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ADDENDUM/ CLARIFICATION "SET 2"

18th March 2022.

To all Prospective bidders,

REF: TENDER NO. KRA/HQS/NCB-046/2021-2022 PROVISION FOR UPGRADE OF DATABASES HARDWARE AND CONSOLIDATION OF ORACLE DATABASE LICENSES

Kenya Revenue Authority wishes to inform prospective bidders of the clarifications / addendum highlighted below:

NO.	Query reference from Tender	KRA Requirement	Bidders Questions	KRA's Response
1	Section Name: Tender Notice Clause no: 5 Page 1	Tendering is open to all qualified and interested Tenderers who have valid applicable SAP	Kindly clarify the below: - 1. SAP has multiple certifications, kindly let us know which certification KRA is looking for? 2. Is there any SAP migration to the proposed platform?, If so, which SAP suite are you planning to migrate to proposed solution??	**This requirement has been expunged it is not part of the requirement.**
2	Section: Vendor Evaluation Criteria Sub-Section: Technical Staff Qualifications Page 32	Technical Staff Qualifications: At least three (3) Technical staff with the following valid qualifications:	Kindly clarify the below: - 1. Is KRA looking for the bidder to have three technical resources with Oracle database certifications and three resources with storage certifications?	**1. Yes. The other option is for a technical staff who has certification in both oracle database and enterprise storage**

No	Query	Response
	The training should be supported by Oracle Databases professional and certification certificates in enterprise storage or enterprise ICT services.	
	2. Kindly confirm which level of Oracle DB version certification KRA is looking for from technical staff?	2. Oracle DB version 12c and above
	3. Hope certification to be possessed by technical staff for enterprise storage of proposed solution model (not the same make alone, but the quoted model). Kindly confirm	3. Yes; storage certification for either make/model is acceptable proposed storage solution
	4. Hope KRA is looking for technical staff CV, with site details where similar Support is undertaken for the proposed model of the storage, proposed database version and required operating system version (These three components form the solution/platform). Kindly confirm	4. Proposed technical staff CV site details should be for where similar support is undertaken for the proposed model/make of the storage proposed oracle database and proposed operating system.
3	Section : TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR DATABASE SERVERS-PRODUCTION-PRIMARY CLUSTER, QUANTITY 3 (Lot 1) Sub-section : (a) Lot 1 - 1.1 , clause no:2 (b) Lot 1 - 1.2, clause no:3 (c) Lot 1 - 1.3, clause no:2 Page 58	Servers and Storage should be from the same OEM to simplify installation, integration and lifecycle management	In the contemporary IT world of inter-operability and open system standards, the server and storage need not to be of same make. By having the same make, the user is going to gain neither simplified installation nor easy integration nor life cycle management, which are mentioned as the reason in the tender document. Rather it leads to skewing the probable list of OEMs to very	The requirement that servers and storage to be from the same OEM has been waived.

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narrowed list and there by encourage one very specific OEM becoming the beneficiary, which is against the core principle of any open tender systems/process.

If big cloud companies with complex IT infra and platforms goes with the reasons/principle laid down here in this tender document, then they should have gone for same make of servers and storages in all of their global Data Centres having thousands of Servers and Storages. We all know that this is not the fact. Therefore such conditions do not hold any technical stand, rather push the tender to one specific OEM as beneficiary.

There are many leading Storage solution providers who have been focussing only on Storage solutions for many decades and they never got into compute/server platforms or not shown major focus on to compute platforms . Their storage solutions never faced any issues stated as reasons (simplified implementation-integration-life cycle management) in the tender document even in any complex environment. Additionally even KRA has built an alternate DC

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using different servers, storages, SAN switches and many other interconnected equipment's all of which from different OEMs . That alternate DC project is one of the successful project of KRA.

In the lights of the above, we request you to kindly re-consider this restriction and clarify.

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There are many leading Storage solution providers who have been focussing only on Storage solutions for many decades and they never got into compute/server platforms or not shown major focus on to compute platforms . Their storage solutions never faced any issues stated as reasons(simplified implementation-integration-life cycle management) in the tender document even in any complex environment. Additionally even KRA has built an alternate DC using?

4	Section No: TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR DATA CENTER FIBRE CHANNEL SWITCHES, QUANTITY – 4 (Lot 1) (a) Cluase no: 4	Fiber Channel Switch 32 port with 16 port active with 32gb/sec Transceivers and 24 Qty 5M OM4 LC-LC cables	32 number of ports are feature particular to Cisco MDS only . Can we propose equivalent or higher/better specifications from a different OEM ? Kindly clarify	**Equivalent or better specifications from a different OEM is acceptable. Minimum number of ports should be 32**
5	Section no: Technical specifications for Data centre fibre channel switches, QUANTITY – 4 (Lot 1) (a) Clause no: 6 (b) Clause no: 7 Page 64	VSAN ☐ IVR ☐ Port channel with multipath load balancing ☐ Flow-based and zone-based QoSSecurity : VSAN fabric isolation Advanced functions : VSAN Performance : Aggregate bandwidth of 1024 Gbps endto-end full duplex	These specifications are particular to one specific OEM. Can we propose equivalent or higher/better specifications from a different OEM ? Kindly clarify	**Equivalent or better specifications from a different OEM is acceptable.**
6	Section: 1.3 technical specifications for storage nodes/ servers (Lot 1) QTY 2 Clause no: 19	Support for Container: - The storage should natively provide a Container Storage Interface (CSI) for integration with Container Orchestration Solutions. Should support integration with Kubernetes	Kindly clarify: Is KRA is looking for implementing containerization (dockers and containers) under the scope of this specific tender?	**The proposed storage should support integration of containerized workloads in future through the CSI (Container Storage Interface).**

#	Section Reference	I/O modules / Specification	Query	Response
7	Section: 1.3 technical specifications for storage nodes/ servers (Lot 1) QTY 2 Clause no: 16 Page 61	I/O modules Integration and Configuration: - 10GbE BaseT, 16/32Gb FC, 25GbE Opt, 10GbE Opt, SAS BE"	Kindly clarify the following: - (a) Is KRA looking for 32Gb SAN fiber ports and 25GbE fiber ports for LAN on proposed storage controllers? (b) what does SAS BE stands for? Is KRA looking for SAS ports for backend connections, please clarify?	**a) KRA is looking for a redundant four (4) port 16/32Gb SAN fiber channel module and a redundant four port 10/25Gb LAN Optical (SFP+) Ethernet module.** **Refer to Specification no 6 on Connectivity.** **b) Requirement for SAS BE has been waived.**
8	Section no: 1.3 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR storage nodes/ servers (Lot 1) QTY 2 Clause no: 3 Clause no: 4 and Clause no: 8 Page 1	Memory per Array : - 1 TB or higher (excluding any performance acceleration module, Flash Cache, PAM card, SSD cache). CPU per Array: - 2 sockets, 64 cores per Array. Availability: - Scalable up to 8 controllers in a scale out architecture in a single system	if KRA insist and restrict to propose the same OEM for both Server and Storage, then with all these clauses mentioned on the left side, the tender specification will lead into single party (source) tender process as only one OEM can match (i) the same make for both Servers and Storages and (ii) also matching these specification. This violates the sole purpose of an open and transparent tender system. Request to kindly re-consider to a process of open and level playing ground.	**Refer to 3 above requirement that storage and servers to be from same OEM has been waived.**

		Tender requirement		
9	General		The tender document does not mention a requirement of Racks and its accessories. Confirm if the bidder is required to propose Racks & Accessories.	**The proposal should include racks & accessories.**
10	Clause 13 page 65	**Tender requirement raid :** Should support RAID 5, RAID 6, RAID 10	Kindly adjust this requirement to allow for a wider participation. offering from other competing brands	**Requirement is for RAID 5,RAID 6, RAID 10 equivalent RAID will be acceptable**
11	Clause 3 page 64	Tender requirement **1. Memory per Array** 1 TB or higher (excluding any performance acceleration module, Flash Cache, PAM card, SSD cache). **2. CPU per Array :** 2 sockets, 64 cores per Array	Kindly adjust this requirement to allow for a wider participation to the following 256 GB RAM per system (128 GB per controller). 32 GB battery-backed NVRAM per system (16 GB per controller) mirrored between the controllers	**The requirement for: Memory per Array: 1 TB or higher (excluding any performance acceleration module, Flash Cache, PAM card, SSD cache). And CPU per array: 2 sockets 64 cores per array is retained**
12	Pages 56 and 61 55	Lot 2 price schedule	The services are listed in Page 56 and 61 of the Tender Doc. Are there any other services apart from these.	**These are the only licenses to be procured.**
13	Page 55 6.2 & Requirement to provide training -Page – 84	The Contractor shall provide such training and development of Utility Personnel as is specified in Schedule C.	1. We could not see any training requirements. Please specify where training requirements are mentioned. Also if required, would this have to be done on site or remote training is OK. 2. Is OEM training required?	**1. Bidders should include knowledge transfer in their implementation plan.** **2. OEM training is not a required.**

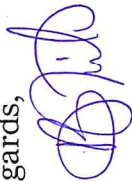| No	Page/Section	Clause	Query	Response
14	Page 60	Scope of deliverables and service.	1. Remote Delivery- Is remote delivery permitted. We assume VPN access. 2. What are the timelines for the project. Could not find. 3. Is there long term support for the Databases. If yes, 1) could you specify where it is mentioned; and 2) Is remote delivery allowed. Could not find.	1. **Onsite delivery is the required mode** 2. **Delivery timeline 6 month after contracting** 3. **Refer to page 55 Annual support for the supplied hardware:** • **Contract period is for a period of three (3) years.** • **Support and maintenance for year 4 & 5**
15	General	Binding requirements	The tender is currently silent about JV(Joint Venture). Kindly clarify and specify the maximum number of JV(Joint Venture) parties allowed.	**Prospective bidders are hereby advised that the maximum number of JV (Joint Venture) is two (2).**
16	Site Visit Page - 7	The Tenderer, at the Tenderer's own responsibility and risk, is encouraged to visit and examine the Site of the Required Services and its surroundings and obtain all information that may be necessary for preparing the Tender and entering in to a contract for the Services. The costs of	1. Is site visit Mandatory? Kindly advice when the mandatory site visit for TENDER NO. KRA/HQS/NCB-046/2021-2022 is scheduled. We have not received any communication with regards to that	**There is no requirement for Site visit in this tender. Bidders are encouraged to request clarification in writing through the provided email address. eprocurement@kra.go.ke**

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		visiting the Site shall beat the Tenderer's own expense.		
17	General	Closing date: 16th march, 2022 At 11:00 am	Extend closing date to enable work on the clarification at least by 2 weeks	**The prospective bidders are hereby advised the tender has been extended upto 30th March, 2022 as per tender extension addendum dated 15th March, 2022.**

The clarification / addendum form part of the bidding document and is binding to the bidder. All other terms and conditions of the tender remain the same. You are therefore required to immediately acknowledge the receipt of this addendum.

Regards,

Bernard Mukundi
For: Deputy Commissioner - Supply Chain Management