EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EMPANELMENT OF ADVOCATES/ LAW FIRMS

EOI No: EXIM/RFP/2022-23/15



Export-Import Bank of India Legal Group Centre One Building, 21st Floor, World Trade Centre Complex, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai-400005

<u>www.eximbankindia.in</u>

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Important Information

The Expression of Interest (EOI) and any responses thereto shall adhere to the following timelines:

	Activity	Details	
1.	Name of the Organisation	Export-Import Bank of India (hereinafter referred to as "Exim Bank" or "the Bank") with its Head Office at Centre One Building, 21st Floor, World Trade Centre Complex, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai 400005. Website: www.eximbankindia.in	
2.	Application	Application can be downloaded from EximEximBank'swebsitehttps://www.eximbankindia.in/lawyer- empanelment-tender.aspxempanelment-tender.aspxSeptember 06, 2022.	
3.	Submission of Applications	On or before the last date for submission, hard copy of the application along with necessary documents, in the form and manner specified in the EOI, should be submitted by post or courier or hand delivered in person at the Bank's Head office or any of the Regional offices (as specified hereinafter in this EOI) in a sealed cover addressed to the General Manager- Legal and should be marked clearly: <i>Application for – Empanelment of</i> <i>Advocate / Law Firm</i> .	
4.	All queries/ communications relating to this Advertisement may be sent to	lawyerempanelment@eximbankindia.in	
5.	Last Date for submission of Application(s) *	October 14, 2022	

*Note:

i. Exim Bank reserves the right to change dates without assigning any reasons thereof. Intimation of the same shall be notified on the Bank's website.

ii. If a holiday is declared on the last date mentioned above, the Application(s) shall be received on the next working day which shall then be deemed to be the last date for submission of the Applications.

1. <u>Terms and Conditions of EOI</u>

- This Expression of Interest (EOI) document has been prepared solely to invite applications for empanelment [Application(s)] of Advocate(s)/Law firms having practice in India (Applicants) for undertaking the Scope of Work more particularly described in this EOI document.
- ii. The empanelment of advocates(s) / law firms shall be made on a pan India basis.
- iii. Exim Bank reserves the right to modify any part of this document at any time. Such change(s)/ modifications, if any, may be in the form of an addendum / corrigendum and will be uploaded on the Bank's websitewww.eximbankindia.in. All such changes will automatically amend/modify this EOI document and be binding on all Applicant(s). Interested Applicants are advised to regularly visit our website for updates.
- iv. Any request for extension of date of submission of the Applications will not be entertained. However, Exim Bank may at its sole discretion extend the deadline or allow prospective Applicant(s) a reasonable time to take the amendment/changes, if any, into account.
- v. This document is meant to provide information only and upon the express understanding that the Applicants will use it only for the purpose(s) set out herein.
- vi. The Applicant(s) shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the application including but not limited to additional information required by the Bank, attendance of meeting etc., if required by Exim Bank. Exim Bank will in no case be held responsible or liable for these costs being incurred by the Applicant.
- vii. Exim Bank reserves the right to reject any or all the Applications without assigning any reasons thereof and without incurring any liability or any obligation to inform the affected Applicant(s)or third person on the grounds for the Bank's action, The decision of Exim Bank shall be final,

conclusive and binding on all the Applicants and their authorised representatives, and the same shall not be questioned / challenged.

- viii. Exim Bank reserves the sole right to cancel the EOI at any stage without assigning any reason.
- ix. Exim Bank shall not be responsible for any delay or non-receipt/ nondelivery of the documents in relation to the Application.
- x. The Applicants should not contact Exim Bank or any of its employees or representatives on any matter related to the Application with a view to influence the evaluation. Such an effort shall result in rejection of the Application.
- xi. Applicants requiring any clarifications in relation to this EOI document, may submit their queries through email to lawyerempanelment@eximbankindia.in.
- xii. Lodgement of application is evidence of an Applicant's consent to unconditionally comply with the terms and conditions of the EOI. If an Applicant fails to comply with any of the terms and conditions, his/her/it's Application may be summarily rejected.
- xiii. Wilful misrepresentation of any fact in the Application will lead to the disqualification of the Applicant without prejudice to other action(s) that Exim Bank may take. The Application and the accompanying documents will become property of Exim Bank.
- xiv. Any effort on the part of the Applicant to influence evaluation process may result in rejection of the Application. Exim Bank reserves the right to verify the validity of information provided in the Application and to reject any Application where the contents appear to be incorrect, inaccurate or inappropriate at any time during the process of Application/empanelment.
- xv. Applicants shall be deemed to have:
 - a. examined the EOI document and its subsequent changes, if any for responding to it.
 - b. examined all circumstances and contingencies, influencing their Application and which is obtainable by the making of reasonable enquiries.
 - c. satisfied themselves as to the correctness and sufficiency of their Applications and if any discrepancy, error or omission is noticed in

the Application, the Applicant shall notify the Bank in writing on or before the end date/time.

- xvi. Applicants must advise Exim Bank immediately in writing of any material change to the information contained in the application, including any substantial change in their ownership, if applicable. Copies of relevant documents must be submitted with such advice.
- xvii. In the event an Applicant is empaneled with Exim Bank, Applicants must not advertise or publish the same in any form without the prior written consent of Exim Bank.
- xviii. Exim Bank shall have the right to cancel the empanelment process itself at any time, without thereby incurring any liabilities to the Applicants.
- xix. This document has been prepared in good faith. Neither the Bank nor any of its employees make any representation or warranty or shall have any responsibility whatsoever in respect of this document. Any liability is accordingly and expressly disclaimed.

2. <u>About Exim Bank</u>

The Export-Import Bank of India ('Exim Bank' or 'the Bank') has been established under the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981 to provide financial assistance to exporters and importers and for functioning as the principal financial institution for coordinating the working of institutions engaged in financing of export and import of goods and services with a view to promote the country's international trade, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Exim Bank has been both a catalyst and a key player in the promotion of cross border trade and investment.

Commencing operations as a purveyor of export credit, like other Export Credit Agencies in the world, Exim Bank has evolved into an institution that plays a major role in partnering Indian industries, through a wide range of products and services offered at all stages of the business cycle, starting from import of technology and export product development to export production, export marketing, pre-shipment and post-shipment and overseas investment. Exim Bank is operated through its head office at Mumbai, 10 domestic offices, 8 overseas representative offices and 1 branch in London. Detailed information on the functions of the Bank is provided on the website <u>www.eximbankindia.in.</u>

3. <u>Scope of Work</u>

The EOI is intended to empanel Advocates and law firms in India for the following (Scope of Work):

- Documentation, advisory and opinion rendering for the Bank's credit facilities, offered or availed, by drafting or vetting documents as may be required, singly or in participation with other banks, including for syndicated, consortium, multiple banking and other similar arrangements;
- Documentation, advisory and opinion rendering for the Bank's borrowings as also on any referrals received in connection with the Bank's resource raising activities;
- iii. Documentation, advisory and opinion rendering for transactions including but not limited to equity investment, trade finance related Transactions, etc.;
- iv. Representing the Bank in litigations before various courts, tribunals, commissions, judicial, quasi-judicial forums and other competent authorities in matters filed by or against the Bank or in which the Bank may otherwise have an interest to be so represented for its matters for recovery, resolution, settlements and matters related to financial assistances or other activities howsoever, other criminal matters such as under Negotiable instruments Act, 1881, matters under the Right to Information Act, 2005, and any other matters howsoever including in any alternative dispute resolution mechanisms;
- v. Representing and advising the Bank in proceedings and matters pertaining to arbitration matters, service laws, company law, writ, constitutional laws, labour laws, taxation matters, criminal laws, etc.;

- vi. Representing/advising the Bank in legal proceedings which are specialized in nature such as registration or renewal of intellectual property rights etc.;
- vii. Conducting title search for properties proposed to be purchased or taken on lease by the Bank or otherwise deemed necessary;
- viii. Representing, advising and documenting for the Bank on aspects and issues pertaining to Information Technology, Human Resources Management, Administrative matters and matters related to staff, including staff welfare schemes together with Housing Loans/Vehicle Loans etc.;
 - ix. Conducting due diligence/title searches, in respect of assets constituting security cover for the Bank's financings or for searches on various registries or portals viz. MCA, CERSAI etc.;
 - Undertaking compliances, handling cases in relation to directorship held by the Bank's officers as directors;
 - xi. Participation in discussion(s) and meeting(s) with concerned stakeholders;
- xii. Advisory, documentation and opinion rendering on referrals received from various groups in the Bank;
- xiii. Conducting legal audit and reverification of title deeds;
- xiv. Rendering opinions and advising on other ad-hoc matters;
- xv. Miscellaneous matters not covered hereinabove.

4. <u>Eligibility Criteria for Empanelment</u>

- This EOI is intended to result in the selection of a panel of Advocates/ Law Firms having practice in India. The process is open to all Applicant(s) who fulfil the eligibility criteria for empanelment set out in this EOI document. Applicant(s) should furnish information as per Appendix I and / or Appendix II, as the case may be, along with enclosures thereto.
- ii. The responses received pursuant to this EOI will be evaluated as per the criteria specified in this document and the qualified advocates/ law firms will be placed on the panel of advocates/ law firms for the Bank.

- iii. The empaneled advocate/ law firm(s) will be assigned work on a case-tocase basis and will be paid professional fees, clerkage, and other miscellaneous charges as approved by the Bank.
- iv. The Scope of Work shall be in accordance with this EOI document. The panel to be selected in pursuance of this EOI would be maintained for the Bank's convenience. If on review, it is observed by the Bank that the advocate/ law firm is not delivering services to the satisfaction of the Bank, the Bank may, on its sole discretion, discontinue the services of the advocate/law firm and remove the Advocate from its panel of advocates. Further, the empanelment of the advocate/ law firm by the Bank does not guarantee assignment of any work to it. This invitation to respond to the EOI is open only to experienced and skilled advocates/ law firms. Applicants satisfying the following criteria are eligible to submit their application(s) in response to this EOI:
 - a. The Applicant should possess a degree in law from a university recognized by the Bar Council of India.
 - b. The Applicant should be enrolled with the respective Bar Council of State of practice.
 - c. The Applicant should have renewed the Certificate of Practice, as per prevailing rules of the Bar Council of India.
 - d. The Applicant being considered for empanelment should have put in at least 5 (five) years' experience of fairly good practice and preferably be on the panel of at least 1(one) of either a public sector bank, reputed private bank, foreign bank or non-banking financial institution, asset reconstruction company or Multilateral financing institutions or with regulatory authorities viz (IBBI, IRDA, SEBI, RBI etc.);
 - e. The Applicants who have previously worked as lenders' legal counsels (LLCs) for project / infrastructure financing / high ticket syndicated loan documentation and related work and with fairly good practice in conducting legal, statutory and regulatory due diligence (including investigating the title of the immovable property offered as collateral / securities & other legal work on pan-India basis), vetting of project contracts, drafting and finalizing the financing & security documents and experience and expertise in negotiations, should clearly indicate such experience.

- f. The Applicant should have experience in negotiating and structuring the transactions (i) trade finance related transactions (ii) equity investments and be able to assist with negotiating and structuring the transactions as also have an experience in conducting legal, statutory and regulatory due diligence involved in such transactions.
- g. The Applicant shall submit pleading(s) for approval timely, furnish updates and demonstrate proactive handling of assignments given.
- h. The Applicants having experience in civil / commercial / criminal/ corporate matters / litigations in Magistrate Court/ Sessions Court/ High Courts/ Supreme Court, Arbitration matters and in CIC/DRT/DRAT/NCLT/NCLAT, and other forums may be considered for representing Bank in litigations.
- i. The Applicants who have worked as a law officer in a bank, financial institution, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) or Government of India (Gol) / State Government, for a minimum period of at least 5 (five) years can be considered eligible for empanelment, even if such person does not fulfil the conditions stipulated at iv(d) and iv(e) above. It is clarified that the aforesaid minimum period put in as a law officer shall be reckoned for the purposes of eligibility.
- j. The Applicants, who have worked as Presiding Officers of courts / tribunals, are also eligible to be considered for empanelment, even if such person does not fulfil the conditions stipulated at iv(d) and iv(e) above. It is clarified that the aforesaid minimum period put in as advocate and as Presiding Officer shall be collectively reckoned for purposes of eligibility.
- k. Working experience of Advocates, who may not be empaneled but may have undertaken select engagement(s)/assignment(s) for public sector bank reputed private bank, foreign bank or non-banking financial companies, financial institutions, asset reconstruction company or Multilateral financing institutions or with regulatory authorities will be considered for establishing eligibility. In such case(s), appropriate disclosures, with details of the organisations, for who such assignments have been undertaken should be provided in a brief.

- I. The Applicant should be of good repute and have experience in attending to commercial matter and should also be familiar with the legislations including but not limited to Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, Banking Law & Practice, Company Law, Contract Act, Specific Relief Act, SEBI Regulations etc. as well as special laws governing recovery of moneys due to the Bank and should be willing to bestow sound personal attention to the work entrusted.
- m. The Applicant should undertake that after empanelment he/she/they shall not appear/advise against Exim Bank and will also not represent interests which may adversely affect Exim Bank's interests.
- n. The Applicant should have its own office, staff and sufficient infrastructure to take care of the assigned matters at the place(s) of practice indicated in the application.
- o. The Applicant should not have been black-listed / debarred / depanelled by any institution of the Central or State Government or Banks / Financial Institutions or any Bar Council or other organization and that his/her name is not listed in Caution List maintained by IBA. The Applicant should make appropriate disclosures in this regard to Exim Bank.
- p. The Applicant should:
 - have undoubted legal acumen and unblemished integrity, apart from having a fairly satisfactory knowledge and experience of dealing with the respective domain or practice and should be conversant with the banking business;
 - ii. be / are willing to abide by the Bank's terms and conditions for engagement including negotiated fees, reimbursement of expenses, submission of pleadings for approval, etc.;
 - iii. be/are able to give sufficient time & personal attention to the Bank's work and also that they do not represent claims adverse to those of the Bank; and
 - iv. have a good office set up with adequate manpower, technical and administrative support to render the services to the Bank effectively.
- q. Any additional enclosures, felt necessary by the Applicant to substantiate the scope of work, may be provided as part of the

prescribed format(s) of the Application, as and by way of additional annexures with appropriate referencing.

5. <u>Disqualification:</u>

The Bank may at its sole discretion and at any time during the evaluation of Application, disqualify any Applicant, if the applicant has:

- i. Made misleading or false representations in the forms, statements and attachments submitted in proof of the eligibility requirements;
- ii. Submitted an Application that is not accompanied by required documentation or is non-responsive;
- iii. Failed to provide clarifications related thereto, when sought;
- iv. Submitted more than one Application;
- v. Declared ineligible by the Government of India/State/UT Government for corrupt and fraudulent practices or blacklisted;
- vi. Any other reason necessary affecting the eligibility in the opinion of the Bank.

6. <u>Submission of Applications</u>

i. Downloading of Applications:

The Applicants are required to fill forms as set out in Appendix I or II along with enclosures thereto. Digital forms may be accessed from the below links:

AppendixI-Bio-DataofApplicant-ADVOCATEhttps://www.eximbankindia.in/assets/pdf/public-declarations/Biodata_of_applicant_advocate.pdf

AppendixII-Bio-DataofApplicant-LAWFIRMhttps://www.eximbankindia.in/assets/pdf/public-declarations/Biodata_of_applicant_law_firm.pdf

ii. The response to the EOI:

The response to the EOI in the form and manner as set out in the Appendix I or II, as applicable, should be submitted in hard copies in sealed envelopes giving full particulars in the manner specified in this EOI.

- iii. EOI response documents:
 - a. The Applicants should submit the Application(s), as prescribed in terms of Appendix I for Advocates and Appendix II for law firms, respectively enclosing therewith all supporting documents. All copies of the documents submitted should be self-certified.
 - b. The Applicant(s) should demonstrate in the Applications that they meet the Eligibility criteria specified for empanelment, in the EOI document. Necessary additional annexures, if felt necessary, can be enclosed in support thereof.
 - c. All forms should be typed and submitted on A4 size paper.
 - d. The Applications shall be signed by the Applicant, or a person or persons duly authorized by the Applicant to bind the Applicant to the process. The person or persons signing the Applications shall initial all pages of the Applications. Any interlineations, erasures or overwriting shall be valid only if they are initialed by the person signing the Applications. The Bank reserves the right to reject the Applications not conforming to the above.
 - e. Contact Details of the Applicant are to be provided as under:
 Particulars of the Authorised Signatory for signing the Application and Authorised Contact Person:
 - Name: Designation: Email ID: Landline: Address:
 - f. All pages of the Application must be sequentially numbered.
 - g. The Applicant shall send the sealed Application together with the enclosures and supporting documents by post, courier or hand delivery, marked clearly: *Application for Empanelment of Advocate / Law Firm*. The sealed envelope shall be addressed to:

The General Manager (Legal) Centre One Building, 21st Floor, World Trade Centre Complex, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai-400005

 h. The Applicants may also deposit the Application(s) at any of the domestic regional offices of the Bank at the following addresses before the Last Date for Submission thereof, on any working day between 10 am - 5 pm.

Ahmedabad Regional Office	Hyderabad Regional Office		
Sakar II, 1 st Floor, Next to Ellisbridge Shopping Centre, Ellisbridge P. O., Ahmedabad - 380 006.	Golden Edifice, 2 nd Floor, 6-3- 639/640, Khairatabad Circle, Hyderabad - 500 004.		
Bengaluru Regional Office	Kolkata Regional Office		
Ramanashree Arcade, 4 th Floor, 18, M. G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.	Vanijya Bhawan, 4 th Floor, (International Trade Facilitation Centre), 1/1 Wood Street, Kolkata - 700 016.		
Chandigarh Regional Office	Mumbai Regional Office		
C- 213, 2 nd Floor, Elante Offices, Industrial Area Phase -1, Chandigarh - 160 002.			
Chennai Regional Office	New Delhi Regional Office		
	Office Block, Tower 1, 7 th Floor, Adjacent Ring Road, Kidwai Nagar (East) New Delhi 110023		
Guwahati Regional Office	Pune Regional Office		

NEDFi House, 4 th Floor, GS Road,	No.402 & 402(B) 4 th floor Signature
Dispur, Guwahati - 781 006.	Building, Bhamburda, Bhandarkar
	Rd, Shivajinagar, Pune, Maharashtra
	411004

- i. The e-mail address and phone number of the Applicant/ contact person should also be indicated on the sealed envelope;
- j. Only one application (submission of the EOI response) by each Applicant will be permitted.

7. <u>Rules for responding to this EOI</u>

The Applicants should use the formats prescribed by the Bank in submission of the EOI Response which are attached as **Appendix I or II**, as applicable, with this EOI.

8. <u>Evaluation of Applications</u>

- All Applications received in response to this EOI shall be examined by the Bank to determine if they meet eligibility criteria/terms and conditions mentioned in this document including its subsequent amendment(s), if any, and whether applications are complete in all respects;
- Upon scrutiny, any application not found in desired format/ illegible/ incomplete/not containing clear information, or failing to fulfil the relevant requirement will be rejected for further evaluation process at the sole discretion of the Bank;
- iii. Efficiency and integrity of the advocate shall be the main criteria to be considered for empanelment;
- iv. The Bank, in suitable circumstances, may waive, modify or relax all or any of the eligibility criteria, if it is in the interest of the Bank;

- v. If deemed necessary, the Bank may seek clarifications on any aspect of the Application from the Applicant. If a written response is requested, it must be provided within three (3) working days by email. The responses received beyond three (3) working days, if any may not be considered. However, that would not entitle the Applicant to change or cause any change in the material particulars of their application already submitted. Exim Bank may also make enquiries to verify the past performance of the applicants in respect of similar work. All information submitted in the application or obtained subsequently will be treated as confidential.
- vi. The Bank shall, at its sole discretion, undertake any or all of the below:
 - a. undertake an interaction with the advocates/law firms, including seeking a presentation before the Bank, before empanelment. The applicant will have to bear costs for such interaction/presentation, if any;
 - b. undertake enquiries with the Bar Association and /or judicial authorities and/or other banks/authorities and/or the references provided by the advocate or through other sources or means regarding the eligibility, conduct & competence of the advocates requesting empanelment;
 - c. visit the office premises of the advocate/law firm and ascertain the adequacy of infrastructure and other aspects like number of associates, junior advocates, assistants, clerks, availability of modes of communications like telephone, mobile, internet connections, etc. The Bank's decision with regard to the above will be final.
- vii. Empanelment by the Bank does not create any right in favour of an empaneled advocate /law firm to get appointed as a dealing lawyer/Advocate /Law firms in the Bank's matters.
- viii. The Applicants approved by the Bank for empanelment would be empaneled with the Bank and necessary communication in this regard would be sent. The decision of Exim Bank shall be final, conclusive and binding on all the applicants/parties directly or indirectly connected with the EOI process and the same shall not be questioned / challenged.

- ix. The Bank shall be at liberty to disclose the details pertaining to the empaneled advocates and/or works assigned in terms of its routine disclosures made in good faith and/or disclosures made pursuant to certain regulatory requirements, other directives and guidelines on the Bank's website/agencies/competent authorities.
- x. *Scoring Criteria for selection of Applicants:

Sr. No.	Particulars (Supporting Certificates/documents to be submitted)	Scoring parameter	Maximum Score
Mandato	ory Scoring Criteria		
1	Educational Qualification (Degree in Law)		10
2	Receipt of satisfactory feedback from reference checks/inquiries/interaction		5
Other C	iteria		
3	Experience	≥ 15 years≥ 10 years≥ 5 years	30 20 10
4	Empaneled with public sector bank, reputed private bank, foreign bank or non-banking financial institution, asset reconstruction company or Multilateral financing institutions or	empaneled with more than 2 entities (1 to 2 entities)	20 10

	with regulatory authorities viz (IBBI,		
	IRDA, SEBI, RBI etc.)		
	OR	OR	20
	Assignments / Engagements	(more than 5	
	undertaken for public sector bank,	assignments)	
	reputed private bank, foreign bank or		
	non-banking financial institution,		
	asset reconstruction company or		
	Multilateral financing institutions or	(between 1- 5	10
	with regulatory authorities viz (IBBI,	assignments)	
	IRDA, SEBI, RBI etc.)		
	(Applicable only where the Applicant		
	is not empaneled with public sector		
	bank, reputed private bank, foreign		
	bank or non-banking financial		
	institution, asset reconstruction		
	company or Multilateral financing		
	institutions or with regulatory		
	authorities viz (IBBI, IRDA, SEBI, RBI		
	etc.), state financial corporation etc.)		
	Number of case(s) / matter(s)	More than 5	20
5	handled during last financial year		
		Between 1-5	10
	Specific experience in Banking Law /		
6	Taxation / Shipping / Insurance / IPR /		10
U	Service Issues / Equity / Capital		
	Market / Real Estate etc		
	Infrastructure to handle cases (the		
	adequacy of infrastructure and other		
	aspects like number of associates,		
7	junior advocates, assistants, clerks,		5
	availability of modes of		
	communications like telephone,		
	mobile, internet connections, etc.)		

Total	Maximum
Total	- 100

* To be eligible for empanelment, the Applicant should score 15 marks under the Mandatory Scoring Criteria and a minimum of 45 marks under Other Criteria.
* The Bank shall be at liberty at its absolute discretion to decide any relaxation in the cut off as deemed appropriate.

9. <u>General Terms and Conditions</u>

i. Adherence to terms and conditions

Applicants who wish to submit their responses to this EOI should note that they should abide (in true intent and spirit) by all the terms and conditions contained in the EOI. If the responses contain any extraneous conditions put in by the Applicants, such responses may be disqualified and may not be considered for the selection process. The empaneled Advocate(s)/Law firm(s) would comply with all terms and conditions as they relate to its performance under this EOI. This EOI shall be governed, interpreted by and construed in accordance with the laws of India.

ii. Legal Jurisdiction

All legal disputes between the parties shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts situated at Mumbai only.

iii. Rights of Exim Bank

- a. At any time, Exim Bank may, for any reason, modify the EOI Document by an amendment. The EOI and the amendments made shall be made available on the Bank's website. All the Applicants are therefore advised to check the Bank's website regularly.
- b. Exim Bank may terminate the EOI process at any time without assigning any reason.
- c. Exim Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any Application, and to annul the empanelment process and reject all responses at any time without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Applicant or any

obligation to inform the affected Applicant of the grounds for Exim Bank's action.

iv. Erasures & Alterations

All details must be completely filled up. All the corrections or alterations, if any, should be authenticated.

v. Confidentiality

The Applicants, upon empanelment, shall maintain absolute secrecy and confidentiality about the case(s) of the Bank and/ or information provided by the Bank. The Applicants shall not, either during the term of empanelment or after expiry thereof, disclose any information, through any channel including media/social media, relating to the services, works assigned, business or operations of the Bank or its clients.

- vi. Professionalism
 - a. The Applicant should provide professional, objective, un-biased and impartial inputs, recommendation and advice at all times and hold the Bank's interest paramount and should observe the highest standard of ethics, values, code of conduct and honesty while executing the assignment.
 - b. The Applicant must act, at all times, in the interest of the Bank and render any advice / service with professional integrity. The Applicant shall always keep in view transparency, competitiveness, economy and efficiency in regard with matters related to the subject of the contract or assignment.
 - c. An Applicant is expected to undertake an assignment/project, only in the areas of his/its expertise and where the Applicant has capability to deliver efficient and effective advice /services to the client.

vii. Other Conditions

 a. Save for the communication to the approved Applicants as referred in clause 8(viii) above, the empaneled advocate shall not be given any letter indicating empanelment on the panel of the Bank;

- b. The empaneled advocate shall not be allowed to use the Bank's name, symbol and any other intellectual properties of the Bank under any circumstances;
- c. The inclusion of the advocate/law firm on the Bank's panel of advocates shall not constitute an appointment or a right for an appointment to be made by the Bank and/or for allotment of cases/matters. This discretion shall be vested with the Bank and the Bank shall reserve its right to de-panel the advocate at any time;
- d. The empaneled advocate/law firm shall be required to send weekly/periodical reporting of the cases entrusted with him/her to the Bank. If the panel advocate/law firm fails to submit such reporting of the case(s) entrusted with him/her/them, the Bank may consider this aspect while reviewing the performance and may de-panel him/her/them on this ground.
- e. Unless the case is specially assigned, the advocate/law firm shall not on its/his/her own receive summons/notice on behalf of the Bank & even if any summons/notice is received & no VAKALATNAMA is given by the Bank, law firms/advocates shall not otherwise deal with such case & and immediately inform the Bank in this regard.
- f. In case of law firms any reconstitution, retirement, addition of partners should be intimated to Bank immediately. Similarly, entering into partnership by any empaneled Advocate should be communicated to the Bank.
- g. As & when requested by the Bank for shifting of the case to another advocate/law firm, the advocate/law firm who is dealing with the case needs to give the NO OBJECTION letter along with case papers immediately so that Bank should not lose the opportunity to attend the case on merits.
- h. The advocate/law firm shall indemnify the Bank and hold the Bank harmless from & against any claim, losses, costs, damages, expenses, action suits & other proceedings relating to hold or resulting directly or indirectly from breach of any of the above terms & his/her/their wilful misconduct or gross negligence in providing services to the Bank.

viii. Review of performance

The Bank shall periodically review performance of the empaneled advocate/law firm, who have been appointed in the Bank's matters.

ix. Assignment

If an empaneled advocate/law firm undergoes a merger, amalgamation, takeover, consolidation, reconstruction, change of ownership or enters into a partnership etc. the empanelment and engagement executed with the advocate/law firm shall be considered to be assigned to the new entity and such an act shall not affect the rights of Exim Bank under the existing empanelment arrangement with the erstwhile subsisting firm, unless otherwise so decided by Exim Bank.

10. Disclaimer

Exim Bank is not committed either contractually or in any other way to the advocate/law firm whose Applications are accepted. The issue of this EOI does not commit or otherwise oblige Exim Bank to proceed with any part or steps of the process.

Subject to any law to the contrary and to the maximum extent permitted by law, Exim Bank and its directors/ officers/ employees/ contractors/agents and advisors disclaim all liabilities (including liability by reason of negligence) from any loss or damage, cost or expense incurred or arising by reasons of any person using the information and whether caused by reasons of any error, omission or misrepresentation in the information contained in this document or suffered by any person acting or refraining from acting because of any information contained in this EOI document or conduct ancillary to it whether or not the loss or damage arises in connection with any omission, default, lack of care or misrepresentation on the part of Exim Bank or any of its officers, employees, contractors, agents or advisors.

Exim Bank reserves the right to reject any Application for empanelment of advocate/law firm without any obligation.

Appendices

Appendix – I: Proforma for Bio-Data of Applicant (Advocate)

Please specify whether the Application is for Pan India or specific	Photo
states/UTs, if certain states-please specify the names.	

Area of Interest*:

(Applicant may select any or all of the following or indicate any other preferred area of expertise)



Litigation Documentation

Legal Audit
Title Search

Any other: ____

(*Note: Applicant(s) are advised to comprehensively describe their area of work experience and attach their updated Advocate's Profile. Any additional details which the Applicant may seek to provide, should be submitted in an annexure along with this Application)

Sr.No.	Particulars	Details
		Note: Each field has a character limit. In case of breach of the said limit, separate sheet may be attached.
1	Name in full	
2	Date of Birth	
3	Office Address* * Please indicate whether office premises are self-owned or leased.	
	Chamber Address (if any)	
	Residential Address	
4	Telephone Number (Landline & Cell phone):	Mobile Landline

5	Email Address:	
6	Academic Qualifications* <i>*Confirmation: The law</i> <i>degree has been</i> <i>issued by a university</i> <i>recognised by Bar</i> <i>Council of India</i> .	College/UniversityYearGraduation-LLB-LLM-PhD-College/UniversityYearOthers (including professional qualification such as CA, CS, ICWA, etc)-
7	a. Date of Enrolment in Bar Council	
	b. Registration Number	
8	Whether you belong to SC/ ST/ OBC	🗆 SC 🗌 ST 🗌 OBC 🗌 NA
9	Whether practicing in Civil/ Criminal Side (Court(s)/tribunal/foru m appearing in, please indicate)	
10	Principal Place of practice	

	<u> </u>	Name of Bank	Year of	Reference/contact person
11	Details of present	(please specify	Empanelment	of such Bank/ financial
	empanelment with any	whether	or	institution (include name,
	Bank/financial	empanelled or	Engagement	email, telephone of such
	institution/ asset	engaged)		contact person)
	reconstruction			
	company/multilateral			
	financing			
	institutions/non-			
	banking financial			
	institutions/ regulatory			
	authorities viz. RBI,			
	,			
	IBBI, IRDA, SEBI etc.			
				1
	OR			
	Assignments or			
	engagement			
	undertaken for any			
	Bank/financial			
	institution/ asset			
	reconstruction			
	company/multilateral			
	financing			
	institutions/non-			
	banking financial			
	institutions/ regulatory			
	authorities viz. RBI,			
	IBBI, IRDA, SEBI etc.			
12	Any notable			
	documentation/	Name of the Cas	e/Transaction	Concerned Court/
				Tribunal / Transaction
	litigation Please share			Detail
	order sheets in case of			
	litigation.			

		-		
	Number of case(s)/matter(s) handled during the last financial year			
14	Have you ever been debarred/blacklisted/ de-panelled? Give Details.	□ Reasons	Yes :	🗌 No
15	Total Experience at Bar	Total nu	mber of years:	
16	Are you an Income Tax Assessee		Yes	🗌 No
17	PAN Details			
	Are you appearing/ have you appeared in any Suit or Other Proceedings against the Export-Import Bank of India? If yes, give details			
19	Have you suffered any Professional Misconduct Proceedings before Bar Council? If yes, give details.		Yes	□ No
20	Details of Professional Achievements, if any:			

	1	
21	Office Infrastructure	Junior
	(please include a brief on	
	no. of computer system,	Number of computer
	printer facility, internet	systems
	access, office assistants &	Printer facility
	clerks)	
		Internet Access
		Office assistants
		Clerks
		Others
22	Whether any of the	
	relatives/persons known	
	otherwise than	
	professionally, is	
	working in the Bank. If	
	yes, give the name,	
	designation and posting	
	of such relative/person	

Declaration:

- I hereby confirm and declare that the information given hereinabove is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I hereby express interest of <u>the Applicant named above</u> to act as Legal Counsel on behalf of the Bank.
- 2. In case there is any change in the status of the position indicated above, the same shall be communicated to Exim Bank forthwith.
- 3. Copies of relevant supporting papers/testimonials/orders etc. are attached.
- 4. I further undertake to furnish undertakings and/or declarations as

set out in Appendix III of this EOI required in the form and manner acceptable to the Bank.

Seal and Signature of Applicant / Authorised Person of Applicant

Name of Applicant

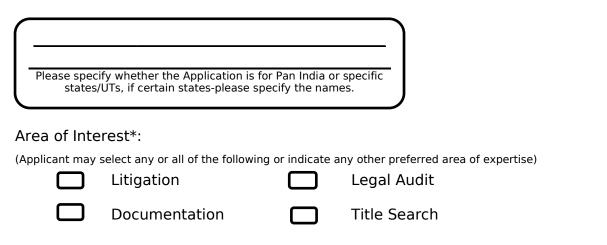
Full Name & Designation of Authorised Person of Applicant

Date

Enclosures:

- Copy of Law Degree Certificate. (Self certified)
- Copy of Certificate of Enrolment with State Bar Council. (Self certified)
- Practice Certificate and Renewal of practice certificate, wherever applicable. (Self certified)
- Identity Card issued by State Bar Council. (Self certified)
- Copies of empanelment with other Banks & Organisation(s), if any. (Self certified)
- PAN Card copy. (Self certified)
- Undertaking regarding agreement of all terms of EOI as per Appendix III (<u>https://www.eximbankindia.in/assets/pdf/public-</u> declarations/Undertaking regarding acceptance of all terms of EOI.pdf)
- Advocate's Profile.

Appendix – II: Proforma for Applicant (Law Firms)



Any other: _

(*Note: Applicant(s) are advised to comprehensively describe their area of work experience and attach their updated Firm Profile. Any additional details which the Applicant may seek to provide, should be submitted in an annexure along with this Application)

Sr.No.	Particulars		Details*	
		(*Note: Each field has a c separate sheet may be at		e of breach of the said limit,
1	Name of the Firm			
2	Address of the Firm			
3	Details of the Contact Person (Name, designation, email Id with Mobile Number)		Name and Designation	Contact Details

4	Office Telephone				
	Number	Mobile		Landline	
					I
5	Official E-mail ID				
	Number of years				
6	for whichthe firm is				
	in legal advisory				
	business/ practice				
	(Please enclose supporting				
	papers)				
7	Date or year from	Name of Bank	Year of	Reference/contact person	n of
/	which the firm is on	Name of Bank	Empanelment of		ncial
	panel of any		Engagement	institution (include na	ame,
	Bank/financial			email, telephone of s contact person)	such
	institution/ asset				
	reconstruction				
	company/multilater				
	al financing				
	institutions/non-				
	banking financial				
	institutions/				
	regulatory				
	authorities viz. RBI,				
	IBBI, IRDA, SEBI etc.				
	(Please enclose				
	supporting papers)				

	Details of Partners (Please attach separate	Name	De	signation	Contact Details	
8	sheet if required)			anaging Irtner		
0				enior Irtner		
				enior Irtner		
	a. Bio-Data as per Appendix I for the Managing	Name of thePar	tner	Whether Bio - Data enclosed	Whether copies Testimonials enclo	
9	Partner or atleast 2 Senior Partners (Please attach separate sheet if required and enclose the copies of relevant testimonials with Bio-Data)			Yes/No	Yes/No	
	b. Details of the Authorised Person on behalf of the law firm.	Location	Name Design	and	Contact Details	

	Any notable				
	documentation/	Name of the case/		Concerned Court/ Tribunal /	
	litigations. Please	Transacti	on	Transaction Detail	
	share order sheets				
10	in case of litigation.				
10	(Please attach separate				
	sheet if required along				
	with copies of relevant Order sheets				
	containing the name of				
	Firm/Partners)				
	Details of Banks	Name of Bank	Year of	Reference/contact	
	with which the	(please specify		person of such Bank/	
11	Firm/Partner(s) are	whether	Engagement	financial institution	
	empanelled with	empanelled or engaged)		(include name, email, telephone of such	
	any Bank/financial			contact person)	
	institution/ asset				
	reconstruction				
	company/multilate				
	ral financing				
	institutions/non-				
	banking financial				
	institutions/				
	regulatory				
	authorities viz. RBI,				
	IBBI, IRDA, SEBI				
	etc.				
	OR				
	Assignments or				
	engagement				
	undertaken for any				
	Bank/financial				
	institution/ asset				

reconstruction company/multilater al financing institutions/non- banking financia institutions/ regulatory authorities viz. RBI IBBI, IRDA, SEBI etc (Please attach separat sheet if required alon with copies of Empanelment Letter issued by other Banks,	0 1 , e g of ss
12 Number of case(s)/matter(s) handled during the last financial year	2
13 Details of the matters where Firm appeared agains Exim Bank in any suit/DRT or any other proceedings including CIRP	n t /
13 Have you ever be debarred/blackliste de-panelled? Gi Details.	d/ 🗌 Yes 🗌 No
14 Details o Professional Achievements,	f f

[2014	
	any	
15	Office	Number of Offices
	Infrastructure	Number of computer
		systems
		Printer facility
		Internet Access
		Office assistants
		Clerks
		Others
		others
16	Any other relevant	
10	information	
17	Whether any of the	
	relatives / persons	
	known to the	
	partners of the firm	
	otherwise than	
	professionally, is	
	working in the	
	Bank.	
	If yes, give the	
	name, designation	
	and posting of such	
	relative/person.	

Declaration:

- I hereby confirm and declare that the information given hereinabove is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I hereby express interest of <u>the Applicant named above</u> to act as Legal Counsel on behalf of the Bank and confirm that the Law Firm is in adherence with all applicable rules of the Bar Council in the state of practice.
- 2. In case there is any change in the status of the position indicated above, the same shall be communicated to Exim Bank forthwith.

- 3. Copies of relevant supporting papers/testimonials/orders etc. are attached.
- 4. I further undertake to furnish undertakings and/or declarations as set out in Appendix III of this EOI required in the form and manner acceptable to the Bank.

Seal and Signature of Applicant / Authorised Person of Applicant

Name of Applicant

Full Name & Designation of Authorised Person of Applicant

Date

Enclosures:

- Copy of Law Degree Certificate of the Managing Partner or of atleast two senior Partners (Self certified)
- Copy of Certificate of Enrolment with State Bar Council of the Managing Partner or of atleast two senior Partners (Self certified)
- Practice Certificate and Renewal of practice certificate, wherever applicable, of the Managing Partner or of atleast two senior Partners(Self certified)
- Identity Card issued by State Bar Council for of the Managing Partner or of atleast two senior Partners (Self certified)
- Copies of empanelment with other Banks & Organisation if any (Selfcertified)
- PAN Card copy (Self- certified)
- In case of firms the documents evidencing the constitution of firm (Self certified)
- Undertaking regarding agreement of all terms of EOI as per Appendix III (<u>https://www.eximbankindia.in/assets/pdf/public-</u> <u>declarations/Undertaking_regarding_acceptance_of_all_terms_of_EOI.pdf</u>)
- Firm Profile

Appendix - III: Undertaking regarding agreement of all terms of EOI

(To be submitted on Applicant Advocate / Law Firm's letter head along with the Application)

Τo,

The General Manager (Legal) Export-Import Bank of India Centre One Building, Floor 21, World Trade Centre Complex, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai 400005

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

- Having examined the Expression of Interest (EOI) including all Annexes, the receipt of which is hereby duly acknowledged, I/ we, the undersigned, qualify under the minimum eligibility criteria and offer to provide and deliver all the services for empanelment and the other requirements and services for Exim Bank in conformity with our application.
- 2. I/ We confirm that I/ we have the in-house capabilities and technical capabilities to complete the assignment and deliver all requirements mentioned under this EOI.
- 3. I/ We hereby certify that I/ we have provided all the information requested by the Bank in the format requested for. The information provided is correct and true to the best of my/ our knowledge and belief. In case at any stage, it is found that the information given by us is false / not correct or in a different format, Exim Bank shall have the absolute right to take any action as deemed fit without any prior intimation to us.
- 4. I/ We agree to abide by the terms of this EOI from the date fixed for receiving the same or agreed extended period and it shall remain binding upon me/ us and may be accepted at any time before the expiry of the period.
- 5. If my/our application is accepted, I/ we undertake to complete and deliver the whole of the works comprised as and when assigned in the EOI.
- I/We agree to abide by this Undertaking and my/ our application shall remain binding on me/ us and may be accepted by Exim Bank at any time.
- 7. This EOI together with my/ our written acceptance thereof shall constitute binding Terms and Conditions between Exim Bank and I/ us.

- 8. I/ We understand that the EOI does not commit Exim Bank to reimburse the Applicants for any costs incurred in submission of this application.
- 9. I/ We understand and agree that the fee(s) with respect to any assignment shall be specifically agreed upon between the Bank and ourselves as and when a matter is to be entrusted to me/ us.
- 10. I/ We understand and agree that the Bank shall, at its sole discretion, undertake any or all of the below:

(i) undertake an interaction with the advocates/law firms, including seeking a presentation before the Bank, before empanelment. The applicant will have to bear costs for such interaction/presentation, if any. The Bank's decision in this regard will be final;

(ii) undertake enquiries with the Bar Association and /or judicial authorities and/or other banks/authorities and/or the references provided by the advocate regarding the eligibility, conduct & competence of the advocates requesting empanelment;

(iii) visit the office premises of the advocate/law firm and ascertain the adequacy of infrastructure and other aspects like number of associates, junior advocates, assistants, clerks, availability of modes of communications like telephone, mobile, internet connections, etc;

- 11. I/ We hereby declare and submit that the advocate/ law firm concern has not been penalized or found guilty by any bar council or in any court of Law, tribunal and the firm/ company has not been blacklisted / debarred by any Central Government Ministry / Bank / RBI/ IBA / any regulatory authority till the date of submission of this application.
- 12. Further, I/ we also confirm that I/we does not have any legal, civil, criminal, taxation and other cases pending against me/us that may have any impact affecting or compromising the delivery of services required.
- 13. I/ We also confirm that neither firm nor any of its engaged lawyers/employees have failed to perform on any assignment or expelled from any engagement or have had any engagement terminated for breach on our part.
- 14. I/ We have not been blacklisted/de-paneled by any of the Bank / Financial Institution / reputed Private Bank (including foreign banks / multilateral institutions)/institutions acting as security trustees/custodians for banks/Financial Institutions / IBA / RBI /Bar Council and Government of India.

I/ We shall forthwith inform Exim Bank should any such blacklisting/depaneling process be initiated against me/us.

- 15. I/ We further declare that none of the partners / associates / advocates working with me/us have been included in the IBA caution list.
- 16. I/ We agree that Exim Bank is not bound to accept any application that Exim Bank may receive.
- 17. I/ We understand that Exim Bank has the right, without assigning reasons thereof, to
 - a. Reject, amend, and modify any condition contained in the EOI
 - b. Terminate this EOI
 - c. Negotiate with one or more applicants
 - d. Not award the assignment to any of the applicants and / or recommence the entire process.
 - e. Empanel one or more applicants for any reasons whatsoever.
 - f. Modify the requirements and terms of this EOI and request revised Applications from some or all of the applicants.
- 18. I/ We acknowledge that no empanelment letter will be issued by the Bank upon empanelment.
- 19. I/we am/are accepting all the terms and conditions of the EOI as determined by the Bank from time to time and shall accept the fee(s) and terms and conditions therefor as agreed with Exim Bank, without any demur or protest and we hereby waive all of our rights given under any statue, regulation etc. in this regard.
- 20. I/we shall not use Exim Bank's name, symbol etc. in my/our letter head, signboard, name plates, pamphlets, visiting cards, etc. and shall not do anything detrimental to the interest of the Bank. Further, I/we shall not, either during the term of empanelment or after expiry thereof, disclose any information, through any channel including media/social media, relating to the services, works assigned, business or operations of Exim Bank or its clients without prior written consent of Exim Bank.
- 21. I/we shall not admit and/or engage any advocate(s) who is depanelled by Bank as junior, associate, partner etc. and if Exim Bank brings to my/our notice that such advocate was depanelled by Exim Bank, I/ we shall immediately remove him/her from my/our office/firm. If I/we contravene the same, Exim Bank may immediately depanel me/us even without any notice.

- 22. I/we and my/our juniors, associates, partners etc., shall not appear/advise against Exim Bank under any circumstances.
- 23. I/ We acknowledge that Application for empanelment shall not constitute as empanelment or any kind of right or privilege for empanelment.
- 24. I/ We acknowledge and confirm that empanelment/depanelment of advocates/law firms is the sole discretion of Exim Bank and Exim Bank may at any time depanel me/us from its panel of advocates and law firms.
- 25. I/we acknowledge that inclusion of name in Exim Bank's panel of advocates and law firms shall not constitute an appointment or a right for an appointment to be made by the Bank.

Seal and Signature of Applicant / Authorised Person of Applicant

Name of Applicant

Full Name & Designation of Authorised Person of Applicant

Date