

Proposals should clearly demonstrate how the partnership will meet the program's objectives and plan.

3. Impact of Program Objectives

Proposal objectives should have sustainable consequences for the participating institutions and the societies and communities which these institutions serve.

4. Support of Diversity

Proposals should demonstrate substantive support of the Bureau's policy on diversity by outlining relevant aspects of the institutional profile of each participating institution together with the relevancy of issues of diversity to program objectives and implementation.

5. Institutional Capacity and Commitment

Proposals should demonstrate commitment of institutional resources adequate and appropriate to achieve program goals. Proposals should demonstrate significant understanding at each institution of its own needs and capacities and of the needs and capacities of its proposed partner(s), together with a strong commitment, during and after the period of grant activity, to cooperate with one another in the mutual pursuit of institutional objectives. Relevant factors include: the financial and political stability of partner institutions and the availability of a critical mass of faculty willing and able to participate. Preference will be given to proposals which include multiple quarter- or semester-length stays. Proposals should provide evidence of relevant and successful prior interactions between institutions and an indication of collaborative program planning. The Bureau will consider the past performance of prior grant recipients and all reviewers will consider the demonstrated potential of new applicants. Reviewers will also consider the quality of exchange participants' academic credentials, skills, and experience relative to the goals and activities of the project plan (e.g. language skills).

6. Project Evaluation

Proposals should include a plan and methodology for evaluating the project's degree of success in meeting program objectives. The plan should include an updated assessment of the current status of each department at the time of program inception; on-going formative evaluation to allow for prompt corrective action; and summative evaluation of the degree of achievement of project objectives together with

recommendations for further activities and projects to build upon project achievements.

7. Cost-Effectiveness

Administrative costs should be reasonable and appropriate with cost-sharing provided by all participating institutions within the context of their respective capacities and as a reflection of their commitment to cooperation with one another in pursuing project objectives.

Ineligibility

A proposal will be deemed technically ineligible if:

- (1) It does not fully adhere to the guidelines established herein and in the Solicitation Package;
- (2) It is not received by the deadline;
- (3) It is not submitted by the U.S. partner;
- (4) One of the partner institutions is ineligible;
- (5) The academic discipline(s) is/are not listed as eligible in the RFP, herein;
- (6) The amount requested of the Bureau request exceeds \$200,000 for the three-year project.

Please refer to program-specific guidelines (POGI) in the Solicitation Package for further details.

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal Bureau procedures.

Dated: November 5, 1999.

Evelyn S. Lieberman,

Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs.

[FR Doc. 99-30048 Filed 11-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3159]

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs; Public Policy Partnership for the Institute of Public Administration at Moscow State University Project (PPP): Request for Proposals

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of Global Educational Programs of the United States Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may submit proposals to assist the Institute of Public Administration of Moscow State University in developing graduate programs in the field of public policy.

Program Information

Overview

This project is designed to assist the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) at Moscow State University in developing its capacity to deliver a graduate program in Public Policy that meets high international standards for instruction and research in this field. The primary goal of this project is to promote development of a curriculum of policy-relevant, theoretically sophisticated, empirical approaches designed to promote an open, accountable, efficient and responsive public sector. The grantee organization will be expected to assist the Institute of Public Administration through a comprehensive program of exchange and support activities which will foster lasting institutional and individual ties. The project will award up to \$500,000 for up to a two year period to defray the costs of two-way faculty exchange and of limited student exchange, with an allowance for educational materials (including support for distance learning projects) and with provision for some aspects of project administration. There is also the possibility of a renewal grant of up to \$500,000 for up to a two year period pending positive program review and the availability of funding.

Objectives

The overall objective of this project is to enable the Institute of Public Administration at Moscow State University to equip its graduate program in Public Policy to support emergent democratic institutions in Russia by preparing future leaders to analyze and resolve public policy issues within a democratic framework in the context of

a market-based open economy. This overall objective should be supported through the following program components: assistance with curriculum and materials development for the graduate curriculum in Public Policy; assistance with the development of continuing education and distance learning programs; assistance with the development of a sustainable graduate student exchange program; development of outreach programs; and support for research.

Background

IPA holds independent status within Moscow State University. IPA has approximately 200 junior and senior faculty, approximately half of whom speak English. There are currently 11 departments at IPA: Legal Bases of Management; Managerial Technologies; Management Sociology; Economic Theory and Policy; Political History; Russian State History; Philosophy and Methodology of Science; Philosophy for Humanities Faculties; Political Economy; Political Sociology; and Personnel Management. In addition IPA has two research laboratories for Science Organization and Management and for Social-Economic Processes Management. Applicants should contact IPA to learn more about their program and to consult with them about program priorities necessary for developing a graduate program in Public Policy.

Participants

The project is designed for the following Russian participants: faculty, administrators, staff and students at the Institute of Public Administration at Moscow State University. In addition, participants include U.S. faculty, administrators and staff, and other qualified professionals with appropriate Public Policy expertise. Although applicant organizations do not need to obtain a letter of commitment from the Institute of Public Administration, they are encouraged to consult with IPA about options for defining their potential collaboration.

Logistics

The grantee organization will be responsible for most arrangements associated with this program. These include providing international and domestic travel arrangements for all participants, making lodging and local transportation arrangements for visitors, orienting and debriefing participants, and preparing any necessary support material.

Visa/Insurance/Tax Requirements

Programs must comply with J-1 visa regulations including those pertaining to insurance. Please refer to Solicitation Package for further information. Administration of the program must be in compliance with reporting and withholding regulations for federal, state and local taxes as applicable. Recipient organizations should demonstrate tax regulation adherence in the proposal narrative and budget.

Budget Guidelines

Organizations with less than four years of experience in conducting international exchange programs are ineligible for this grant competition.

Applicants must submit a comprehensive budget for the entire program. Awards may not exceed \$500,000. There must be a summary budget as well as a break-down reflecting the program and administrative budgets, and detailed budgets for each of the two years of the grant. The total administrative costs funded by the Bureau may not exceed 20% of the total request. Applicants may provide separate sub-budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity to provide clarification.

Please refer to the Solicitation Package for complete budget guidelines and formatting instructions.

Announcement Title and Number

All correspondence with the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs concerning this RFP should reference the above title and number ECA/A/S/U-00-07.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: The Office of Global Educational Programs, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, D.C. 20547, telephone: (202) 619-4126, fax: (202) 401-1433, internet jcebra@usia.gov to request a Solicitation Package. The Solicitation Package contains detailed award criteria, required application forms, specific budget instructions, and standard guidelines for proposal preparation. Please specify Program Officer Jonathan Cebra on all inquiries and correspondence.

Please read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFP deadline has passed, Bureau staff may not discuss this competition with applicants until the proposal review process has been completed.

Contact Information for the Institute of Public Administration at Moscow State University

Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with the Institute of Public Administration and Social Science at Moscow State University. More detailed information about IPA can be obtained from their web site at the Institute web site at: <http://www.ipa-ss.msu.ru>. The designated contact person for IPA is Deputy Director Aleksey Barabashov, who may be reached by e-mail at barabash@ipa-ss.msu.ru.

To Download a Solicitation Package Via Internet

The entire Solicitation Package may be downloaded from the Bureau's website at <http://e.usia.gov/education/rfps>. Please read all information before downloading.

Deadline for Proposals

All proposal copies must be received at the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs by 5 p.m. Washington, DC time on *Wednesday, March 15, 2000*. Faxed documents will not be accepted at any time. Documents postmarked by the due date but received on a later date will not be accepted. Each applicant must ensure that the proposals are received by the above deadline.

Approximate program dates: Grants should begin on or about June 15, 2000.

Duration: June 15, 2000-June 14, 2002.

Submissions

Applicants must follow all instructions in the Solicitation Package. The original and 10 copies of the application should be sent to: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Ref.: ECA/A/S/U-00-07, Grants Management Staff, ECA/EX/PM, Room 336, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547.

Applicants must also submit the "Executive Summary" and "Proposal Narrative" sections of the proposal on a 3.5" diskette, formatted for DOS. These documents must be provided in ASCII text (DOS) format with a maximum line length of 65 characters. The Bureau will transmit these files electronically to the public affairs section of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow for its review, with the goal of reducing the time it takes to get posts' comments for the Bureau's grants review process.

Diversity, Freedom and Democracy Guidelines

Pursuant to the Bureau's authorizing legislation, programs must maintain a non-political character and should be balanced and representative of the

diversity of American political, social, and cultural life. "Diversity" should be interpreted in the broadest sense and encompass differences including, but not limited to ethnicity, race, gender, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, and physical challenges. Applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the advancement of this principle both in program administration and in program content. Please refer to the review criteria under the "Support for Diversity" section for specific suggestions on incorporating diversity into the total proposal. Public Law 104-319 provides that "in carrying out programs of educational and cultural exchange in countries whose people do not fully enjoy freedom and democracy," the Bureau "shall take appropriate steps to provide opportunities for participation in such programs to human rights and democracy leaders of such countries." Proposals should reflect advancement of this goal in their program contents, to the full extent deemed feasible.

Year 2000 Compliance Requirement (Y2K Requirement)

The Year 2000 (Y2K) issue is a broad operational and accounting problem that could potentially prohibit organizations from processing information in accordance with Federal management and program specific requirements including data exchange with the Bureau. The inability to process information in accordance with Federal requirements could result in grantees' being required to return funds that have not been accounted for properly.

The Bureau therefore requires all organizations use Y2K compliant systems including hardware, software, and firmware. Systems must accurately process data and dates (calculating, comparing and sequencing) both before and after the beginning of the year 2000 and correctly adjust for leap years.

Additional information addressing the Y2K issue may be found at the General Services Administration's Office of Information Technology website at <http://www.itpolicy.gsa.gov>.

Review Process

The Bureau will acknowledge receipt of all proposals and will review them for technical eligibility. Proposals will be deemed ineligible if they do not fully adhere to the guidelines stated herein and in the Solicitation Package. All eligible proposals will be forwarded to independent reviewers and to Bureau and U.S. Embassy officers for advisory review.

An independent review panel of professional, scholarly, or educational experts with appropriate regional and thematic knowledge will provide recommendations and assessments for consideration by The Bureau. The Bureau will consider for funding only those proposals which are recommended for further consideration by the independent review panel.

Proposals will also be reviewed by Bureau officers as well as by other State Department officers in Washington, D.C. and overseas. Proposals may also be reviewed by the Office of the Legal Advisor or by other offices of the U.S. Department of State. Funding decisions will be made at the discretion of the Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs. Final technical authority for assistance awards (grants or cooperative agreements) will reside with a contracts officer with competency for Bureau programs.

Review Criteria

Independent reviewers and State Department officers in Washington, DC, and overseas will use the criteria below to reach funding recommendations and decisions. Technically eligible applications will be competitively reviewed according to the criteria stated below. These criteria are not rank-ordered or weighted.

1. Quality of the Program Idea

Proposals should exhibit originality, substance, precision and resourcefulness. Proposals should have reasonable and feasible project objectives which are clearly relevant to the Public Policy Partnership for the Institute of Public Administration at Moscow State University Project objectives and to the overall Bureau mission. Proposals should describe the projected benefits for all participating institutions as well as for wider communities of educators and professionals in Russia and the U.S.

2. Program Planning

Proposals should include appropriate and feasible project plans and a detailed schedule which should include a well-reasoned combination of useful and appropriate mentoring, teaching, faculty and/or staff development, curriculum development (including distance learning), graduate student exchange and outreach. The various activities should be clearly related to project objectives, but need not be equally emphasized within the proposal. Proposals should clearly demonstrate how the partnership will meet the project's objectives and plan.

3. Support of Diversity

Proposals should demonstrate substantive support of the Bureau's policy on diversity. The Bureau seeks institutional and geographic diversity of U.S. and overseas institutions (applications are encouraged from institutions with diverse student enrollments and institutions from under-represented areas). The Bureau also encourages proposals which address diversity concerns in program content.

4. Institutional Capacity and Commitment

Proposals should demonstrate institutional resources adequate and appropriate to achieve program goals. Relevant factors include: The match between partner departments and schools; and availability of sufficient numbers of faculty and/or administrators willing and able to participate. Proposals should meet or exceed suggested Bureau minimum faculty exchange levels. Proposals should provide evidence of strong institutional commitment by all participating institutions and an indication of collaborative program planning. Proposals should demonstrate promise of sustainability and long-term impact which will be reflected in a plan for continued, non-U.S. government support and follow-on activities.

5. Institutions' Record/Ability

Proposals should demonstrate an institutional record of successful exchange programs, including responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for past Bureau grants as determined by the Office of Contracts. The Bureau will consider the past performance of prior recipients and all reviewers will consider the demonstrated potential of new applicants. Reviewers will also consider the quality of exchange participants' academic credentials, skills, and experience relative to the goals and activities of the project plan.

6. Project Evaluation

Proposals should include an effective evaluation plan which defines and articulates a list of anticipated outcomes related to the project goals and activities and procedures for final evaluation as well as for on-going monitoring and mid-term corrective action. Proposals should describe specific intermediate objectives to be achieved.

7. Cost-Effectiveness

The overhead and administrative components of the proposal, including

salaries, should be kept as low as possible. All other items should be necessary and appropriate. Proposals should maximize cost-sharing through other private sector support as well as institutional direct-funding contributions.

Authority

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * *; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world." The funding authority for the program cited above is provided through the Freedom for Russia and Emerging Eurasian Democracies and Open Markets Support Act of 1992 (Freedom Support Act).

Notice

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Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal State Department procedures.

Dated: November 5, 1999.

Evelyn S. Lieberman,

Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs.

[FR Doc. 99-30047 Filed 11-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Docket OST-99-5670

Joint Application of Southern Air Transport, Inc., and Southern Air, Inc., for Approval of Transfer of Certificate Authority

AGENCY: Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of Order to Show Cause (Order 99-11-6).

SUMMARY: The Department of Transportation is directing all interested persons to show cause why it should not issue an order (1) finding Southern Air, Inc., fit, willing, and able and awarding it a certificate of public convenience and necessity to engage in interstate and foreign charter air transportation of property and mail, subject to conditions, (2) canceling the certificate and exemption authority currently held by Southern Air Transport, Inc., and (3) denying the joint application filed by Southern Air Transport, Inc., and Southern Air, Inc., for transfer of certificate authority.

Responses

Objections and answers to objections should be filed in Docket OST-99-5670 and addressed to the Department of Transportation Dockets (SVC124, Room PL-401), U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, and should be served on all persons listed in Attachment A to the order. Persons wishing to file objections should do so no later than November 24, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James Lawyer, Air Carrier Fitness Division (X-56, Room 6401), U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366-9721.

Dated: November 10, 1999.

A. Bradley Mims,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 99-29954 Filed 11-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Aviation Proceedings, Agreements filed during the week ending November 5, 1999

The following Agreements were filed with the Department of Transportation under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 412

and 414. Answers may be filed within 21 days of date of filing.

Docket Number: OST-99-6429.

Date Filed: November 1, 1999.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject:

PTC12 CAN-EUR 0051 dated 22 October 1999.

Canada-Europe Expedited Resolution 002cc.

Intended effective date: 1 December 1999.

Docket Number: OST-99-6430.

Date Filed: November 1, 1999.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject:

PTC12 CAN-EUR 0053 dated 29 October 1999.

Canada-Europe Passenger Resolution 002.

Intended effective date: 1 January 2000.

Docket Number: OST-99-6434.

Date Filed: November 2, 1999.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject:

CAC/26/Meet/005/99 dated May 10, 1999.

Cargo Agency Conference Resos 801c (r1) & 807 (r2).

Minutes—CAC/26/Meet/004/99 dated May 7, 1999.

Intended effective date: 1 July 1999/1 January 2000.

Docket Number: OST-99-6463.

Date Filed: November 5, 1999.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject:

PTC COMP 0525 dated 5 November 1999.

Mail Vote 045—Resolution 010o. TC2/12/23/123 Special Passenger

Amending Resolution from Mozambique

Intended effective date: 1 December 1999.

Docket Number: OST-99-6464.

Date Filed: November 5, 1999.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject:

PTC2 ME-AFR 0040 dated 5 November 1999.

Mail Vote 043—Resolution 010m from Zimbabwe to Middle East.

Intended effective date: 15 November 1999.

Docket Number: OST-99-6465.

Date Filed: November 5, 1999.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject:

PTC2 EUR-AFR 0094 dated 05 November 1999.