



Republic of Mauritius

Ministry of Fisheries

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE LEASING OF THE FISH AUCTION MARKET AT FORT WILLIAMS - LES SALINES, PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS

1. Background

1.1 The setting up of the Fish Auction Market (FAM) is in line with the Government of Mauritius' objective to develop the seafood industry. The FAM would provide a platform for the development of a modern and efficient fish marketing system for catches from the industrial, the semi-industrial and the small-scale fisheries, as well as the fish and by-catch unloaded by calling fishing vessels in compliance with European and international sanitary norms and standards relating to fish and fish products to allow trading in the foreign market.

1.2 The FAM facility located, in the port area at Fort Williams, Les Salines, Port Louis covers an extent of about 532 m² on a plot of land of an extent of 1642 m². The FAM is equipped with associated cold room facilities and related equipment. The FAM has an installed capacity for the handling of 10 tonnes of fish per day.

2. Market information

2.1 Recent figures show that the fisheries sector in Mauritius generates an annual turnover of around US\$560 million with the fish processing industry itself contributing US\$250 million. In 2010, 600 vessels called at Port Louis harbour with 51,653 tons of tuna and tuna-like fish on board for transshipment. It is expected that the turnover in the fisheries sector will further increase with the enhanced facilities of Port Louis as a transshipment base.

2.2 Presently, local fish production stands at 10,000 tons annually. This figure is likely to increase with the Government programmes to:

- (i) increase fish production through the development of off-lagoon and the Fish Aggregating Devices (FAD) fisheries;
- (ii) give incentives for the purchase fishing boats and associated equipment; and
- (iii) train fishermen.

3. Sources of Fish for the Fish Auction Market

3.1 The fish from local production as well as fish and by-catch from calling foreign vessels may potentially be transacted through the Market.

3.2 The following fisheries and activities that may provide fish for the FAM are:

- (i) the artisanal/FAD fishery and small scale fisheries;
- (ii) the industrial pelagic fishery;

- (iii) the banks fishery;
- (iv) the semi-industrial chilled-fish fishery;
- (v) aquaculture; and
- (vi) transshipment of calling licensed and non-licensed vessels (for by-catch); and

4. Opportunities for the Fish Auction Market

4.1 The Fish Auction Market would provide on-line interaction between buyers and sellers. Such real time interaction would ensure that prices are determined in a competitive manner and would encourage active trading.

4.2 It may also act as an attraction for locals and tourists.

5. Leasing of the Fish Auction Market

5.1 The Ministry of Fisheries would lease the new market building of about 532 m², which includes the following facilities:

S/N	Particulars	Surface Area
1	Preparation hall	138 m ²
2	Auction sale hall	95 m ²
3	Customer Reception hall	98.6 m ²
4	Washing and storage area	24 m ²
5	Fish storage cold room (+ve temp.)	27.6 m ²
6	Fish storage cold room (-ve temp.)	7.8 m ²
7	Veterinary office	10 m ²
8	Planning / finance office	46 m ²
9	Ice flake stocking cold room	5.6 m ²
10	Control room	7.8 m ²
11	Fish handling and processing equipment comprise of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Wash hand units; (b) Central cleaning posts (c) Disinfectors (d) Sliding tables with rollers (e) Stainless steel cabinets (f) Air conditioners (with evaporators) (g) Tropical Ice making machines 	

5.2 Parking space would be provided for customers and staff. The total area of the project site, leased from the Mauritius Ports Authority, is 1,642 m².

5.3 The selected lessee would have to equip the FAM with the necessary auctioning equipment and the electronic platform required for its operation.

5.4 The selected lessee would have to operate and manage the FAM and collect fees directly from buyers and sellers during the leased period. In return, the lessee would pay a rental to the Ministry of Fisheries over an initial period of seven (7) years subject to renewal, thereafter, upon mutual consent of both parties.

Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Fisheries

Port Louis

Tel: + (230) 2112470 to 75

Fax: + (230) 2081929

E-mail: fishadmin@mail.gov.mu

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