

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PERTAINING TO THE OPEN CALL FOR TENDER

IMI.2017.OP.215

“Multiple framework contracts in the field of financial audits, other assurance engagements and related services for IMI2, Clean Sky 2 and FCH2 Joint Undertakings”

Date: 11/01/2018

QUESTION	ANSWER
1. Annex D – this document is only required to be provided by joint partners, and we are not required to provide this document for sub-contractors. Please confirm that our understanding is correct on this point.	That is correct.
2. Declarations relating to the Exclusion criteria must be provided by both joint partners, and sub-contractors. However, documentary evidence to support the declaration to show that firms do not fall into any of the exclusion categories is not required to be provided at this stage. Please confirm that our understanding on this point is correct and that proof/evidence is only required to be provided by successful tenderers, prior to contract signature.	That is correct.
3. Both joint partners and sub-contractors (effectively, all firms of the grouping) are required to provide documentation in relation to 11.2.2 – 11.2.7 of the selection criteria. Please confirm that our understanding is correct on this point.	That is correct. All economic actors involved in the tender are required to provide this documentation with the exception of the countries as detailed below in reply to question 4. “Selection criteria documentation relating to countries with small numbers of grant agreements”.
4. Selection criteria documentation relating to countries with small numbers of grant agreements: For certain countries that are covered under this framework contract, we assume there are only a relatively small number of grant agreements in	Due to the relatively small number of grant agreements signed with the beneficiaries based in these Associated Countries, the requirement to be recognised by the competent authorities of the specific country where the audit is performed is waived with respect to: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Moldova, Faroe Islands. However, the tender must clearly indicate which economic actor participating in the tender will cover potential engagements in these countries’. The contractor or the subcontractor

<p>place. For example: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Moldova, Faroe Islands.</p> <p>In light of the significant numbers of countries that are covered under this framework contract, would IMI consider waiving the requirement to provide the information required to be provided in respect of 11.1.1 – 11.1.8 and 11.2.1 – 11.2.7 for those Associated Countries, where a joint partner or sub-contractor is responsible for engagements in any of these countries?</p> <p>The joint partner or sub-contractor with responsibility for engagements in any of these countries would satisfy the requirement to be recognised by the competent authorities of a least one of the Member States or of another Associated Country.</p>	<p>responsible for the engagements in any of these countries must satisfy the requirement to be recognised by the competent authorities of at least one of the Member States or of another Associated Country in line with point 11.2.7. and satisfy all the other eligibility and selection criteria with respect to that country.</p>
<p>5. Technical and Professional Capacity (P16 of the ITT):</p> <p>The tender requests that details are provided of key management staff responsible for the performance of the service (names, affiliation, professional qualifications, experience etc.), although CVs do not appear to be required for these staff. Please confirm that a specific CV is only required for the role of Audit Co-ordinator.</p>	<p>As stated under 11.2.6.:</p> <p>The names, affiliation, relevant professional qualifications, and experience of key management staff responsible for the performance of the service (i.e. the lead audit partner, the designated audit partners for each of the 28 EU Member States and Associated Countries, and, where appropriate, senior managers in charge) need to be indicated.</p> <p>Accordingly, this information should be available for the managers of each Member State and Associated Country, with the exception of those Associated Countries as described in the reply to question “Q2 Selection criteria documentation relating to countries with small numbers of grant agreements”. However, a full CV is not necessary; a summary containing the information will suffice. A full CV has to be provided for the Audit Coordinator only.</p>
<p>6. Notice of Appointment (P9 of the ITT)</p> <p>Under section 7.1 (5), we understand that we are required to join a copy of the notice of appointment of the authorised representative. As a traditional partnership, representatives are not provided with a notice of appointment. However, we are able to provide a document to show particulars of ownership – with the authorised representative being listed</p>	<p>This is acceptable.</p>

	<p>in this document. Please confirm that provision of this would be acceptable, in order to satisfy the notice of appointment requirement.</p>	
7.	<p>Framework Contract – General Conditions</p> <p>The tender dossier does not appear to provide general conditions for the framework contract for the services – providing details on definitions, liquidated damages and such forth. Please could this document be made available on the IMI website so we are able to view this.</p>	<p>The applicable model framework contract been made available for download with the other procurement documents.</p>
8.	<p>Annex E reference. The reference for this document is labelled:</p> <p>Call for tenders JTI/EPAS/2010/02.</p> <p>Throughout the tender dossier, the FWC is referred to as IMI.2017.OP.215, Please confirm the reference for Annex E should read the same.</p>	<p>This is indeed an error. The reference of the tender in all parts of the tender documents should read “IMI.2017.OP.215”</p>
9.	<p>Request for 2 week extension to tender deadline</p> <p>There are a considerable number of countries that are covered under this framework contract. In order to satisfy the selection criteria, our understanding is that these countries will be required to provide a substantial amount of documentation in accordance with 11.1.1 – 11.1.8 and 11.2.1 – 11.2.7 of the selection criteria.</p> <p>In addition, we notice that the Invitation letter for the tender is dated 21st December 2017, however the contract notice was published almost 2 weeks later, on 2nd January 2018 (for a current tender deadline of 05.02.18). Any preparation in respect of the tender for all bidders, could only commence from 2nd January.</p>	<p>Unfortunately we cannot extend the deadline. However, please see the reply above to question “Q2 Selection criteria documentation relating to countries with small numbers of grant agreements” regarding the selection criteria documentation required.</p>

<p>Given the large number of countries involved in this tender procedure, and the considerable time required to collate the necessary information for all countries, would IMI be willing to consider a short extension of approximately 2 weeks to the current tender deadline</p>	
---	--