



# Republic of Mauritius

Ministry of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications

## Selection of a Strategic Partner for Terminal Operations at Port Louis Harbour Request For Prequalification

1. As part of its vision to develop Port Louis Harbour into a major hub for transshipment traffic in the region, the Government of Mauritius, through the Ministry of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications (the Agency) is proposing to secure a Strategic Partner (SP) for the Cargo Handling Corporation Ltd (CHCL).
2. The development strategy will ensure that Port Louis Harbour, as the sole maritime gateway of Mauritius moves to a higher level of productivity through;
  - (a) optimum utilisation of existing prime port infrastructure,
  - (b) substantial increase in container handling capacity,
  - (c) quick turnaround for container vessels,
  - (d) reduced waiting time for ships,
  - (e) terminal services of international class to the shipping community,
  - (f) opportunity for technical expertise of international level, and
  - (g) cost-effective port services.
3. The Government of Mauritius has also agreed to the Mauritius Ports Authority (MPA) divesting its 40% equity interest in CHCL to the SP. In consideration of this equity, the SP shall be required to invest in CHCL to improve operations, performance and service levels at the Terminals. To this end, the Government has appointed the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, to act as its lead transaction advisor.
4. Currently, CHCL is a public company with three shareholders namely the Government of Mauritius (6%), MPA (40%) and State Investment Corporation Ltd (54%). As the terminal operator at Port-Louis Harbour, CHCL is mandated through long term concession contracts with the MPA to provide container, general and bulk cargo handling services. Details on Port Louis Harbour and the CHCL are available on the website;  
[www.MauritiusPortPPP.org](http://www.MauritiusPortPPP.org)
5. The purpose of the Request for Pre-Qualification (RFQ) process is to identify potential SPs with the requisite technical and managerial experience as well as the financial capacity to undertake the Opportunity as stipulated in the RFQ.
6. Only pre-qualified applicants will be eligible to participate in the subsequent (and final) stage of the selection process by responding to the Request for Proposals (RFP) to be issued by the Agency.
7. All interested applicants may obtain a copy of the RFQ by registering with the Agency at the address below against payment of a non-refundable fee of USD 5,000 or equivalent in Mauritian rupees. The RFQ request form template is available on the website indicated above. The registration process will close on **Thursday 26 March, 2009 at 1600 hours (Mauritian time)**.
8. A briefing session with all registered applicants is scheduled for **Wednesday, 25 March, 2009 at 10.00 hrs.**
9. The closing date & time for the submission of RFQ responses is **Monday, 06 April, 2009 by 1600 hours (Mauritian time)** at latest. Any application received after the closing date will not be accepted.

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