

4.0 ASSIGNMENT TERMS OF REFERENCE

The consultant will, in collaboration with the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and CDERA, undertake a study of the potential applications of *State-of-the-art* Communications Technology for disaster preparedness and response in the Region. Duties in this regard will include;

1. Holding discussions with officials of the specified agencies to determine;
 - (a). The extent to which their current disaster preparedness and response plan incorporate the use of advanced communications technology.
 - (b). Future plans for increasing the use of such technology.
 - (c). The main difficulties or constraints encountered in acquiring and using such technology.
 - (d). *State-of-the-art* equipment and services available from local and regional service providers.
 - (e). The costs and conditions of use for the services available.
 - (f). Restrictions on the uses of equipment and services.
2. Preparing a draft report:
 - Summarizing the findings of the initial survey
 - Offering an interpretation of the findings and indicating how this is likely to affect the strategy to be proposed.
3. Presenting the report to a panel of professionals. During the presentation any clarification required will be provided.
4. Preparation of a final report which in addition to refining the draft report, includes a proposed strategy for increasing the use of *State-of-the-art* technology for disaster communications. In preparing this report, due consideration will be given to issues raised and comments made during the review by the panel.