



Mekong River Commission For Sustainable Development

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. CONSULTANCY SUMMARY

Title:	Navigation Planning and Management Consultant
Consultancy Type:	Special Service Agreement - home based, daily rate: one-time assignment, 1 TOR, number of consultancy days within 9 calendar months
Division:	Planning Division
Duration:	22 working days from 01 April to 31 December 2023
Duty Station:	Homebased and MRCS office
Reporting to:	PD Director
Expected Deliverables:	Please refer to Section 5

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

One of MRC overall objectives is to promote freedom of navigation, to increase the international trade opportunities for the MRC member countries' mutual benefit and to assist in coordination and cooperation in developing effective and safe waterborne transport in a sustainable and protective manner for the waterway environment.

Preparing practical manuals for training on the waterway transport, dealing with dangerous goods, waste/dangerous waste management, marine accidents.

Inland navigation in the Mekong River basin is making transport more sustainable, particularly where it substitutes road transport, but it also can have considerable environmental impacts. Increasingly, petroleum products and other dangerous goods are being transported along the Mekong River. If not managed properly, these cargoes have the potential to cause significant pollution and even major incidents such as fires and explosions impacting on riparian communities. Therefore, MRCS will assist the member countries to prepare a training programme with curriculum dealing with dangerous goods, waste/dangerous waste management, marine accidents for relevant staff.

Establishment of National Mekong Data and Information Management Systems in the four MRC Member Countries

It is of concern that there is a lack of data with respect to trade and traffic production and attraction, intra- and inter-regional trade and traffic flows, modal split, as well as the physical aspects of the river and the ports along the Mekong River, while existing data collection and management is organised (if so) by many different organisations and authorities. Therefore, a

draft Concept Note for the establishment of national Mekong Inland Waterway Transport Data and Information Management Systems and River Information Services was prepared, to be discussed by the national authorities of the four MRC member countries. In 2021, the draft Concept note for the establishment of national Mekong Inland Waterway Transport Data and Information Management Systems and River Information Services needs was and it should start with the development of a national Mekong Inland Waterway Transport Data and Information website in the four MRC Member Countries (MCs). The website template was agreed and designed with the MCs. This year the website will have to be input with specific data.

Lao PDR – Thailand harmonization of navigation safety and anti-pollution rules and regulations

For the stretches of the Mekong River which are within the scope of the Quadripartite Agreement on Commercial Navigation on the Lancang-Mekong River, harmonization of safety and anti-pollution rules and regulations are part of this Agreement. For those stretches of the Mekong which are outside the scope of this Agreement (i.e. from Luang Prabang down to the Khone Phapheng), some national navigation safety and anti-pollution rules and regulations are available but need to be harmonized to have a common risk prevention and emergency response.

A Steering Committee was set up in 2017 for the harmonization. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and 13 annexes of rules on traffic safety and anti-pollution¹ have been prepared discussed in the Steering Committee. This year the MRCS will facilitate Lao PDR and Thailand to sign the MOU.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTANCY

The objectives of this consultancy are

- to provide a training materials on Port and vessel waste management
- to delvier training on Port and vessel waste management
- to provide framework for accident reporting, including the accident with dangerous good transportation
- to support data collection for navigation website
- to support national consultation process for navigation safety and anti-pollution between Lao PDR and Thailand

This will significantly facilitate international and cross-border waterborne transportation of cargo and passengers, increase the competitiveness of the MRC Member Countries' economies and enhance safety and sustainability of navigation and port operations.

4. EXPECTED RESULTS

¹ 1)Traffic safety, 2) Vessel safety, 3) Passenger protection, 4) Crew certification, 5) Search and rescue, 6) Emergency response, 7) Port safety, 8) Waste management, 9) Contingency Plan, 10) Regulations on a Vessel and Waterway Classification, 11) Emergency and Oil spill response in port and terminal, 12) Technical and Operational Requirements for Tankers, annex 13) Transport and handling of dangerous goods.

- a training materials on Port and vessel waste management
- a training on Port and vessel waste management
- a framework for accident reporting, including the accident with dangerous good transportation
- a training on the transport, handling and storage of dangerous goods

5. DELIVERABLES AND CONCRETE TIMELINES

Deliverables and Expected Quality	Number of Days/Hours	Deadline
A training material on Port and vessel waste management	8	July 2023
A training on Port and vessel waste management	1	September 2023
A framework for accident reporting, including the accident with dangerous good transportation	8	August 2023
A training on the transport, handling and storage of dangerous goods	1	September 2023
Attend consultation meetings/trainings	4	Sept - Nov 2023
Total Number of Days/Hours	22	

6. REQUIRED TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide:
 - o a training materials on Port and vessel waste management
 - o a training on Port and vessel waste management
 - o a framework for accident reporting, including the accident with dangerous good transportation
 - o a training on the transport, handling and storage of dangerous goods
- Attend consultation meetings.

7. PAYMENT MODALITY

- A first payment (20% of total contract value) will be paid after signing the contract.
- The second payment onward will be paid after deliverables outlined in section 5. The final payment will be made based on presentation of the deliverables outlined in section 5, including all reports, a short progress report and timesheet. All deliverables must be satisfactorily accepted by the MRCS Planning Division.
- The Consultant will invoice for completed deliverables outlined in Section 5.

Note: Consultancy rate is defined by the MRCS consultancy rate policy and the level of consultancy. MRC is a tax-exempted agency for the work done for the MRC. Consultant, in case

mission is required, will be covered with a return ticket to and from the assigned duty stations with a daily related subsistence allowance of 75% of the UN for the mission days.

8. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Intellectual property rights - IPR: Information, data, database, knowledge resources in the forms of briefings, reports, proceedings, articles, essays, etc. issued by and for the MRCS will be the MRCS property.

Any utility, announcement and disclosure that are without MRCS highest levels of authority' permission is considered illegal and will be charged by relevant local and international legal procedures.

9. DECLARATION OF NON-FRAUDULENCE AND PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

The Subscriber shall adhere to the MRC's relevant rules and regulations of the MRC on personal data protection, business exclusion, and fraud prevention and anti-corruption principles, and shall be under strict disciplinary measures should any violation occurs.

10. WORKING ARRANGEMENT

Communication Line

The Consultant will work under the supervision of the Director of the MRCS Planning Division, the consultant will work with relevant staff of the MRCS including the Navigation Specialist. Furthermore, he/she will work in close collaboration and coordination with the National Mekong Committee Secretariats and the National Navigation Experts

11. QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS *(select or add as appropriate)*

- Master's degree in waterborne transport management.
- Minimum fifteen (15) years of high-level knowledge and experience in transport planning and operating.
- Good knowledge of Inland waterway transport on the Mekong River.
- Demonstrated ability to write technical reports that decision-makers and the public can easily understand.
- Experience with MRC and Mekong work is an advantage.
- Fluency in spoken and written English.
- Excellent writing, presentation, and reporting skills.
- Immediate availability will be considered an advantage.

12. SIGNATURE BLOCK

MRCS:

Consultant:

Full Name: Mr. Theerawat Samphawamana

Incumbent's Full Name: _____

Title: Director of Planning Division

Signature: _____

Incumbent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____