

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3176]

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "The Dead Sea Scrolls"**AGENCY:** United States Department of State.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459), the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681, *et seq.*), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999, and Delegation of Authority No. 236 of October 19, 1999, as amended, I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibition "The Dead Sea Scrolls," imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the United States, are of cultural significance. These objects are imported pursuant to loan agreements with foreign lenders. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the exhibit objects at the Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois, from on or about March 10, 2000 to on or about June 11, 2000, is in the national interest.

The action of the United States in this matter and the immunity based on the application of the provisions of law involved does not imply any view of the United States concerning the ownership of the exhibit objects. Further, it is not based upon and does not represent any change in the position of the United States regarding the status of Jerusalem or the territories occupied by Israel since 1967. See Letter of September 22, 1978, of President Jimmy Carter, attached to the Camp David Accords, reprinted in 78 Dept. of State Bulletin 11 (October 1978); Statement of September 1, 1982, of President Ronald Reagan, reprinted in 82 Dept. of State Bulletin 23 (September 1982).

Public Notice of these Determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including a list of exhibit objects, contact Jacqueline H. Caldwell, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: 202/619-5078). The address is U.S. Department of State, SA-44; 301-4th Street, SW, Room 700, Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: December 8, 1999.

William B. Bader,*Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 99-32662 Filed 12-15-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3177]

Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs; Book Donation/Information Technology Services Program**NOTICE:** Request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The *Office of Geographic Liaison (IIP/G)* announces an open competition for a *book donation/information technology services program*. Private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c)(3) may submit proposals to: implement a book donation program in Eastern Europe and the NIS; build upon programs outside the former Communist bloc in transition around the world, particularly in Africa; provide educational materials for the victims of civil strife as requested by the Department; and make available Internet and Information Technology training in conjunction with the provision of books.

Program Information: Overview: The grant requires the successful applicant to match federal with support from non-governmental sources such as: Foundations; professional, ethnic, and fraternal organizations and individuals; provide primarily new books, CD-ROMS, educational videocassettes and other educational materials (with no medical titles to be sent under the grant and no more than 15% of the total volumes shipped having been used); have in place ongoing, sustainable relationships with NGO partners in the countries covered under the grant to ensure effective distribution and tracking of donated materials; send booklists in advance to the overseas partners for selection to ensure that only requested materials are shipped under the grant; employ electronic mail and the Internet in the provision of booklists and the dissemination of information about the program; and (if necessary) train partners in the use of same; respond to the differing and changing needs of partners by making available materials in wide ranges of subjects and educational levels; plan and host Partner meetings in the U.S. and abroad as requested. The grantee must have demonstrable experience assessing book

donation and information technology training programs abroad.

Guidelines: The grant is expected to commence January 1, 2000 and end December 31, 2000.

Budget Guidelines: Grants awarded to eligible organizations with less than four years of experience in conducting international exchange programs will be limited to \$60,000.

Applicants must submit a comprehensive budget for the entire program. Awards may not exceed \$200,000. There must be a summary budget as well as breakdowns reflecting both administrative and program budgets. Applicants may provide separate sub-budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity to provide clarification. Please refer to the Solicitation Package for complete budget guidelines and formatting instructions.

Announcement Title and Number: All correspondence with the IIP/G3434 concerning this RFP should reference the above title and number *IIP/G-1*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Office of Geographical Liaison, *IIP/G, 4th Floor* U.S. Department of State, 301 4th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547. The solicitation package may be obtained by calling: 202 619 5876, requesting by fax at 202 619 4879 or by contacting the program officer Ron Ungaro at rungaro@usia.gov. The Solicitation Package contains detailed award criteria, required application forms, specific budget instructions, and standard guidelines for proposal preparation. Please specify Program Officer Ron Ungaro on all other inquiries and correspondence.

Please read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFP deadline has passed, Department staff may not discuss this competition with applicants until the proposal review process has been completed.

To Download a Solicitation Package Via Internet: The entire Solicitation Package may be downloaded from the following website at <http://e.usia.gov/education/rfps>. Please read all information before downloading.

Deadline for Proposals: All proposal copies must be received at IIP/G Office of Geographic Liaison by 5 p.m. Washington, DC time on January 9, 2000. Faxed documents will not be accepted at any time. Documents postmarked the due date but received on a later date will not be accepted. Each applicant must ensure that the proposals are received by the above deadline.