

The Procurement Centres — Continued

Procurement: Procurement focuses on emergency assistance equipment, industrial equipment, furniture, office equipment, computer and telecommunications equipment, postal services, and air and sea charter services. Expert and consulting services are also in demand to cover UNOG activities.

UNOG procurement in 1996 totalled US\$12 million for equipment and US\$18 million for services.

UNOG's geographic remoteness for Canadian firms means that they should also consider other clients in order to make European contact tours cost-effective. However, opportunities may always exist for companies working in very specific niches of activity.

Registration and contact: Interested companies should register with the Chief, Procurement and Transportation Section, UNOG, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, tel.: (41-22) 917 2840, fax: (41-22) 917-0013, e-mail: procurement@unog.ch

Agriculture

The three agencies dealing with agriculture are all based in Rome, Italy.

FAO - United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
(www.fao.org)

FAO promotes agricultural development by contributing to projects in rural development and land and water reclamation and to the campaign against soil erosion and desertification. FAO helps to improve worldwide nutritional status and food security by seeking to enhance the quality of plants generally and food crop productivity in particular. It is also a forum for international discussions on agriculture research and dietary

matters, particularly by assuming the responsibility for developing dietary standards. FAO also has training and extension programs for farming techniques.

Procurement: FAO procures transportation vehicles, construction materials, irrigation and public works equipment and communications equipment. Office equipment and supplies are procured for both headquarters and field operations.

The services of farming and forestry consultants and rural development experts are the most frequently called for, along with the skills of economics experts. On occasion, FAO will also require topographical and aerial survey services.

Procurement in 1996 totalled US\$37 million for equipment and US\$23 million for services.

Registration: Interested firms should register with FAO. Its Rome headquarters handle major procurement, but field missions have a degree of latitude in supplying their own requirements.

Contact: Mr. George Politis, Chief, Procurement, Administration Division, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy, tel.: (39-06) 5705-3161, fax: (39-06) 5705-3047.

Services: Chief, Contracting Subdivision, tel.: (39-06) 5225-6702, fax: (39-06) 5225-3047.

WFP - World Food Program
(www.wfp.org)

WFP responds to emergency food requirements in the wake of natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods. It provides food aid to protect the health of children and young mothers in developing countries. WFP also promotes food self-sufficiency programs in developing countries.

Procurement: WFP procures basic foodstuffs (wheat, rice, semolina, beans) in both developed and developing countries. The agency also purchases vehicles and other means of transportation, kitchen equipment and prefabricated buildings for use in field locations. Procurement is usually done by limited international competition.

Procurement in 1996 totalled US\$459 million for goods and US\$198 million for services.

Registration: Interested companies should make themselves known to the WFP procurement service.

Contact: Ms. Paola Miller, Chief, Purchasing and Contracts Branch, Management Service Division, WFP, Via Cesare Giulio Viola, 68 Parco dei Medici, Rome 00148, Italy, tel.: (39-06) 6513-2811 or 6513-2365, fax: (39-06) 6513-2807 or 5228-2847.

IFAD - International Fund for Agricultural Development
(www.unicc.org/ifad)

IFAD provides loans and grants for agricultural development projects in developing countries.

Procurement: Goods and services required for projects are procured by the project's executing agency rather than by IFAD, which is solely a funding source. Suppliers must therefore approach the project's executing agency directly. Goods procured by IFAD itself are essentially for internal use, such as office equipment and supplies. These products are generally procured in Italy, where IFAD is based. However, IFAD does require consultants to identify and prepare the projects it funds, which are listed on its Web site under "Business Opportunities."

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