

8 SO₃ (sulfur trioxide) —>
 C₁₈H₄O₄N₂Br₈
 (ethylenebistetra-bromophthalimide)
 + 8 H₂O (water) + 4 SO₂ (sulfur
 dioxide) + 4 H₂SO₄ (sulfuric acid) +
 2 HCl (hydrochloric acid)

According to the petition, taxable chemicals constitute 54.18 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance. The rate of tax for this substance would be \$4.51 per ton. This is based upon a conversion factor for bromine of 0.672, a conversion factor for ethylene of 0.029, a conversion factor for xylene of 0.223, a conversion factor for ammonia of 0.036, and a conversion factor for chlorine of 0.075.

Comments and Requests for a Public Hearing

Before a determination is made, consideration will be given to any written comments (a signed original and eight (8) copies) that are submitted timely to the IRS. All comments will be available for public inspection and copying. A public hearing may be scheduled if requested in writing by a person that timely submits written comments. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the date, time, and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dale D. Goode,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, Assistant Chief Counsel (Corporate).

[FR Doc. 95-4442 Filed 2-22-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Professional Development of South African Radio Station Owners and Managers

ACTION: Notice—Request for Proposals.

SUMMARY: The Office of Citizen Exchanges of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award. Public or private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 501 (c)(3) may apply to develop a two-way exchange project for South African radio station owners and managers. The project should be designed to enhance participations' skills in managing their broadcasting operations and assist them to develop strategies to operate their stations as successful business enterprises. The project should provide U.S.-based activities for approximately 9-12 South African radio station owners and managers. The project also should

provide in-country workshops or consultancies to assist participating broadcasters implement appropriate business management strategies. The program should be in summer/fall 1995. Consultation with the U.S. Information Service (USIS) posts in South Africa in the development of the project proposal is encouraged.

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Pub. L. 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 interest, 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."

Programs and projects must conform with Agency requirements and guidelines outlined in the Solicitation Package. USIA projects and programs are subject to the availability of funds.

ANNOUNCEMENT NAME AND NUMBER: All communications with USIA concerning this announcement should refer to the above title and reference number E/P-95-49.

DATES: Deadline for proposals: All copies must be received at the U.S. Information Agency by 5 p.m. Washington, DC. time on Friday, April 14, 1995. Faxed documents will not be accepted, nor will documents postmarked on April 14, 1995 but received at a later date. It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure that proposals are received by the above deadline.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Africa/Near East/South Asia Division of the Office of Citizen Exchanges, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, S.W., Room 220, Washington, D.C. 20547, tel. 202-619-5319, fax 202-619-4350, Internet address STAYLOR@USIA.GOV, to request a Solicitation Package, which includes more detailed award criteria; all application forms; and guidelines for preparing proposals, including specific criteria for preparation of the proposal budget. Please specify USIA Program Officer Stephen Taylor on all inquiries and correspondences. Interested applicants should read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before

addressing inquiries to the Office of Citizen Exchanges or submitting their proposals. Once the RFP deadline has passed, the Office of Citizen Exchanges may not discuss this competition in any way with applicants until the Bureau proposal review process has been completed.

ADDRESSES: Applicants must follow all instructions provided in the Solicitation Package and send fully completed applications. Send the original and 14 copies to:

U.S. Information Agency, Ref.: E/P-95-49, Office of Grants Management, E/EX, Room 336, 301 4th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 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 race, gender, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, and physical challenges. Applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the advancement of this principle.

Overview

Background: The transition to nonracial democracy in South Africa is providing greater access to the nation's radio and television broadcasting airways, opening new opportunities for independent broadcasters. The government-owned South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) has been the country's dominant broadcaster, with three television services and 23 radio stations. These outlets include commercial as well as public service stations. The SABC and a small number of other broadcasters have been the major source of broadcasting management expertise. South Africa's Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), created in 1994 to shield the broadcast media from direct political controls, is responsible for regulating the airwaves and granting commercial, public service and community broadcasting licenses. During the next several months, the IBA will be issuing licenses that will enable a wide range of independent radio stations to begin broadcasting for the first time. While many of these new licensees may have some on-air experience, they may lack backgrounds in radio management. These owners and other new managers could benefit from a project focused on fundamental broadcasting management practices to

help enhance the prospects for the longer term viability of their stations.

Program Overview. The Office of Citizen Exchanges (E/P) proposes development of a two-way exchange project for South African participants designed to promote development of business management skills applicable to radio station management. This two-way exchange should include activities for 9–12 South African participants in the United States and opportunities for American specialists to share their expertise in South Africa. While the project should introduce participants to a variety of radio broadcasting operations, the program should concentrate on activities and site visits appropriate to the technology and infrastructure available in South Africa. The project should be designed to accommodate participants new to broadcasting management. Participants should study station management practices, business planning strategies and marketing concepts. They also should analyze the standards of professional journalism which managers must oversee and identify strategies to promote staff development.

This two-way exchange also should promote informal ties, opening channels of communications between U.S. and South African broadcasters to help enhance the viability of independent radio stations in South Africa. This might include informal advice on broadcasting management issues. The project should begin in summer/fall 1995.

Project Objectives

The project should be designed to:

- Introduce participants to fundamental business management skills applicable to station management including financial planning, cash management and staff development;
- Analyze income resources for radio stations including advertisements, and examine strategies for surviving the initial stages of launching a new broadcasting service;
- Examine marketing strategies aimed at attracting advertisers and, where appropriate, study the interrelationship among programming content, objective news reporting and maintaining advertisers as clients;
- Develop strategies for implementing improved station management practices;
- Examine media-government relations and demonstrate how the independent reporting of political and economic developments helps shape government policy and public opinion;

- Provide an overview of journalistic ethics and the standards of professional journalism; and
- Establish informal ties between South African station owners and U.S. counterparts, providing a resource for occasional advice on station management matters.

Participants

The project participants will be owners and managers of radio stations in South Africa. Many of the participants will be newly licensed station owners or recently hired management staff. The U.S. phase of the project should be designed for 9–12 participants. All participants will have strong English language skills. USIS personnel in South Africa will select the participants, although recommendations from the grantee institution are welcome.

For program activities in South Africa, the grantee institution will select the American presenters in consultation with USIA.

USIS offices will facilitate the issuance of visas for the South African participants and can help with the distribution of program-related materials in South Africa.

Programmatic Considerations

USIA will give careful consideration to proposal which demonstrate:

- (1) In-depth, substantive knowledge of the strategies and practices involved in managing a broadcasting operation as a successful business enterprise;
- (2) First-hand connections with a variety of American radio operations, as well as public and private sector organizations responsible for promoting journalistic professionalism and successful business management;
- (3) The capacity to organize and manage international exchange programs, including the handling of pre-departure arrangements, orientation activities, monitoring and problem-solving involved in such programs.

USIA is especially interested in multi-phase programs in which the phases build on one another and lay the groundwork for new and long-term relationships between American and African professionals. Proposals which are overly ambitious and those which are very general in nature will not be competitive. The Office of Citizen Exchanges does *not* award grants to support projects whose focus is limited to technical matters, or to support scholarly research projects, development of publications for dissemination in the United States, individual student exchanges, film festivals or exhibits. The Office of

Citizen Exchanges does *not* provide scholarships or support for long-term (one semester or more) academic studies. Competitions sponsored by other Bureau offices also are announced in the **Federal Register** and may have different application requirements as well as different objectives.

Program Suggestions

The proposed project should include at least one phase for South African participants in the United States and at least one phase for American specialists in South Africa. Programming elements might include in-country workshops or seminars led by American experts, specialized consultancies developed for radio station owners in South Africa, a study tour in the United States for selected South African participants and U.S.-based professional attachments for South African broadcasters. A planning visit overseas by the American organizer also could be considered if crucial to successful development and implementation of the program.

The project should include formats which maximize interaction between the South African participants and the program presenters. Participants should observe the full range of business management and financial planning activities on the part of radio station owners and managers. They might also observe the interaction of station owners with public and private sector organizations involved in formulating, implementing and evaluating policies that affect U.S. broadcasting, such as professional associations, advertising agencies, trade unions, government agencies and community groups. Participants also should visit university-based radio stations to observe training programs and study the role of such stations in the broadcasting industry. The program design should provide adequate time for participants to meet individually with American professionals who have similar interests and specializations. While not required, the presenters' familiarity with radio broadcasting in South Africa is desirable.

Program Responsibilities

The grantee institution's responsibilities include: Selecting presenters, themes and topics for discussion; organizing a coherent progression of activities; providing any support materials; providing all travel arrangements, lodging and other logistical arrangements for the visiting South African participants and the U.S. presenters who travel to South Africa; and overseeing the project on a daily basis to achieve maximum program

effectiveness. The grantee institution is responsible for coordinating plans and project implementation with E/P, USIS officers in South Africa and South African collaborating institutions.

At the start of each phase, the grantee institution will conduct an orientation session and, at the conclusion, conduct participant evaluations. The institution will submit a report at the conclusion of each program phase, including a final program report summarizing the entire project and resulting organizational links. The institution must also submit a final financial report. To prepare the participants for their U.S. experience, E/P encourages the grantee organization to forward a set of preliminary materials which might include an introduction to the U.S. system of government, American notions of free speech and freedom of the press, the practices of U.S. broadcasters and other background information about the project. E/P will ask the South African participants to prepare brief outlines describing their own particular interests in these areas. The grantee institution should brief the American presenters on the South African participants' backgrounds, interests and concerns.

Other Program Considerations

Consultation with USIS officers in South Africa in the development of the project proposal is encouraged. Letters of commitment from participating U.S. and South African institutions and individuals would enhance a proposal.

USIA also encourages the development of specialized written materials to enhance this professional development program. USIA is interested in organizations' ideas on how to "reuse" specialized materials by providing them to universities, libraries or other institutions for use by a larger audience. If not already available, glossaries of specialized terms might be developed. However, please note that, according to current USIA regulations, materials developed with USIA funds may not be distributed in the United States.

The grantee institution should maximize cost-sharing in all elements of the project and seek to stimulate U.S. private sector support, including from foundations and corporations.

All participants will be covered under the terms of a USIA-sponsored health insurance policy. The premium is paid by USIA directly to the insurance company.

Funding

Competition for USIA funding support is keen. Selection of a grantee institution is based on the substantive

nature of the program proposal; the applicant's professional capability to carry the program through to a successful conclusion; and cost effectiveness, including in-kind contributions and the ability to keep overhead costs at a minimum. USIA will consider funding up to approximately \$120,000, but grants awarded to eligible organizations with less than four years of experience in conducting international exchange programs will be limited to \$60,000.

Applicants must submit a comprehensive line item budget for the entire program based on the specific guidance in the Solicitation Package. Applicants must provide a summary budget as well as a break-down reflecting both the administrative budget and the program budget. For further clarification, applicants may provide optional, separate sub-budgets for each program phase or activity in order to facilitate USIA decisions on funding. USIA will consider funding the following costs:

1. International and domestic air fares; visas; transit costs (e.g., airport fees); ground transportation costs.
2. *Per diem*: For foreign participants during activities in the United States, organizations have the option of using a flat rate of \$140/day or the published Federal Travel Regulations (FTR) per diem rates for individual American cities. (Note: U.S. institutional staff must use the published FTR per diem rates, not the flat rate.) For activities overseas, standard Federal Travel Regulations per diem rates must be used.
3. *Escort-interpreters*: Interpretation for U.S.-based programs is provided by the State Department's Language Services Division. Typically, delegations ranging from 8-12 participants require two simultaneous interpreters and one escort officer. Grant proposal budgets should contain a flat \$140/day per diem rate for each State Department escort/interpreter, as well as home-program-home air fare of \$400 per interpreter and any U.S. travel expenses during the program itself. Salary expenses are covered centrally and are not part of the applicant's budget proposal. USIA grants do not pay for foreign interpreters to accompany delegations during travel to or from their home country. Interpreters are not available for U.S.-based internship activities.

4. *Book and cultural allowances*: Participants are entitled to a one-time book allowance of \$50 plus a cultural allowance of \$150 per person during programs taking place in the United States. U.S. staff do not receive these

benefits. Escort interpreters are reimbursed for actual cultural expenses up to \$150.00.

5. *Consultants*: Consultants may be used to provide specialized expertise or to make presentations. Honoraria generally should not exceed \$250/day. Subcontracting organizations may also be used, in which case the written contract(s) should be included in the proposal.

6. *Materials development*: Proposals may contain costs to purchase, develop and translate materials for participants. USIA reserves the rights to these materials for future use.

7. Room rentals, which generally should not exceed \$250/day.

8. One working meal per project, for which per capita costs may not exceed \$5-\$8 for a lunch or \$14-\$20 for a dinner. The number of invited guests may not exceed the number of participants by more than a factor of two to one.

9. *Return travel allowance*: \$70 for each participant which is to be used for incidental expenditures incurred during international travel.

10. Other costs necessary for the effective administration of the program, including salaries for grant organization employees, benefits, and other direct and indirect costs per detailed instructions in the application package.

E/P encourages cost-sharing, which may be in the form of allowable direct or indirect costs. E/P would be especially interested in proposals which demonstrate a program vision which goes well beyond that which can be supported by the requested USIA grant to leverage additional funding from other sources to support elements of the broader program plan.

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

Review Process

USIA 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. Eligible proposals will be forwarded to panels of USIA officers for advisory review. All eligible proposals will be reviewed by the Agency contracts office, as well as the USIA Office of African Affairs and the USIA post overseas, where appropriate. Proposals may also be reviewed by the Office of the General Counsel or by other Agency elements. Funding decisions are at the discretion of the USIA Associate Director for Educational and Cultural Affairs. Final

technical authority for grant awards resides with the USIA grants officer.

Review Criteria

Technically eligible applications will be competitively reviewed according to the criteria stated below. These criteria are not rank ordered and all carry equal weight in the proposal evaluation:

1. *Institutional Reputation and Ability:* Applicant institutions should demonstrate their potential for excellence in program design and implementation and/or provide documentation of successful programs. If an applicant is a previous USIA grant recipient, responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for past Agency grants as determined by USIA's Office of Contracts will be considered. Relevant substantive evaluations of previous projects may also be considered in this assessment.

2. *Project Personnel:* The thematic and logistical expertise of project personnel should be relevant to the proposed program. Resumes or C.V.s should be summaries which are relevant to the specific proposal and no longer than two pages each.

3. *Program Planning:* A detailed agenda and relevant work plan should demonstrate substantive rigor and logistical capacity.

4. *Thematic Expertise:* Proposal should demonstrate the organization's expertise in the subject area which promises an effective sharing of information.

5. *Support of Diversity:* Proposals should demonstrate the recipient's commitment to promoting the awareness and understanding of diversity.

6. *Cross-Cultural Sensitivity and Area Expertise:* Evidence should be provided of sensitivity to historical, linguistic, religious, and other cross-cultural factors, as well as relevant knowledge of the target geographic area/country.

7. *Ability to Achieve Program Objectives:* Objectives should be realistic and feasible. The proposal should clearly demonstrate how the grantee institution will meet program objectives.

8. *Multiplier Effect:* Proposed programs should strengthen long-term mutual understanding and contribute to maximum sharing of information and establishment of long-term institutional and individual ties.

9. *Cost-Effectiveness:* Overhead and direct administrative costs to USIA should be kept as low as possible. All other items proposed for USIA funding should be necessary and appropriate to achieve the program's objectives.

10. *Cost-Sharing:* Proposals should maximize cost-sharing through other private sector support as well as direct funding contributions and/or in-kind support from the prospective grantee institution and its partners.

11. *Follow-on Activities:* Proposals should provide a plan for continued exchange activity (without USIA support) which ensures that USIA-supported programs are not isolated events.

12. *Project Evaluation:* Proposals should include a plan to evaluate the activity's success, both as the activities unfold and at the end of the program. USIA recommends that the proposal include a draft survey questionnaire or other technique plus description of a methodology to use to link outcomes to original project objectives. Grantees will be expected to submit intermediate reports after each project component is concluded or quarterly, whichever is less frequent.

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP are binding and may not be modified by any USIA representative. Explanatory information provided by the Agency 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 needs of the program may require the award to be reduced, revised, or increased. Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal USIA procedures.

Notification

All applicants will be notified of the results of the review process on or about July 17, 1995. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Dated: February 14, 1995.

John P. Loiello,

Associate Director, Educational and Cultural Affairs.

[FR Doc. 95-4193 Filed 2-22-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Generalized System of Preferences (GSP); Initiation of a Review To Consider the Designation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip as a Beneficiary of the GSP Program; Solicitation of Public Comments Relating to the Designation Criteria

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice and solicitation of public comment with respect to the eligibility of the West Bank and Gaza Strip for the GSP program.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initiation of a review to consider the designation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip as a beneficiary of the GSP program and solicits public comment relating to the designation criteria.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: GSP Subcommittee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, N.W., Room 513, Washington, D.C. 20506. The telephone number is (202) 395-6971.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) has initiated a review to determine if the West Bank and Gaza Strip meet the designation criteria of the GSP law and should be designated as a beneficiary for purposes of the GSP program, which is provided for in the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2461-2465). The designation criteria are listed in sections 502(a), 502(b) and 502(c) of the Act. Interested parties are invited to submit comments regarding the eligibility of the West Bank and Gaza Strip for designation as a GSP beneficiary. The designation criteria mandate determinations related to such practices as: participation in commodity cartels, preferential treatment provided to other developed countries, expropriation without compensation, enforcement of arbitral awards, support of international terrorism, and protection of internationally recognized worker rights. Other practices taken into account include: the extent of market access for goods and services, investment practices and protection of intellectual property rights.

Comments must be submitted in 15 copies, in English, to the Chairman of the GSP Subcommittee, Trade Policy Staff Committee, 600 17th Street, N.W., Room 513, Washington, D.C. 20506. Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, 1995. Information and comments submitted regarding the West Bank and Gaza Strip will be subject to public