



AMERICAN **BAR** ASSOCIATION

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## Rule of Law Initiative

Request for Proposals

for:

**Hotel Booking Services**

ABA Rule of Law Initiative

November 2022

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### Bid Timetable

The ABA will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule (all deadlines are COB Tunisia time):

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Date</b>
RFP posted and distributed to bidders	ABA	25 November 2022
Deadline to submit clarifying questions via e-mail to <a href="mailto:saoussen.moussi@americanbar.org">saoussen.moussi@americanbar.org</a> with a cc. to <a href="mailto:lauren.loveland@americanbar.org">lauren.loveland@americanbar.org</a>	Bidders	30 November 2022
Deadline for distribution of answers to questions	ABA	02 December 2022
Electronic proposals must be received by with a cc. to <a href="mailto:saoussen.moussi@americanbar.org">saoussen.moussi@americanbar.org</a> with a cc. to <a href="mailto:lauren.loveland@americanbar.org">lauren.loveland@americanbar.org</a>	Bidders	23 December 2022
Winning bid selected and bidders notified of result	ABA	06 January 2022
Planned contract effective date	ABA	01 February 2023

#### **1.0 General Information**

- 1.1 Purpose.** This request for proposal (RFP) provides to those interested in submitting proposals (“Bidders”) sufficient information to enable them to prepare and submit proposals for the American bar Association Tunisia office consideration on behalf of the American Bar Association.
- 1.2 Issuing Department.** The American Bar Association Tunisia office has issued this RFP on behalf of the American Bar Association. The sole point of contact in the ABA for the RFP shall be Saoussen Moussi, [saoussen.moussi@americanbar.org](mailto:saoussen.moussi@americanbar.org) the issuing employee for this RFP. Please refer all inquiries to the issuing employee, with a cc. to Lauren Loveland, [lauren.loveland@americanbar.org](mailto:lauren.loveland@americanbar.org)
- 1.3 Deliverables:** Deliverables in this subcontract will be: (a) hotel booking services, including lodging in single and double rooms, b) event space – small and large conference rooms – with good quality sound system, high-speed internet, video projectors, presentation screens, other conference room equipment, and essential stationary, c) provision of meals and coffee breaks.

- 1.4 Type of Contract.** The contract must comply with the ABA Contract Policy and will be reviewed by the ABA's General Counsel's Office. ABA entities do not have separate legal standing to enter into oral or written contracts in their own names. All contracts are entered into on behalf of the American Bar Association. The issuing department, in its sole discretion, may undertake negotiations with Bidders whose proposal, in the judgement of the issuing department, show them to be qualified, responsible and capable of performing the project or providing the goods. **Only staff members authorized by the ABA Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer have authority to execute contractual agreements on behalf of the ABA.**
- 1.5 Rejection of Proposals.** The issuing employee reserves the right, in their sole and complete discretion, to reject any proposal received as a result of this RFP.
- 1.6 Incurring of Costs.** The ABA is not liable for any costs the Bidder incurs in preparation and submission of its proposal, in participating in the RFP process or in anticipation of the award of the contract.
- 1.7 Questions and Answers.** If a Bidder has any questions regarding this RFP, the Bidder must submit the questions by email to the issuing employee named in Section 1.2 of the RFP. If the Bidder has questions, they must be submitted via email no later than the date indicated on the Bid Timetable. The Bidder shall not attempt to contact the issuing employee by any other means. All questions and all answers will be provided to all Bidders by the deadline date indicated on the Bid Timetable.
- 1.8 Response Date.** To be considered for selection, electronic submission must arrive to the issuing employee on the date specified in the Bid Timetable.
- 1.9 Proposals.** To be considered, Bidders should submit a complete response to this RFP, using the format provided in Section 2.0, providing an electronic copy in PDF format to the issuing employee. The Bidder shall make no other distribution of its proposal to any other Bidder or ABA employee or ABA consultant. An official authorized to bind the Bidder to its provisions must sign the proposal in Appendix A. For this RFP, the proposal must remain valid until a contract is fully executed. If the issuing employee selects the Bidder's proposal for award, the contents of the selected Bidder's proposal will become, except to the extent the contents are changed through Best and Final Offers or negotiations, contractual obligations.
- 1.10 Discussions for Clarification.** Bidders may be required to make an oral or written clarification to their proposals to the issuing employee to ensure thorough mutual understanding and Bidder responsiveness to the solicitation requirements. The issuing employee will initiate requests for clarification.
- 1.11 Prime Contractor Responsibilities.** The contract will require the selected Bidder to assume responsibility for all services offered in its proposal whether it produces them itself or by subcontract. The issuing employee will consider the selected Bidder to be the sole point of contact with regard to contractual matters.
- 1.12 Proposal Contents.** Bidders should not label proposal submissions as confidential or proprietary. The issuing employee will hold all proposals in confidence and will not reveal or discuss any proposal with competitors for the contract, unless disclosure is required:

- a. Under the provisions of any State or United States statute or regulation;  
or
- b. By rule or order of any court of competent jurisdiction.

All material submitted with the proposal becomes the property of the ABA and may be returned only at the issuing employee's option. The issuing employee, in its sole discretion, may include any person other than competing Bidders on its proposal evaluation committee. The issuing employee has the right to use any or all ideas presented in any proposal regardless of whether the proposal becomes part of a contract.

- 1.13 Best and Final Offers.** The issuing employee reserves the right to conduct discussions with Bidders for obtaining "best and final offers." To obtain best and final offers from Bidders, the issuing department may do one or more of the following: enter into pre-selection negotiations; schedule oral presentations; and request revised proposals.
- 1.14 Term of Contract.** The term of the contract will commence on the Effective Date and will end as determined by the project timeline provided in the bid. The Effective Date will be 1 February 2023 or the date of countersignature, whichever is later. The selected Bidder shall not start the performance of any work prior to the effective date of the contract and the ABA shall not be liable to pay the selected Bidder for any service or work performed or expenses incurred before the effective date of the contract. The contract is not considered approved until the terms have been reviewed and approved by the Office of General Counsel. An "American Bar Association Office of General Counsel" approval seal will appear on the contract with the signature of the attorney approving the terms of the contract.
- 1.15 Use of Electronic Versions of this RFP.** This RFP is being made available by electronic means. If a Bidder electronically accepts the RFP, the Bidder acknowledges and accepts full responsibility to ensure that no changes are made to the RFP.

## **2.0 Proposal Requirements**

- 2.1 Statement of the Services.** Briefly state your understanding of the services required by the RFP. Include a high-level management summary of how your company will effectively satisfy the services required, based on past experience.
- 2.2 Proposed Approach.** Describe your approach in detail for accomplishing the work as specified in Section 3.0 of this document. This document should be as detailed and comprehensive as possible.
- 2.3 Price Submittal.** It is known by ABA that it is not possible for bidders to accurately give fixed pricing for some services. In this instance bidders are to indicate what their % charges are for booking services.

## **3.0 Criteria for Selection**

**3.1 Mandatory Responsiveness Requirements.** To be eligible for selection, a proposal must:

- a. Be received according to the dates set in the Bid Timetable.
- b. Be properly signed by a representative of the Bidder who is eligible to bind them in contract with the ABA.
- c. Be in accordance with all instructions as set forth herein.

**3.2 Technically Nonconforming Proposals.** The issuing employee reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to waive technical or immaterial nonconformities in a Bidder's proposal.

**3.3 Criteria for Selection.** The following criteria will be used, in no particular order, in evaluating each proposal:

- a. Costs and fees for services including: lodging in single and double rooms; breakfast, lunch, dinner; small and large conference rooms; coffee break; data show, white board, and other conference room equipment.
- b. Demonstrated quality of services provided for accommodations and event space, with ability to deliver professional customer service.
- c. Location.
- d. Security protocols for overall hotel, accommodations, and venue space.

#### **4.0 Specifications and Work Statement**

**4.1 Background:** This RFP is for the provision of: hotel booking services, including lodging in single and double rooms; event space – small and large conference rooms – with good quality quality sound system, high-speed internet, video projectors, presentation screens, and essential stationary; and meals and coffee breaks. These services will support ABA ROLI activities across Tunisia, ABA ROLI seeks to recruit a company or companies with demonstrated access to these services, to accomplish the following objectives:

- (a) Support ABA ROLI in holding and organizing activities and events, including but not limited to lodging in single and double rooms.
- (b) Renting of event facilities, including provision of meals and coffee breaks.

#### **5.0 Activities and Approach**

Program deliverables under this subcontract are described in section 3.0. Contractor should describe the Activities it will undertake to accomplish these deliverables.

**5.1 Organizational Capacity Statement:** Contractor should describe its organizational capacity to carry out the work in this RFP, with focus on its experience working in Tunisia since 2011; including in these areas; knowledge of conflict-sensitivity and working with international organizations.

**6.0 Budget:** Contractor must provide a line-item budget for all activities under this program. The budget should include the following major cost-categories: (1) Lodging; (2) Meals (3) Conference Rooms; (4) Coffee break; (5) Sound System, video projector, and other conference room equipment.

Appendix A – Bidder Response Sheet

<b>Bidder Information:</b>	
Bidder Name	
Bidder Mailing Address	
Bidder Website	
Bidder Contact Person	
Contact Person's Phone Number	
Contact Person's Email Address	
Bidder US Federal ID Number if applicable	

<b>Signature:</b>	
Signature of an official authorized to bind the Bidder to the provisions contained in the Bidder's proposal:	
Printed Name	
Title	

Failure to complete, sign and return this form with the bidder's proposal may result in the rejection of the bidder's proposal.



### Appendix B - Budget Template

All bidders must complete the budget template for each of the services provided.

Hotel costs:

Lodging	Single room Half Board /night				
	Double Room Half Board /night				
Breakfast (if not included in lodging)					
Lunch					
Dinner (if not included in lodging)					
Coffee Break					
Small Meeting Room (6/12 pax)					
Big Meeting Room (25/80 pax)					
Video Projector and white Board					
Sound System					