the <i>Bid Data Sheet</i> .
	16.2	The Purchaser may, at their discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of bids by issuing an amendment, in which case, all rights and obligations of the Purchasers and Bidders previously subject to the original deadline will thereafter be subject to the deadline as extended.
17. Late Bids	17.1	Any Bid not received within the date and time specified in RFP Clause 20 will not be accepted and will be returned unopened.
18. Process to be Confidential	18.1	Information relating to the examination, clarification, evaluation, and comparison of bids and recommendations for the Award of Contract shall not be disclosed to Bidder or any other people not officially concerned with such a process until the Award to the successful Bidder has been announced.
19. Clarification of bids	19.1	To assist in the examination, evaluation, and comparison of Bids, the Purchaser may, at its discretion, ask any Bidder for clarification of its bids, including breakdowns of unit rates. The request for clarification and the response shall be in writing and no change in the price or substance of the Tender shall be sought, offered or permitted, except as required to confirm the correction of arithmetic errors discovered by the Purchaser in the evaluation of the bids.
20. Examination	20.1	The Purchaser will determine whether each Bid:
of Bids and Determination		a. meets the eligibility criteria
of Responsiveness		b. has been properly signed.
		c. is accompanied by the required securities.
		d. is substantially responsive to the requirements of the Tender documents.
	20.2	Arithmetical errors will be rectified on the following basis:
		i. If there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the total price that is obtained by multiplying the unit price and

quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the total price shall be corrected. If the Bidder does not accept the correction of the errors, its bids will be rejected, and its Bid Security may be forfeited,

- ii. If there is a discrepancy between words and figures, the amount in words may prevail.
- 20.3 Prior to the detailed evaluation, the Purchaser will determine the substantial responsiveness of each Bid to the Bid Documents. A substantially responsive Bid is one which conforms to all the terms and conditions of the bid Documents without material deviations. The Purchaser's determination of a Bidder's responsiveness is to be based on the contents of the bid **i**tself. A material deviation or reservation is one:
 - a. which affects in any substantial way the Scope, Quality, or Performance of the Contract.
 - b. which limits in any substantial way, inconsistent with the bid documents, the Purchaser's rights, or the Bidder's obligations under the contract; or
 - c. whose rectification would affect unfairly the competitive position of other Bidders presenting substantially responsive bids.
- 20.4 A bid determined as not substantially responsive will be rejected by the Purchaser and may not subsequently be made responsive by the Bidder by correction.
- on and21.1The Purchaser will evaluate and compare only the Tenders
determined to be substantially responsive.
 - 21.2 The Purchaser's evaluation of a bids will be based on bid Price.
 - 21.3 The Purchaser's evaluation of a bids will consider, in addition to the bid Price one or more of the following factors as specified in the *Bid Data Sheet*:
 - e. Other specific criteria indicated in the *Bid Data Sheet* and/or in the Technical Specifications.

21. Evaluation and Comparison of Bids 22.2 Any effort by a Bidder to influence the Purchaser in the Purchaser's bid evaluation, bid comparison or contract award decisions may result in the rejection of the Bidder's bid

F. AWARD OF CONTRACT

22. Contacting the

Purchaser

- 23. Post qualification23.1 In the absence of prequalification, the Purchaser will determine to its satisfaction whether the Bidder selected as having submitted the lowest evaluated responsive bid is qualified to satisfactorily perform the Contract.
 - 23.2 The determination will consider the Bidder's financial, technical capabilities/ resources. It will be based upon an examination of the documentary evidence of the Bidder's qualifications submitted by the Bidder, as well as such other information as the Purchaser deems necessary and appropriate.
 - 23.3 An affirmative determination will be a prerequisite for award of the Contract to the Bidder. A negative determination will result in rejection of the Bidder's bid, in which event the Purchaser will proceed to the next lowest evaluated bidder to make a similar determination of that Bidder's capabilities to perform satisfactorily.
- 24. Award 24.1 Subject to Clause 34, the Purchaser will award the Contract to the successful Bidder whose bid has been determined to be substantially responsive and has been determined as the lowest-evaluated bidder, provided further that the Bidder is determined to be qualified to perform the Contract satisfactorily.
- 25. Purchaser's Right to Vary Quantities at Time of Award
 25.1 The Purchaser reserves the right at the time of award of Contract to increase or decrease by the percentage as specified in the *Bid Data Sheet*, the quantity of goods and

services originally specified in the Schedule of Requirements without any change in unit prices or other terms and conditions.

- 26. Purchaser's Right to Accept Any Bid and to Reject Any or All bid
 26.1 The Purchaser reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and at any time prior to award of Contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders or any obligation to inform the affected Bidder or Bidders of the grounds for the Purchaser's action.
- 27. Notification of Award27.1 The Bidder whose bid has been accepted will be notified of the award by the Purchaser prior to expiration of the bid validity period by to confirmed by a letter that its bid has been accepted.
 - 27.2 The notification of the award will constitute the formation of the Contract
 - 27.3 Upon the successful Bidder's furnishing of performance security, the Purchaser will promptly notify each unsuccessful Bidder and will discharge its Bid Security.
 - 27.4 The contract will incorporate all Agreements between the Purchaser and the Successful Bidder.
 - 28.1 At the same time as the Purchaser notifies the successful Bidder that its bid has been accepted, the Purchaser will call the successful Bidder to sign the Contract through Notification of Award.
 - 28.2 Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the Notification of Award, the successful Bidder shall sign the Contract.
- 29. Performance Security
 29.1 Within 14 days of receipt of notification of award from the Purchaser, the successful Bidder shall furnish the performance security in accordance with the Conditions of Contract, in the Performance Security Form provided in the Bid Documents: denominated in the type and proportion of amount as specified in the Notification of award. The Performance Security provided by the successful Bidder shall be in the form of a Bank Guarantee issued by a reputable international Bank acceptable to the Purchaser.

28. Signing of

Contract

29.2 Failure of the successful Bidder to comply with the requirement above requirement shall constitute sufficient grounds for the annulment of the award and forfeiture of the bid security in which event the Purchaser may make the

award to the next lowest evaluated Tender or call for new bid. 29.3 The Performance Security provided by the successful bidder in the form of a Bank Guarantee as specified, shall be issued by a Bank in Liberia acceptable to the Purchaser. **30.** Corrupt or 30.1 The Government of the Republic of Liberia requires that Bidders under the contracts financed by public funds, Fraudulent observe the highest standard of ethics during the **Practices** procurement and execution of Such contracts. In pursuance of this policy, the following terms shall be interpreted as indicated: "corrupt practice" means the offering, giving, a. receiving, or soliciting of anything of value to influence the action of a public official in the procurement process or in contract execution; and b. "fraudulent practice" means a misrepresentation of facts to influence a procurement process or the execution of a contract and includes collusive practice among Bidders (prior to or after bid submission) designed to establish bid prices at artificial noncompetitive levels and to deprive the benefits of free and open competition.

30.2 a. The Purchaser will reject a proposal for award if the purchaser determines that the Bidder recommended for award has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question.

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Bid Data Sheet

Introduction

Name of Purchaser: Central Bank of Liberia

The Source of Fundings: 2025 Budget

Name of Contract: Provision of Foreign Exchange Audit Services

RFP: CBL/RFP/10/2025

Method of selection: Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method as per CBL *Procurement Policy*

Invitation for Bids is open to all eligible service providers who can provide:

- 1. Company profile and relevant audit experience.
- 2. Evidence of past audit engagements with financial institutions or government agencies.
- 3. **Detailed audit methodology** outlining the approach to verification and risk assessment.
- 4. Financial proposal, including estimated costs and payment terms.
- 5. **Legal compliance certifications**, including tax clearance and social security registration.
- 6. Article of Incorporation
- 7. Valid Business Registration
- 8. Valid Tax Clearance
- 9. Past performance records of previous and current customers, telephone numbers and email addresses
- 10. Audited financial statements for the last THREE (3) years (2022, 2023 & 2024)

Bidders must ensure proposals address all aspects of the audit scope outlined above.

For Clarification of Bid purposes only, the Purchaser's Address is

Attention:

Maakai A. Amblard Director General Support Services Department (GSSD) 7th floor Central Bank of Liberia Lynch & Ashmun Streets 1000 Monrovia 10 Liberia

Email: mamblard@cbl.org.lr

Purchaser can modify Bid documents before the Deadline for Submission of Bids by issuing Addenda.

Language of the Bid: ENGLISH

BID PRICE AND CURRENCY

The price quoted shall be in: **United States Dollars (USD)**

PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF BID

Evaluation AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

- i. Delivery Shall Be Scheduled Upon Request of Purchaser
- ii. Compliance Scope of Service.
- iii. Compliance as per specifications provided in bid documents submitted by bidder
- iv. It is not permissible to transfer this Bidding Document (BD) to any other company or vendor
- v. Article of Incorporation
- vi. Valid Business Registration
- vii. Valid Tax Clearance
- viii. Past performance records of previous and current customers, telephone number and email address
- ix. Audited financial statements for the last THREE (3) years (2022, 2023 & 2024)

Bid Validity Period: Sixty Days (60 days)

Number of Copies: One (1) Original and Four (4) Duplicate Copies BINDED

Address for Bid Submission:

Maakai A. Amblard Director General Support Services Department (GSSD) 7th floor Central Bank of Liberia Lynch & Ashmun Streets 1000 Monrovia 10 Liberia

Email: mamblard@cbl.org.lr

Deadline for Bid submission:

Date: Thursday, June 26, 2025 Time: 2:00 PM

Place: Central Bank of Liberia

Bids shall be opened on the 7th floor (General Support Services Department) of the Central Bank of Liberia 5 minutes after the deadline for submission.

BID EVALUATION

Criteria for Bid evaluation shall be based on:

Bids will be evaluated based on:

1. Audit expertise and experience in financial sector audits.

- 2. Technical approach and methodology for audit procedures.
- 3. Transparency in financial proposal and cost breakdown.
- 4. **Compliance with financial regulations** and reporting standards.
- 5. Ability to meet deadlines and deliver quality reports.
- 6. Compliance with the scope of service.
- 7. Meeting the delivery terms and period as per schedule of requirements; and
- 8. Post-qualification exercise by Evaluation Panel members to ascertain the accuracy, authenticity, and verification of information and capacity of Bidder.

CBL retains the right to request further documentation or clarifications from bidders during the evaluation process.

CONTRACT DURATION, PAYMENT TERMS AND AWARD

The contract will run from **January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025**, covering two audit cycles.

Payment Terms

- Payments will be structured based on audit milestones.
- The audit firm must invoice upon submission of each audit report.
- CBL reserves the right to **withhold final payment** until all audit findings are reviewed and accepted.

Notification of Award shall be sent to the successful Bidder at any time Prior to expiration of Bid Validity.

SCOPE OF SERVICE AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Scope of Work

The audit firm will conduct a **semi-annual audit** that includes the following procedures:

1.1 Foreign Exchange Balances Verification

- Obtain a **list of all foreign exchange accounts** and cash holdings in vaults from CBL's accounting records.
- Independently **confirm balances** with CBL's correspondent banks and reconcile results.
- Determine whether any **off-balance sheet commitments or encumbrances** exist regarding foreign exchange reserves.

1.2 Physical Verification of Currency Holdings

- Conduct a **physical audit of foreign exchange holdings** in all CBL vault locations.
- Verify the vault count performed by CBL staff and reconcile with accounting records.

1.3 Analysis of Foreign Exchange Movements

- Categorize **all foreign exchange transactions** by type and currency.
 - Prepare detailed reports on inflows and outflows, grouped under:
 - CBL operational and capital expenditures
 - Government withdrawals and foreign exchange sales
 - Monetary policy transactions
 - Loans and financing received
 - Other financial movements

1.4 Transaction Validation and Sampling

- Review all **individual transactions above US\$1 million** for supporting documentation and authorization.
- Conduct **randomized sampling** of smaller transactions to verify authenticity.
- Identify and report high-value recipients exceeding US\$1 million cumulatively.

1.5 Compliance and Internal Controls Review

- Assess adherence to Investment Guidelines and payment authorization procedures.
- Identify **procurement and authorization irregularities** affecting foreign exchange transactions.

1.6 Reconciliation & Compliance Checks

- Compare six-month transaction summaries with monthly financial reports submitted to the CBL Board.
- Conduct a currency conversion analysis across USD, EUR, and LRD.
- Audit **foreign exchange suspense accounts** to ensure correct documentation and approval procedures.

1.7 Management Representations

• Obtain **official written assurances** from CBL management regarding the completeness and accuracy of financial data.

2. Submission

The Central Bank now invites an eligible, competent, independent and internationally reputable firm of auditors with experience in conducting foreign exchange movements audit reports to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services, including:

- Brochures.
- Description of similar assignments
- Experience in similar conditions,
- General qualifications and number of key staff, and so forth.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with Quality and Cost based Qualification method.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. from 0900 to 1700 hours (GMT) on working days.