

PROJECT: SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, CUSTOMIZATION AND CONFIGURATION OF INTERNAL AUDIT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (IAMS) INTO OPERATIONAL STATE (3RD ADVERTISEMENT)

QUERIES/CLARIFICATIONS RAISED DURING THE PRE-BID CONFERENCE:

A. Queries/Clarifications during the Pre-bid Conference:

	Query/Clarifications	TWG/BAC Reply
1	We have submitted a series of queries and clarifications on the technical specifications/eligibilities; can you acknowledge the receipt?	This is to confirm receipt of your queries.
2	Regarding the wording of the type of licenses, enterprise, and perpetual, it still means that the license is perpetual, right?	Yes, the licenses should be perpetual.
3	The rule on subcontracting, since we have partnered with an implementing team for this project, the principal would like to participate, are they not allowed to assist us in the implementation if they are not directly employed?	As stated in Item No. 7, Section II. Instructions to Bidders of the Bidding Documents, “The Procuring Entity has prescribed that Subcontracting is not allowed.”
4	We have a partner, a foreign-based company, who would like to participate through joint venture (JV), is it possible to request an additional time so we can comply with eligibility requirements? It takes 3 weeks in India for their apostilled documents/papers to be released. So, we would like to request for the postponement of the submission date.	The deadline for the submission and opening of bids is re-scheduled from October 5, 2023 to October 19, 2023 at 2:00PM.
5	Will there be any additional requirements for experts that are from other member firms from other countries?	None. However, interested bidders may enter into a Joint Venture (JV) agreement as provided for in the Eligibility Criteria under Section 23.4.1 For the procurement of Goods, Item “e” (Updated 2016 Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (RIRR) of R.A. 9184).
6	What was the reason for the re-bid on this opportunity?	In the previous re-advertisement, the lone bidder was not able to completely comply with the technical requirements/specifications of the IAMS. Submitted documents to support the bidder’s statement of compliance must fully comply all the requirements/technical specifications of IAMS. There must be a substantial proof or evidence that can be cross-verified with to avoid post-disqualification.
7	Would you allow this time the ground-up development of the system?	No. As stated in “Section VII. Technical Specifications” of the Bidding Documents, “The bidder must supply and install an Internal Audit Management System (IAMS), which is an “Off-the-Shelf Software Solution” that will be customized and configured to the requirements of the SSS as mentioned in “Annex A – Scope of Works” of the Bidding Documents.”

8	About the Single Largest Completed Contract (SLCC), would you require it to be local or can it be anywhere from the region?	The SLCC can either be local or anywhere from the region, provided it complies with ITB Clause 5.3 of the Bidding Documents.
9	How much time will you allow for the queries/questions through e-mail?	Until Monday, September 25, 2023.

B. Written Queries:

	Query/Clarifications	TWG/BAC Reply
1	What is the basis or logic on which the audit universe will be generated for a particular period?	<p>The Internal Audit Service Group (IASG) of the SSS is composed of 2 Divisions with the following departments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Internal Audit Service Division I <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. NCR and Foreign Audit Department b. Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao Audit Department 2. Internal Audit Service Division II <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Corporate Service Audit Department b. Financial and Investments Audit Department c. Information Systems Audit Department d. Procurement and Special Audit Department <p>The audit universe for each audit department varies and may change on a particular audit period.</p>
2	Our partner interested in participating in the tender, has an off-the-shelf Audit Management/Risk Central solution that meets the IAMS requirements/specifications. Looking at a JV model, the current lead time for Philippine consulate apostille/ consularization procedure/release is 3-4 weeks average. We would like to request a 45-day extension on the submission bid date.	The deadline for the submission and opening of bids is re-scheduled from October 5, 2023 to October 19, 2023 at 2:00PM.
3	Is there any preference that the deployment should be On-Premise or can it be AZURE cloud server?	<p>Deployment is On-Premise. As stated in “Section VII. Technical Specifications” of the bidding documents,</p> <p>The IAMS must be installed in SSS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Server: Windows Server 2019 (Hyperconverged Infrastructure) ▪ Database: Microsoft SQL Server 2019 Enterprise Edition “or” Oracle Database 12c or higher
4	What is the expected user base and concurrency?	<p>As stated in “Schedule VI. Schedule of Requirements” of the bidding documents, the IAMS require an Enterprise and Perpetual Licenses for at least 50 Auditors, which is the minimum expected number of users for the IAMS.</p> <p>The expected concurrent users will be 90% or 45 auditors.</p>
5	As a standard we will have DEV, UAT, PRODUCTION (DC & DR) environment. Please confirm this.	Yes.
6	Depending on response to the expected user base and concurrency, we will need to assess where a HA deployment with 2 nodes and load balances / DB MSSQL Replication would be required? Alternatively, we would like to	<p>Replication is required, however, said replication will be done by SSS.</p> <p>The winning bidder needs to install, customize, and configure the IAMS in the SSS infrastructure, as mentioned in Section VII.</p>

	understand SSS IT policies and preference for IAMS.	Technical Specifications of the Bidding Documents, to wit: The IAMS must be installed in SSS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Server: Windows Server 2019 (Hyperconverged Infrastructure) ▪ Database: Microsoft SQL Server 2019 Enterprise Edition “or” Oracle Database 12c or higher
7	Are there any geographical guidelines on where the DC and DR should be hosted?	The SSS has its Main Data Center and Disaster Recovery Site. Winning bidder just needs to install, customize, and configure the IAMS in the SSS infrastructure.
8	Will there be peak loads based on audit cycles during certain periods?	The period or phase of the audit cycle where there is expected peak load is during the audit execution and audit reporting.
9	KMPG as a firm has a global network of firms all over the world, and thus, will inclusion of experts from other KPMG member firms be acceptable?	Yes. Refer to the Eligibility Criteria under Section 23.4.1 For the procurement of Goods (Updated 2016 Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (RIRR) of R.A. 9184).
10	Will submission of SLCC for overseas projects be acceptable?	Refer to Item A.8. above
11	We would like to request the extension of submission of bids to October 17.	The deadline for the submission and opening of bids is re-scheduled from October 5, 2023 to October 19, 2023 at 2:00PM.
12	Item C - Certification and Other Requirement A List of Personnel to be assigned to the project with detailed resume and experience. Personnel must be under the Winning Bidder’s direct employment at least 6 months prior to the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids. Personnel to be assigned to the project must have been reported to SSS under the employ of the bidder (based on Web Inquiry System of the SSS). Regarding the subcontracting and 6 months employment rule. We have an implementation team, but for this project, the principal will be needed in order to assist in training and implementation of the project. Will they be allowed to participate?	Refer to Item Nos. A.3 and A.5. above
13	Licenses are still perpetual in nature and total contract for warranty support would be 4 years total?	The licenses should be perpetual. Also, as stated in Schedule VI. Schedule of Requirements of the Bidding Documents, the warranty and support services are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two (2) years warranty to commence immediately upon final acceptance of the project. ▪ Two (2) Years Support Services to commence immediately after the 2- year warranty period.