

04 April 2024

Please refer to the attached Distribution List

Subject: Request to circulate the Terms of Reference for the Implementation Roadmap to establish Regionally Comparable and Recognised Unique Identification Numbers (UBIN) in ASEAN

Dear Sirs/Mesdames,

In the implementation of a "Work Programme on Starting a Business" which was developed under the Lao PDR's Chairmanship in 2016, the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ACCMSME) through its Task Force on Starting a Business developed the "Benchmarking Guidelines on UBIN in ASEAN" last year. The Guidelines assessed the utilization of UBINs in each ASEAN Member State (AMS) and provided recommendations on future actions and strategies aimed at establishing an interoperable ASEAN UBIN. The initiative aims to foster ease of doing business, enhance transparency, and facilitate cross-border trade within and beyond the ASEAN. The "Benchmarking Guidelines" has been endorsed by the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) in its 55th Meeting last August 2023 and tasked officials to allocate the necessary resources to implement UBIN initiatives at the national and regional levels.

Following the mandate tasked by the AEM during the 55th AEM Meeting, Lao PDR as the current ASEAN Chair, has included in its priority economic deliverables the development of an "Implementation Roadmap" to provide AMS with a clear pathway encompassing key components on governance and funding mechanisms, technological solutions, and a comprehensive regulatory review and adjustment. The end goal of the roadmap is to put in place the foundations to establish an interoperable system that will allow the recognition of single digital UBIN across the ASEAN region.

In view of this, the ACCMSME, for which our Bureau serves as the Philippines' focal point, seeks your assistance to circulate within your network of consultants the Terms of Reference (TOR) to potential bidders for the development of the "Implementation Roadmap". The TOR is accessible through:

<https://asean.org/opportunities/terms-of-reference-for-implementation-roadmap-to-establish-regionally-comparable-and-recognised-unique-business-identification-numbers-ubin-in-asean/>

Interested bidders should send their proposal and its supporting documents to tender@aus4aseanfutures.org **no later than 17 April 2024**. Any queries on the TOR should be sent to query@aus4aseanfutures.org before 15 April 2024.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



EMMA C. ASUSANO
OIC Director

BUREAU OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT