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C13433

REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE
POST OFFICE BOX 1349
MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS MH 96960
PHONE: (692) 625-3181/3012

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
7/7/20
ADMIN

June 16, 2020

JUL 06 2020

To: Mr. Richard Hickson
Attorney General, RMI

Ms. Maybelline A. Bing
Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services

7/8/20

From: Ms. Anjanette K. Kattil
Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Re: **Akin Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld LLP Contract**

C13591

Iakwe Attorney General Hickson and Secretary Bing:

Please find the attached contract between the GRMI and our firm in Washington, DC, Akin Gump, for your review. The representation fee of $40,000 USD per month reflects the increased work in connection with the Compact renegotiations. Minister Casten Nemra has already endorsed and signed the contract.

Kommol tata.

ENTERED
JUL 08 2020
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
2433 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20008
Tel. # (202) 234-5414 * Fax # (202) 232-3236 * E-mail: info@rmiembassyus.org

June 8, 2020

Ms. Anjanette K. Kattil
Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
PO Box 1349
Majuro, MH 96960

JUL 06 2020

Dear Secretary Kattil,

The Embassy wishes to forward to your attention the attached Contract Renewal and Expansion Agreement for Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP for work related to RMI Compact Renegotiations.

Please note the start date of June 1, 2020, and the fee of $40,000.00 USD per month. We look forward to receiving the signed Agreement in the near future.

Sincerely,

Gerald M. Zackios
Ambassador

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MI-20-0575
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Akin Gump
STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

JENNIFER L. RICHTER
+1 202.887.4524/fax: +1 202.887.4288
jrichter@akingump.com

June 8, 2020

VIA E-MAIL

H.E. Gerald M. Zackios
Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary
The Republic of the Marshall Islands ("RMI")
Embassy of the Republic of the Marshall Islands
2433 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Ambassador Zackios:

It has been our privilege to represent the Embassy of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and I am pleased to confirm the renewal and expansion of our representation in connection with the Compact renegotiations. Our representation will be in accord with the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Statement of Firm Policies.

For the scope of this work, Akin Gump will bill a fixed retainer fee of 40,000 USD per month starting June 1, 2020.

Our standard practice is to bill on a monthly basis. This allows our clients to monitor both current and cumulative fees and expenses. We require that payment of statements be made within 30 days of receipt, and we may suspend or terminate any work in progress if timely payment is not made. We may also withdraw from the representation in a manner consistent with applicable ethical standards.

If you choose not to notify us in writing of any objection to these terms, then that will also serve as agreement to these terms, subject, of course, to your right to terminate our engagement at any time.

We very much appreciate your continued confidence in the firm. It is again a great privilege for Akin Gump to assist the Embassy in representing the RMI at this critical time. We look forward to continuing our engagement and growing our relationship together.

Kommol tata.

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JUL 06 2020

Sincerely,

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

Jennifer L. Richter

Jennifer L. Richter

AGREED: Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands

By: _____
Hon. Casten N. Nemra, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

_____ 6/16/20
Mr. Richard Hickson, Attorney General

_____ 7/8/20
Ms. Maybelline Andon Bing, Secretary of Finance, Banking and Postal Services

Enclosure

1610 214
Acct: 1611-1520-0-201-GG1611
Appr: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
NTE $480,000.00 (FY2020)
June-September ($80,000.00

7/7/2020

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
RECEIVED
7/7/20
DATE
ADMIN

RECEIVED
JUN 16 2020
IN THE OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL
MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS

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STATEMENT OF FIRM POLICIES

We appreciate your decision to retain Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP (**"Akin Gump"**) as your legal counsel and look forward to developing our relationship with you in the course of our representation. Except as may be modified by a separate written agreement, the following summarizes our billing practices and certain other terms that will apply to any engagement. If you provide us with outside counsel guidelines, billing requirements, or other similar policies, we will endeavor to abide by them to the extent reasonably practicable and consistent with our obligations to other clients and the applicable rules of professional conduct. However, the terms of our engagement letter together with this Statement cannot be modified in any material respect by the tender of such policies, without a writing signed by us.

1. Determination of Fees

When establishing fees for services that we render, we are guided primarily by the time and labor required, although we also consider other appropriate factors, such as the novelty and difficulty of the legal issues involved; the legal skill required to perform the particular assignment; time-saving use of resources (including research, analysis, data and documentation) that we have previously developed and stored electronically or otherwise in quickly retrievable form; the fee customarily charged by comparable firms for similar legal services; the amount of money involved or at risk and the results obtained; and the time constraints imposed by either the client or the circumstances. The firm generally requires a retainer in an amount which is appropriate with respect to the proposed representation. Unless otherwise agreed, the retainer will be applied to statements rendered in connection with the representation, with any unused portion being returned to the client.

In determining a reasonable fee for the time and labor required for a particular matter, we consider the ability, experience, and reputation of the professionals in our firm who perform the services. To facilitate this determination, we internally assign to each professional an hourly rate based on these factors. When selecting professionals to perform services for a client, we generally seek to assign professionals having the lowest hourly rates consistent with the skills, time demands, and other factors influencing the professional responsibility required for each matter. Of course, our internal allocation of values for professional time changes periodically (at least annually) to account for increases in our cost of delivering legal service, other economic factors, and the augmentation of a particular professional's ability, experience and reputation. Any such changes in hourly rates are applied prospectively. We record and bill our time in one-tenth hour (six-minute) increments.

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The time for which a client will be charged will include, but will not be limited to, telephone and office conferences between client and counsel, witnesses, consultants, court personnel and others; conferences among our legal personnel; factual investigation; legal research; responding to clients' requests for us to provide information to their auditors in connection with reviews or audits of financial invoices; drafting of agreements, contracts, letters, pleadings, briefs and other documents; travel time; waiting time in court; and time in depositions and other discovery proceedings. In an effort to reduce legal fees, we utilize paralegal personnel. Time devoted by paralegals to client matters is charged at special billing rates, which also are subject to adjustment from time to time by the firm.

2. Expenses

In addition to legal fees, our statements will include out-of-pocket expenses that we have advanced on behalf of the client and our internal charges (which may exceed direct costs) for certain support activities. Advanced costs generally will include such items as travel expenses and fees for postage, filing, recording, certification, registration, and the like. Our internal charges typically cover such items as long distance telephone calls, facsimile transmissions, messenger services, overnight courier services, terminal time for computer research and complex document production, secretarial and paralegal overtime and photocopying or printing materials sent to the client or third parties or required for our use. We may request an advance cost deposit (in addition to the advance fee deposit) when we expect that we will be required to incur substantial costs on behalf of the client.

During the course of our representation, it may be appropriate or necessary to hire third parties to provide services on your behalf. These services may include such things as consulting or testifying experts, investigators, providers of computerized litigation support, court reporters, providers of filing services and searches of governmental records and filings, and local counsel. Because of the legal "work product" protection afforded to services that an attorney requests from third parties, in certain situations, our firm may assume responsibility for retaining the appropriate service providers. If we do so, you will be responsible for paying all fees and expenses directly to the service providers or reimbursing us for these costs.

3. Billing

We bill monthly throughout the engagement for a particular matter, and our monthly statements are due within ten days after your receipt thereof. In instances in which we represent more than one person with respect to a matter, each person that we represent is jointly and severally liable for our fees with respect to the representation. Our statements contain a concise summary of each matter for which legal services were rendered and a fee was charged.

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We invite our clients to discuss freely with us any questions that they have concerning a fee charged for any matter. We want our clients to be satisfied with both the quality of our services and the reasonableness of the fees that we charge for those services. We will attempt to provide as much billing information as the client requires and in such customary form that it desires, and are willing to discuss with our clients any of the various billing formats we have available that best suits their needs.

If any monthly statement is not paid within 60 days after the original statement date, we reserve the right to discontinue services on all pending matters for you until all of your accounts with us have been brought current. Additionally, if any statement is not paid within 60 days from the date of the original statement, we may, by written notice to you on a subsequent statement or otherwise, declare the overdue account to be delinquent. We have no obligation to declare any account delinquent. If we declare an account to be delinquent, the amount owing on that account will accrue interest at a rate equal to one percent (1%) per month (a 12% annual percentage rate) from the date of our delinquency notice to you until the balance is paid in full, but in no event shall such rate exceed the maximum rate permitted by applicable law. Any payments made on past due statements are applied first to interest, if any, and then to the account balance, beginning with the oldest outstanding statement. In addition, we are entitled to attorneys' fees and costs if collection activities are necessary.

4. Client and Scope of Engagement

Our engagement is limited to the specific party or parties and matter identified in an engagement letter or similar writing confirming our representation. As a result, our engagement with you does not create a lawyer-client relationship with any other persons or entities, including parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, joint venture entities, successors, acquirers, employees, officers, directors, shareholders, partners, members, or trustees, even if such persons or entities control, are controlled by, or are under common control with you. Nor does our engagement create a lawyer-client relationship with you for any other matter than that agreed to in the engagement letter or similar writing confirming our representation.

We will provide services of a strictly legal nature of the kind generally described in the engagement letter that accompanies this attachment. It is understood that you are not relying on us for business, investment, or accounting decisions, or to investigate the character or credit of persons with whom you may be dealing, or to advise you about changes in the law that might affect you unless otherwise specified in the letter. We will keep you advised of developments as necessary to perform our services and will consult with you as necessary to ensure the timely, effective, and efficient completion of our work. Professionals in the firm typically have several

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client matters pending and are required to coordinate the scheduling of activities required for each pending client matter.

5. Necessary Information

It is anticipated that you and any other entities affiliated with you will furnish us promptly with all information that we deem to be required to perform the services described in our engagement letter, including financial statements from qualified accountants and auditors, as appropriate, and documents prepared by other legal counsel employed by you in connection with prior or other matters. You will make such business or technical decisions or determinations as are appropriate to carry out our engagement.

Our engagement is premised and conditioned upon your representation that you are not aware of any material facts or current or historical problem (involving without limitation such matters as court orders, injunctions, cease and desist orders, judgments, liabilities, litigation, administrative proceedings, crimes, prosecutions, bankruptcies or securities violations) on the part of any person to be connected with you that you have not fully disclosed to us. You understand that the accuracy and completeness of any document (including securities disclosure documents, litigation pleadings and court filings) prepared by us is dependent upon your alertness to assure that it contains all material facts relating to the subject and purpose of such document and that such document must not contain any misrepresentation of a material fact nor omit information necessary to make the statements therein not misleading. To that end, you agree to review all documents prepared by us for their factual accuracy and completeness prior to any use thereof. You also acknowledge that this responsibility continues through our engagement in the event that such document becomes deficient in this regard. You hereby represent and warrant that any material, information, reports and financial statements, whether rendered orally or in writing, furnished to us by you will be accurate, and that we may rely upon the truth or accuracy of such information.

6. Confidentiality and Conflicts

Akin Gump is a large law firm with multiple offices and a large number of clients around the world. Because of the firm's size and geographic scope, as well as the breadth and diversity of our practice, other present or future clients of the firm inevitably will have contacts with you. Accordingly, to prevent any future misunderstanding and to preserve the firm's ability to represent you and our other clients, we confirm the following understanding about certain conflicts of interest issues:

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Unless we have your agreement that we may do so, we will not represent another client in a matter that is substantially related to a matter in which we represent you and in which the other client is adverse to you. We understand the term "matter" to refer to transactions, negotiations, proceedings and other representations involving specific parties.

At the same time, you agree that we may (i) continue to represent any existing client and (ii) undertake to represent any new or former client, in each case, in any matter that is not substantially related to a matter in which we represent you, even if we represent you in a matter in which the other client is adverse to you or we represent the other client in a matter in which you are adverse to the other client. By way of example, this would include assisting another client on various types of agreements, financings or restructurings in which you may have an interest in as a counterparty, or advancing another client's position on legislative or regulatory issues with which you may disagree.

We do not view this advance consent to permit unauthorized disclosure or use of any client confidences. Under applicable rules of professional conduct, we are obligated to and shall preserve the confidentiality of any confidential information you provide to us. In this connection, we may obtain nonpublic information about you in the course of our representation. We maintain appropriate physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards to protect your nonpublic information. We do not disclose nonpublic information about our clients or former clients to anyone, except as permitted by law and applicable rules of professional conduct.

We will not disclose to you or use on your behalf any documents or information with respect to which we owe a duty of confidentiality to another client or person.

The fact that we may have your documents and/or information that may be relevant to another matter in which we are representing another client will not prevent us from representing that other client in that matter in reliance upon the foregoing advance waiver. We will maintain appropriate safeguards to ensure that the confidentiality of your documents and/or information is preserved.

Our professional obligations to you and to our other clients will require us to run a conflicts check if there is any change in the parties to the matter or any material change in its nature. We must also run a conflicts check before undertaking any new matters with you.

7. Termination of Engagement

Upon completion of any matter to which this representation applies, or upon earlier termination of our relationship, the lawyer-client relationship arising from such matter will end

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unless you and we have expressly agreed to a continuation with respect to other matters. We hope, of course, that such a continuation will be the case. You have the right at any time to terminate our services and representation upon written notice to the firm. We reserve the right to withdraw from our representation if circumstances arise that under the applicable rules of professional conduct, allow or require us to.

8. Disagreements Regarding Fees

In the event that you believe any statement for our services is erroneous for any reason, you shall notify us of the same within ten business days after receipt of such statement stating the basis for your belief. If agreement cannot be reached with respect to the amount owed, you agree to promptly pay the non-disputed portion of our statement and submit the disputed portion for resolution by the appropriate committee of the organized bar of the city where our office rendering such services is located. If no organized bar exists in that city, then you can submit to the Committee on Arbitration Relating to Fee Disputes (or similar committee) of the regulatory body governing the practice of law in the state or jurisdiction where our office rendering such services is located.

9. Governing Law

OUR ENGAGEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF THE JURISDICTION WHERE OUR OFFICE RENDERING OUR SERVICES IS LOCATED AND, EXCEPT FOR DISAGREEMENTS REGARDING FEES SUBMITTED TO ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 8 ABOVE, VENUE FOR ANY OTHER ACTION HEREUNDER SHALL BE IN THE COUNTY WHERE OUR OFFICE RENDERING SUCH SERVICES IS LOCATED.

10. Record Retention

Following termination of a matter, any otherwise nonpublic information you have supplied to us that is retained by us will be kept confidential in accordance with applicable rules of professional conduct. Upon your request, we will return to you documents and materials that you provided to us in connection with our representation. You hereby acknowledge and agree that if you do not instruct us to have your client file returned to you, we will retain it for a reasonable time period (presently ten years) pursuant to the Firm's then –current Record Retention Policy, after which, we will be free to destroy at our discretion, without further notice to you, any portion of the file left with us that we are not legally required to preserve. Clients may be charged shipping costs for the return of client files. The responsible lawyer should determine if it is appropriate depending upon the size of the matter and the extent of the likely

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cost to the firm. If you instruct us to return your file to you, we reserve the right to retain materials pertaining to each matter, including without limitation administrative and accounting records, conflicts and new business intake materials, internal documents, lawyer notes, firm form files, communications, and other materials intended for our internal use or that we are prohibited from providing to you by law, court order or third party agreement. By agreeing to and accepting our representation as described in this letter, you agree to keep us informed of your most current address during the stated retention period.

11. Miscellaneous

The engagement letter together with this Statement of Firm Policies constitutes our entire understanding and agreement with respect to the terms of our engagement and supersedes any prior understandings and agreements, written or oral. If any provision of our engagement letter is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the remainder of the provisions shall remain in full force and effect. Our engagement letter may only be amended in writing by the parties hereto.

Your agreement to this engagement constitutes your acceptance of the foregoing terms and conditions. If any of them is unacceptable to you, please advise us now so that we can resolve any differences and proceed with a clear, complete, and consistent understanding of our relationship.

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