



TERMS OF REFERENCE TO DEVELOP A THEORETICAL CASE FOR THE 2025 MOOT COURT COMPETITION

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

1. In realization of its mandate of promoting and protecting human rights, carried out through functions such as human rights education and studies in The Gambia, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), in partnership with the Faculty of Law, University of The Gambia (UTG), launches the 6th edition of the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Human Rights Moot Court Competition in The Gambia. The competition will bring together human rights practitioners, law students, lawyers, parliamentarians, Civil Society representatives, and students. Participants are expected to come from universities around Africa.
2. This year's theme, *Climate Change and Human Rights in Africa*, addresses one of the most pressing challenges of our time, which is already reshaping economies, ecosystems and governance, and adversely affecting communities and the lives of millions of people across Africa. Climate change, once regarded primarily as an environmental or scientific concern, is now widely recognised as a human rights issue.
3. Ultimately, this year's theme situates the Moot Court Competition at the heart of the global conversation on climate justice. It affirms the vision of Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, whose legacy in promoting human rights and the African human rights system endures through the Banjul Charter. By empowering African law students and practitioners to engage critically with these issues, the competition seeks to inspire the next generation of legal minds to advocate for a rights-based approach to climate governance.
4. The NHRC seeks a consultant to support the development of a hypothetical case and related materials for the 2025 competition.

2. OVERALL OBJECTIVES

Develop a hypothetical case and other relevant materials for the SDKJ Moot Court Competition 2025.

3. MAIN TASKS

- Develop a hypothetical case for use by law students for the moot court competition.
- Develop guidance notes for judges of the competition.

- Provide a summary/inventory of the relevant authorities for the Commission and the competition judges.
- Develop a marking/assessment scheme for the judges; and
- Provide any other support as necessary for the successful completion of the 2025 moot competition.

4. KEY DELIVERABLES

In consultation with the NHRC and other national stakeholders, the following deliverables are expected from the consultant:

- Hypothetical case for use by law students for the moot court competition
- Guidance notes for judges of the competition.
- Summary/inventory of the relevant authorities for the Commission and the Judges.
- Marking/assessment scheme for the judges.

5. QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCIES

a. Academic Qualification

Minimum of a master's degree in law or specialisation in relevant fields such as international law, human rights and environmental law are highly desirable.

Experience and Skills

- At least 5 years experience in law, research, and policy formulation.
- Strong legal research and writing skills.
- Ability to draft realistic and engaging hypothetical cases.
- Experience of moot court competition is an added advantage.
- Familiarity with procedural rules of courts or tribunals (national and international).
- Capacity to frame clear legal issues suitable for student debates.
- Deep understanding of the legal system and jurisdiction relevant to the competition.
- Awareness of current legal debates in the context of climate change and human rights.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

A combined scoring method will be used to select the best offer, where the qualification and methodology will be scored a minimum of 70% and a maximum of 80% to qualify, and combined with the financial proposal, which will be scored 20%. The key criteria for rating the qualification and methodology, and their respective percentage weight are shown below.

Evaluation Criteria	Score
At least a master's degree in human rights law or a relevant field in law	20

At least five years' experience in law, research and policy formulation in climate change and human rights.	25
Evidence of having taken similar assignments	25
Evidence of at least four years of work experience in the area of human rights, and preferably in the context of climate change and human rights	20
Methodology	10
Total	100

The Consultant or consultancy firm securing at least 70% in the technical proposal will be eligible for evaluation of the financial proposal and other processes of selection.

6. TIMEFRAME/DURATION

The consultancy is for 15 working days from the date the contract is awarded. The Consultant shall work with the focal point designated for the moot court competition identified by the Commission.

7. PAYMENT

Instalments of Payment/ Period	Deliverables or Documents to be Delivered	Approval should be obtained	Percentage of Payment
1 st Instalment	Upon submission and acceptance of the hypothetical case	Executive Secretary	50%
2 nd Instalment	Upon submission and acceptance of the guidance notes on the relevant legal issues to be used by the competition judges	Executive Secretary	25%
3 rd Instalment	Upon submission and acceptance of a comprehensive set of rules of procedure tailored to the Rules of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights	Executive Secretary	25%

Payment for the consultancy is all-inclusive. A 8% withholding tax on the gross fee will be applied.

10. FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

This consultancy is open to both **national and international consultants or consultancy firms**. Interested individual(s) are required to submit their technical and financial proposals for consideration by the Commission.

- a. Technical Proposal: This should contain the following to facilitate a comparative review.
 - Cover Letter
 - Updated CV
 - Two written references

- Proposed Methodology
- Work plan/implementation timelines
- Experience conducting similar Consultancies.
- Other supporting documents
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b. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

All-inclusive daily consultancy fee.

The term 'all-inclusive' implies that all costs (professional fees, travel-related expenses, communications, insurance, etc.) that could be incurred by the Consultant are factored into the financial proposal. Under this arrangement, the contract price will be fixed regardless of changes in the cost components. Payments will be made only upon confirmation by the NHRC of satisfactory delivery of the contract obligations.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROPRIETARY INTERESTS

The Consultant shall not disclose any proprietary or confidential information related to the consultancy during the term or after the termination of the assignment without the prior written consent of the NHRC. Proprietary interests/rights on all materials and documents prepared by the consultants under the assignment shall become and remain the property of the NHRC.

Application process

Interested candidates should submit their technical and financial proposals to: advert@gm-nhrc.org. The deadline **for the submission of the application, with all the relevant documents, is October 14th 2025** by 3pm.

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The NHRC is an equal opportunity employer.

To view the full TOR, please visit our website at <https://www.gm-nhrc.org/vacancies-1>.