1. **Introduction**

The Commission for Child Development and Family Welfare, Rodrigues Regional Assembly, is hereby inviting NGO to work with families in distress and domestic violence to indicate their interest for the management of an emergency shelter in Rodrigues.

2. **Background**

The problem of violence against women has always existed in Rodrigues. The sheltering of the victims, sought by the services concerned, and where necessary, was always carried out by the immediate family. Today, this solution is less and less possible (less family solidarity, people without family resources, etc.). It is therefore urgent to find another suitable response for sheltering victims. At the same time, many entities meet or receive women who are victims of violence. The staffs of these entities have difficulties to provide counselling to these victims. Hence, the emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence will act as a temporary emergency accommodation facility providing safety for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault and their minor children. This space will be a reference in the field of prevention and treatment of the problems of violence against women.

These are considered essential in protecting victims from abuse as research suggests that they are a critical resource for victims facing life crises. For instance,

- Victims report feeling safe when provided a safe place and rate it as the most effective service for coping with abuse and ending the violence. Uses of Domestic violence shelters and accommodations have been found to be significantly associated with the termination of an abusive relationship.
• Length of stay has been associated with reductions in depression as well as increases in hopefulness, self-esteem and psychological independence from an abusive partner.

• Safe accommodation services increase victim’s self-efficacy and coping skills and lead to a perceived increase in decision-making abilities.

3. Objective of the Project

The overall objective of the project is to create a specialised therapeutic space to welcome and provide support to women victims of violence while temporarily sheltering women victims of violence, through proper listening and psychological support and the realisation of a social diagnosis. Specific objectives are:

• To provide support to victims of domestic violence and stabilise families in distress within a safe, secure and empowering environment while they regain self-sufficiency.

• To empower victims and their children to rise above the pain of domestic abuse and begin a new safer and healthier life

• To link victims facing housing instability to longer term solutions

• to provide, with dignity and respect, comprehensive, quality services including education, therapy/counselling, housing advocacy, accessibility, referral network, etc. to any battered victim and his/her children.

4. Situational Analysis

In 2017, the marriage rate was 7.6 percent, compared to 10.7 percent in 2016, which shows a clear decline over the years. The number of divorce continues to climb. Cases of domestic violence are reported every year. And many cases are repetitive, that is to say, that there is violence that continues despite the intervention of the authorities. From 2015 to 2016, there was an increase of 8.4 % in the number of cases of domestic violence reported. Up to June 2017, 71 cases were reported to the Family Police Protection Unit.
Other types of related problems include family disputes, applications for Protection Orders to Court, or applications for an Occupation Order.

5. **Terms and Conditions:**

The NGO which will manage the Emergency Shelter shall be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff working full-time or part-time at the emergency shelter.

5.1 In order to facilitate the implementation of the institution in Rodrigues, the Commission will provide the following incentives:

   1. Availability of building;
   2. A yearly grant for the day-to-day running and management of the shelter;
   3. Security services;
   4. Training for selected NGO.

5.2 A moratorium of 3 months shall be given prior to cessation of business in Rodrigues;

5.3 The applicant shall specify the activities that will be carried out in the home for rehabilitation and economic purposes.

5.4 All upgrading works to be effected in the home shall have the prior approval of the Commission for Child Development and Others;

5.5 A certain number of local persons shall be employed by the applicant;

6. **Project Requirements**

Interested parties are invited to submit their project write up and will be required to fill in and submit its organization profile as at Annex 1.

7. **Eligibility Criteria**
I. To be eligible the parties should:

II. Have the legal capacity to operate a social institution.

III. Not be insolvent in receivership, bankrupt, subject to legal proceedings for any of these circumstances or in the process of being wound up

IV. Not have had its organization activities suspended

V. Not have a conflict of interest in relation to this activity

VI. Be registered with the Registrar of Associations

VII. Be a local NGO or a local NGO in partnership with a national NGO with proven track record

VIII. Have at least 3 years of existence

8. Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation criteria will be spelt out in Eligibility Criteria listed at Sn. 6 above.

9. Contact Information

Any clarification with respect to this Expressions of Interest should be addressed to:

   Departmental Head
   Commission for Child Development and Others
   Antoinette Prudence Human Resource Development Centre
   Malabar
   Rodrigues

   Tel: +2308314865 / 8315630
   Fax: +2308315628
   Email: dhdeesoruth@gmail.com
10. **Deadline**

NGOs are requested to submit their project write-up in two original copies together with relevant document to:

- **Departmental Head,**
- **Commission for Child Development and Others**
- **Antoinette Prudence, Human Resource Development Centre Building,**
- **Malabar, Rodrigues,**

not later than **14.00 hours on 15 May 2018.**