TERMS OF REFERENCE
Research Consultant

Position title: Research Consultant
Minimum period of commitment: 15-30 days (will be adjusted based on deliverables)
Application deadline: 4pm Sunday, 4 January 2015
Location: Male’, Maldives

1. Organizational background:

Transparency Maldives is a non-partisan organization that endeavors to be a constructive force in society by promoting collaboration and discussion on corruption, transparency, and accountability. Our organization seeks to engage with stakeholders from all sectors (government, business, political and civil society, among others) to raise awareness of corruption’s detrimental effects on development and society, improve transparency and accountability in governance, and eliminate corruption from the daily lives of people.

Transparency Maldives received formal government registration in 2007, and is the National Contact of Transparency International (TI) in the Maldives.

2. Project background:

Transparency Maldives is conducting a project targeted at increasing transparency and accountability of the parliament in the Maldives. The key activities of this project are designed to facilitate public participation in holding the parliament accountable. We believe civil society actors can play an important role in holding MPs accountable, as consultative agents in promoting issues of public interest and to support members of the parliament in making policy decisions and legislation.

3. Objectives and scope:

Transparency Maldives will be conducting a mixed methods research survey to discern public attitudes and perceptions towards floor crossing with the intention of using the data collected for advocacy purposes and to create a dialogue between members of the parliament, civil society organisations, media, and the public on parliamentary best practices on floor crossing. The researcher is expected to design the methodology and assist with reviewing survey questionnaires, and prepare a short paper on the main findings. The paper must explore floor crossing trends in the Maldives, and include regional/global case studies to highlight different floor crossing systems.

4. Expected outputs and timeline:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>Tentative Deadline</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Finalise methodology</td>
<td>15 January 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Review and refine the survey questionnaires</td>
<td>22 January 2015</td>
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3. Conduct one session for enumerators on methodology 1 February 2015

4. Design data collection method 5 February 2015

5. Research on:
   - Floor crossing trends in the Maldives (800-1000 words)
   - Two regional and two global case studies (500-800 words per case study) 25 February 2015

5. **Deadline:**

Submit all deliverables within 45 days of signing the contract.

6. **Qualifications and competencies:**

   - Minimum of a master’s degree or equivalent in social sciences, politics, development planning, economics, law, or a related field demonstrably relevant to the position.
   - Excellent qualitative and quantitative research skills.
   - Excellent analytical skills.
   - Excellent English writing and communication skills (fluency in Dhivehi is desired).
   - Familiarity with the Maldivian parliament and governing system.

**Closing date for applications:** Before 4pm Sunday, 4 January 2015.

**Application and selection procedures:** Email 1) a cover letter stating clearly why you are suitable for the post, 2) curriculum vitae and names of two referees, 3) proposed research methodology, and 4) samples of previous publications to Ms. Fazla Abdul-Samad (fazla.abdulsamad@transparencymaldives.org).

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews. If you are short-listed you will be notified by either phone or email.