

Housing, Municipal and Community Services

- Further funding for electricity infrastructure is most welcome as many communities were provided with houses but lack electricity especially in areas where ESKOM is responsible for distribution.
- SALGA expected that the 2006 MTBPS will make specific allocation for funding electricity distribution restructuring which has been delayed for years now.

Housing, Municipal and Community Services

- Establishing transport authorities at local level may assist in reducing the public transport challenges and SALGA expected that an allocation will be made to assist municipalities to fund this initiative.
- Apart from 2010 hosting municipalities there does not appear to be any additional funds allocated to other municipalities especially those neighboring hosting cities for public transport and systems improvement



Terms of Reference and Budget

For the Joint Budget Committee:

Security Cluster hearings report

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1. Background

The Legislature has a Constitutional mandate to oversee the activities of the Executive and to hold them accountable. For this to happen, the priorities of government in the medium term need to be made clear. There are various ways through which the priorities of government are communicated to the public. Firstly, government holds Imbizos where members of the public appear to communicate their preferences to government. Around May each year, the Financial and Fiscal Commission makes recommendations about the division of revenue across and within the spheres of government. These recommendations take account of the preferences of the people as expressed in various forums. In October the Ministers Committee on the budget holds hearings to discuss allocations to the spheres of government and departments. Information taken into account includes that contained in strategic plans and budget proposals submitted by departments. These documents should contain plans on both financial and non-financial performance. Final decision on allocations is taken in early November. At the same time, the Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement (MTBPS) is published. The document contains information on priorities of government over the medium term as well as the resource envelope to address priorities identified.

The MTBPS hearings on the Security Cluster will be conducted on Monday 6th of November to Wednesday 8th of November 2006. The Joint Budget Committee, therefore, contacted AFReC to attend the hearings and write the report on the Security Cluster. It is in response to this invitation that AFReC has developed these Terms of Reference (TOR). AFReC has conducted work of this nature for Parliament in the past. As such AFReC is well positioned to deliver an effective report in this area.

2. Objective and outputs

2.1 Objectives

The main objective of this assignment is to:

- a) Attend the MTBPS hearings on the Security Cluster.
- b) Prepare the Committee's report on the proceedings.

2.2 Timeframes

The assignment will be conducted over a period of five (5) days.

2.3 Inputs

Main inputs into the project are as specified in the budget reflected below.

2.4 Outputs

The main output of the project is:

- a) One report on the MTBPS based on the security cluster hearings from the 6th to the 8th of November 2006.

3. Data requirements from the client

AfReC needs to be furnished with copies of the following:

- Committee Reports on proceedings of this nature (i.e. security cluster hearings) from the past two financial years, if available.

4. Assumptions

- It is assumed that the project will start on the 6th of November and be conducted over a period of five (5) working days.

5. Logistical arrangements

National Parliament will take responsibility for all logistical arrangements required for feedback sessions, including venue hire, refreshments and equipment necessary to execute presentations, if and when the need arises.

6. Budget

This section details the budget for conducting activities outlined under the objectives part of these terms of reference.

6.1 Activities

Activities	Hours	Rate per hour	Total (R)
Attend hearings	24	600	14 400
Write reports	16	600	9 600
Total excluding VAT			24 000
VAT @ 14%			3 360
Total Including VAT			27 360

6.2 Notes to the budget

1. The budget for consulting time is a fixed-price budget, and will not change so long as no changes are made to the above Terms of Reference.
2. We will submit our invoice after submission of the work. In line with the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act we expect payment within 30 days after the submission of invoice. Failing such timely settlement we would like it recorded in the contract that AFReC (Pty) Ltd shall be entitled to charge interest at the prevailing prime rate of interest as specified by the Standard Bank of South Africa on any outstanding amounts.

7. Contracting

AFReC (Pty) Ltd requires a formal contract to be signed before proceeding with any project. Once this proposal is accepted, AFReC will proceed with putting together a standard contract that will be sent to Parliament for signature and return.

8. Declaration

AFReC declares that its staff members have no relationship whatsoever with the staff at Parliament.

9. Confidentiality

AFReC undertakes to treat all information provided by the client with the utmost level of confidentiality.

Client Acceptance

I accept the terms of reference as contained in this document.

Signature: _____ Date: _____