To – Individual (tourism, sustainability, certification) Consultants

Subject – Call for Proposals

Project - Technical Advisor to Develop Sustainable Tourism Accreditation Framework

To whom it may concern,

The Sustainable Tourism Stewardship Council (STSC) initiative has been registered as a United Nations Partnership and it is currently being established as an independent institution. The Temporary Executive Board of the STSC has secured assistance from the Multilateral Investment Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank (MIF/IDB) for the engagement of an individual consultant to assist one of the key tasks of the STSC.

One of the major activities of the STSC will be the establishment of an accreditation program for sustainable tourism certification programs. The purpose of the consultancy is to develop an initial Manual for this accreditation program. A draft Manual will be presented to certification programs in late August at a meeting in Washington and via email consultation throughout September. A final Manual needs to be completed by 30 October, in preparation for the expected launch of the STSC in November 2009.

There has been much work to date in the establishment of the accreditation framework and the consultant will be guided by briefs being prepared by the STSC’s Accreditation Committee. One major input is the Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria, indeed the STSC and GSTC partnership are looking towards merging and launching a combined entity in November 2009.

The terms of reference are attached, proposals which meet terms of reference (see Section viii for the format and content required) and are received by 18 June will be considered. A prompt consideration is expected with a start before the end of June required.

Proposals should be submitted to sustainabletourism@ra.org. Any queries may be directed to guychester@ecosustainability.com.

Guy Chester

Chair – Accreditation Committee