IDB615-780/10

**BARBADOS**

**BARBADOS COMPETITIVENESS PROGRAM**

**Sector: Business Climate**

**GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

**Project No. BA-L1007**

**Loan Contract No. 2278/OC-BA**

The Government of Barbados, through its Ministry of Economic Affairs, Empowerment, Innovation, Trade, Industry and Commerce has received financing in the amount equivalent to US$10,000,000 from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The Government intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, works, related services and consulting services to be procured under the Barbados Competitiveness Program. The Program will be jointly financed by the Government of Barbados. Bidding will be governed by the Inter-American Development Bank’s eligibility rules and procedures.

The main objective of the Program is to enhance the competitiveness of Barbados by supporting initiatives to: (i) rationalize the incentive system and regulations to ensure a coherent framework to support business development; (ii) rationalize the institutional architecture of Business Development Services (BDS) and introduce a framework for clustering initiatives; (iii) improve logistics and trade facilitation, lowering the cost of the movement of goods and people, and enhance access to infrastructure through Public Private Partnerships, among other modalities; and (iv) strengthen public-private dialogue to develop and implement a medium-term competitiveness strategy.

The Project encompasses the following four main components:

\*Ensuring a coherent framework for business development incentives and regulations

\*Ensuring a coherent BDS architecture for business development

\*Improving trade logistics and trade facilitation and enhancing access to infrastructure

\*Strengthening public-private dialogue on competitiveness

In the execution of the Program, it is anticipated that a number of goods and consulting services will be procured. Procurement processes of contracts financed by the IDB will be conducted in accordance with the <I>Policies for the Procurement of Works and Goods financed by the Inter-American Development Bank</I> (GN-2349-7), August 2006. Consulting services will be selected and contracted in accordance with the <I>Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank</I> (GN-2350-7) of August 2006.

Specific procurement notices for contracts to be bid under the IDB’s international competitive bidding procedures will be published as they become available. For consulting services expected to cost an amount equivalent to US$ 200,000 or more, a request for expressions of interest contracts will be advertised in <I>UN Development Business</I> and the IDB’s website as well as the Barbados Nation Newspaper and the Barbados Advocate Newspaper.

Interested eligible bidders and consultants who wish to receive a copy of advertisements requesting expressions of interest for consultants’ contracts, or those requiring additional information, should contact:

Permanent Secretary (Economic Affairs)

Ministry of Economic Affairs, Empowerment, Innovation, Trade, Industry and Commerce

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