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## Invitation to tender: digitized data search application

12 January 2010

### Context

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is the international organization of parliaments. It was established in 1889.

The Union is the focal point for worldwide parliamentary dialogue and works for peace and cooperation among peoples and for the firm establishment of representative democracy.

### Object of the tender

The IPU has digitized the summary records of the annual Inter-Parliamentary Conferences held between 1889 and 2008. Those records represent approximately 140 volumes totalling about 84,000 pages.

For 1889 to 1965, the records are contained in a single multilingual volume.

For 1966 to 1980, there are two documents: the reports, consisting of 2 volumes (one in English, the other in French), and the summary records, in one multilingual volume.

For 1981 to 2008, there are two volumes, one in English, the other in French.

Having digitized the records, the IPU now wishes to make them available on its website.

It therefore issues the present invitation to tender for a search application and for the installation of the digitized data on the application.

### Delivery of the data

The volumes have been digitized in JPEG format, 300dpi in 256 levels of grey. The OCRized data are available in PDF format.

The descriptive metadata for each volume are provided in Dublin-Core XML.

The technical metadata (type and model of scanner, resolution, bit depth, file format, etc.) have been automatically incorporated into the images.

The data in each volume have been structured as follows:

A. One file containing all the digitized pages for each volume, identified by the volume title.

B. One file for each of the following sections:

- resolutions adopted
- list of parliaments represented
- table of contents with clickable links to the corresponding sections.

#### **4. Search application**

**The application tendered must have the following functional capabilities:**

Multilingual interface, minimum English and French.

**Documents are to be accessed using the following search criteria:**

1. by the list of conferences (see: <http://www.ipu.org/strct-f/lstconf.htm#country>)
2. by simple fulltext search form (Google-type search)
3. by advance search form comprising the following possibilities:
  - Boolean search
  - Proximity: search mode used to find a word or phrase within  $n$  words or phrases of another word or phrase; it specifies the number of words between the elements of the request
  - Direct proximity: search mode used to find a word or phrase  $n$  words before another word or phrase
  - Wildcard: used to replace a letter by ?, the \* sign replaces several letters
  - Search by date; conference year (e.g.: 1940; 1975-1988)
  - Search by publication language (all languages, only texts in English, French)
  - Search limited to text in the various sections (full text, table of contents, resolutions, list of parliaments represented)

**The application must offer the following display possibilities:**

- Search results sorted by document date
- Search terms highlighted in the list of results
- Display of the selected document, with the possibility to zoom and move on the page
- Print, save in PDF format
- Navigation within the document (preceding page, next page, first page, last page, table of contents, etc.)
- Possibility to search within the document displayed
- Possibility to export the page or a part thereof (copy-paste function)

Additional possibilities may also be offered:

- Send selection by e-mail

Since the data are to be accessible to the general public, there is no need for an authentication module.

The application must have Help functions.

The application must provide statistics on the use of the resources, preferably with tools facilitating statistical analysis, for example: number of searches, most frequently searched documents, geographical location of visitors, etc.

The tender must indicate the basic computer configuration needed to meet user requests, execute search queries and store data.

The application should preferably be hosted on the IPU's servers.

The IPU can provide files corresponding to a digitized volume. Those files, which will be provided on request, will enable interested bidders to conduct tests with a view to drawing up their tender.

## **5. Submission of tenders**

Bidders shall submit a tender containing information on the following:

- licence cost
- annual maintenance costs, including software updates
- hardware and software set-up costs
- initial file processing
- text indexation in a database for the search engine
- association of metadata for each document
- estimated time needed to execute a search and display the results
- list of references for similar installations and possibility for trial access to such an installation
- basic computer configuration required.

## **Evaluation criteria**

The tenders will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- functional capabilities
- user-friendliness
- technical platform (conformity to standards, stability, application shelf life)
- costs (procurement, set-up, loading, maintenance, updates)

## **Timeframe**

The application chosen should be operational by the end of March 2010. The digitized data and the metadata will be available at the end of February 2010.

## **Tender language**

Tenders may be submitted in French or in English.

## **Currency**

Prices are to be indicated in CHF net of taxes. The IPU is not subject to VAT.

## **Submission deadline, validity**

The deadline for submitting tenders is 29 January 2010. Each bidder will receive a written reply around mid-February. A contract stipulating the general conditions will be drawn up with the company selected.

Tenders are to be valid for 30 days after the submission deadline.

## **Address and additional information**

Tenders are to be sent in triplicate to the address below:

Inter-Parliamentary Union

Attn: Ms. Victoria Browning

Chemin du Pommier 5

1218 Le Grand Saconnex – Geneva

Switzerland

E-mail: [postbox@mail.ipu.org](mailto:postbox@mail.ipu.org)

Fax: +41 22 919 41 60

Additional information may be requested from:

[andy.richardson@mail.ipu.org](mailto:andy.richardson@mail.ipu.org)