

**NCI Clarification Requests – AMENDMENT 6 – Attachment to Cover Letter**

**Administration or Contracting**

Serial NR	IFB REF	Bidder's Question	NCI Agency Answer	AMD
A.51	<b>Submitted December 29, 2015</b> Instructions For Bidders, Section 1.5.6 and 2.2.1	Does NATO allow citizens of non-participating countries, e.g. Bosnia, to receive NATO security clearances? And will they be able to participate in this effort?	The issuance of Security Clearances is up to the individual NATO nations. NATO Security Clearances can only be issued by NATO countries. An individual with a valid NATO security clearance from a NATO participating country will be allowed access.	6
A.52	Amendment 3 IFB Instructions <b>Follow up to CR A.3, Amendment 3</b>	Per the Amendment 3 IFB Instructions, the Project Master Schedule (PMS) is required as part of the PMP and to be accounted for within the 50 page count. However, per the Amendment 3 Summary of changes Doc – Annex A to Cover Letter, the PMS has been struck out as a requirement within the PMP section.  Can you please confirm if the PMS is required within the PMP and it will count towards the 50 page count?	Confirmed, PMS is required in PMP and count towards the 50 page count (RMP should have been struck out as the RMP is part of the Risk proposal)	6
A.53	Amendment 3, Annex B-13 and Book II – Part II of the Contract Special Provisions (page 10-11) Amend # 4 (P.19) Amend # 4 (T.85) <b>Follow up CR.</b>	Per the Amendment 3 (Annex B-13 and Book II – Part II of the Contract Special Provisions) the On-Site Support Engineers have been removed from the list of key labor categories. Can you please confirm if the On-Site Support Engineers labor category is still a key position? Partially responded to in the Q&A AMD 4 Summary of Changes DOC – Attachment A to Cover Letter  Book I Part II Contract Special Provisions v1.2 20160122 (Key Personnel) table does not include the On-site Support Engineers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not related to P19</li> <li>- T85: 2 On-site Support Engineers in reserve, as specified in PM-61, are not key personnel.</li> </ul>	6
A.54	Instruction to Bidders 3.1.8, Amend 4 <b>Follow up to Amend 4 CR A38</b>	Though all individual elements are expected to be unclassified, the totality of the Technical Proposal Package shall be considered NATO RESTRICTED, similar to the organisation of the IFB. Bidders shall not include information classified as higher than NATO RESTRICTED in their Bid  May the bidders assume that as long as the parts of the Technical Proposal	No, similar to the IFB it is expected that the combined information especially in the Engineering Approach Proposal of the Bidders proposal requires a NATO RESTRICTED classification.	6



P.62	Bidding Sheet File version 1.1 All CLIN worksheets  <b>AMD 4. – follow up to CR P50</b>	The formula in column GD, rows 75-76 for 2021 is referencing 2020 rate (column K) instead of 2021 rate (column L). It appears that the last two years are offset by one column. Would the purchaser please fix the calculations in columns GD-HA?	Purchaser acknowledges the Bidder's observation; however, reiterates that as per the Bidding Instructions, Bidders are responsible for all formulas. The Bidder may adjust the formula accordingly. The Bidding Instructions will not be amended.	6
P.63	Bidding Sheet File version 1.1 NOC, Wave 1, Wave 2, Wave 3, and Wave 4 spreadsheet  <b>AMD 4. – Follow up to CR P11</b>	Evaluated Options WBS 11 numbers and task names are crossed out; however, there are sites that are not crossed out for WBS 11. Please advise if the bidders are to provide pricing for WBS 11 for all those sites that are not crossed out.	Based on the crossing out of the entire WBS the Bidder is not required to provide pricing for the site which was not crossed out.	6
P.64	Bidding Sheet File version 1.1 Wave 3, and Wave 4 tabs.  <b>AMD 4. – Follow up to CR P11</b>	On Wave 3 and Wave 4 tabs, WBS 15 does not have the same number of sites listed as what the header is saying. Will the purchase please clarify?	The Bidder is required to provide pricing for the 12 sites which are not crossed out for WBS 15.	6
P.65	Bidding Sheet File version 1.1 9.4 NOC and Wave Sites tab.  <b>AMD 4. – Follow up to CR P11</b>	In the NOC section, the header lists 1 site, but all three sites are crossed out; Wave 1 lists 5 sites but 6 sites are available for pricing. Would the purchase please clarify sites to price or adjust headers to match the sites?	See the Purchaser's Answer to P64 above.	6
P.66	Bidding Sheet File version 1.1 9.2 NOC and Wave Sites tab.  <b>AMD 4. – Follow up to CR P11</b>	In Cell B1 it says "NOC (2 sites)" but there are is only one site that is not crossed out (Mons). Please confirm that there is only one NOC site to price for 9.2.	See the Purchaser's Answer to P64 above.	6

P.73	<p>Bidding Sheet File version 1.1 NOC (3 sites) tab.</p> <p><b>AMD 4. – Follow up to CR P11</b></p>	<p>The “NOC (3 sites)” tab does not show entries for CLIN 4.3.10, 4.3.11, 4.3.11.1, or 4.3.11.2 from the CLIN Summary Sheet. Will the purchase please clarify if these CLIN should be added to the NOC (3 sites) tab? If so, would the purchaser please update the workbook?</p>	<p>See Purchaser’s answers at P63-P67</p>	6
P.74	<p>Bidding Sheet File version 1.1 Wave 3, and Wave 4 tabs.</p> <p><b>AMD 4. – Follow up to CR P11</b></p>	<p>On Wave 3 and Wave 4 tabs, there is a WBS 15 (NU LAN Switches in MMA Subsystem (6 sites)) in the place where there is WBS 14.3 (Testing and Acceptance) on the Wave 1 and Wave 2 tabs. Will the purchase please clarify whether this should be WBS 15 or WBS 14.3?</p>	<p>This is a clerical mistake Sub CLIN 15 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wave Tabs (23 Sites) is not required and Bidders shall not fill in prices for this Sub CLIN</p>	6
P.75	<p><b>Amend 4 follow up CR to P.24</b></p>	<p>The Purchaser added SubCLIN 8.5.11 in Amend 4 for site surveys. This was updated in the SSS Main tab of the SSS workbook and the CLIN Summary Sheet of the Bidding Sheet workbook. However the "Optional Wave (8 sites)" tab was not correctly updated in either workbook to include the parallel WBS to accommodate this new SubCLIN</p> <p><b>Please provide; 1. A corrected SSS and Bidding Sheet workbooks and a date when the bidder can expect to see the corrected SSS and Bidding Sheet workbooks.</b></p>	<p>Please see “Optional Wave (8 sites)” changed as per changes made in the SSS and CLIN Summary sheet in Amendment 4.</p>	6

<p>T.318</p>	<p>IFB Book I, 3.6.2.2.3.4  Follow up CR T.29</p>	<p>With regard to the Management subsystem availability, it is understood that bidders need to provide a plan reflecting how the proposed solution ensures high availability of the NMS and local out-of-band (OOB) management components. It is unclear exactly how to address the how the system works over the local OOB crypto. Please provide additional details about the existing OOB network architecture and components?</p>	<p>This is described in SRS Annex D § 6.9. In summary:  The Purchaser will implement an IPv4 (SRS Annex D, [49]) VPRN using the NED infrastructure for use by the NCI management subsystem. The Purchaser will implement the VPRN such that it provides IPv4 connectivity between each NCI Location (including the NOC/SOC locations) and the locations hosting the DSMS services. This VPRN will be provided through a single Ethernet connection (SRS Annex D, [50]).  For each NCI Location the Purchaser will provide 1 TCE-621/A to encrypt NS management traffic (M3 interface). The Contractor shall provide its own crypto for the other security domains (NU / NR M1 and M2).  The Contractor shall design an overlay network, using the PFE IPv4 VPRN, which provides the management interfaces OOB M1, M2 and M3 interfaces at every location. The design shall be such that all NCI subsystems and components are managed through the OOB interfaces as specified in SRS Annex D.  It is for the Bidder to design an appropriate OOB management overlay network, using the PFE IPv4 based VPRN. The Bidder shall design the OOB management overlay such that IPv6 management traffic is tunnelled across the IPv4 based VPRN and is encrypted as required.  Consider SRS Annex D § 6.9 and specifically figure 4 and 5 of Annex D.  The Bidder cannot rely on an existing design to be reused as the existing NATO network management does not exploit OOB management to the extent that the NCI intends to.</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>T.319</p>	<p>Annex D, General  Follow up CR T.29</p>	<p>It is assumed that bidders must provide a redundant VPRN Access Infrastructure at all 73 locations. Or, will it be PFE.</p>	<p>The Contractor shall provide the on-site distribution to all managed components at all NCI locations.  The VPRN itself is PFE. This is, amongst others, stated in SRS Annex D [21]. Note [50], only one VPRN (Ethernet) interface will be provided at each NCI location by the Purchaser. On-site VPRN access distribution is to be provided as part of the deliverable.</p>	<p>6</p>

T.323	Follow up to CR T263	Hardware sizing for Gateway and Media Aggregation functions for 8000 users is load dependent. In order to ensure the proposed hardware solution will scale without a hardware upgrade, what is the maximum (combined off-net, on-net) busy hour traffic for a site with maximum 8000 users?	This is already answered in T.59  Specifically, note from T.59: "The SRS Annex C already specifies the blocking probability and Erlang per extension (including scalability) for the Interoperability Services. Furthermore, SRS Annex C specifies the channel capacity of individual D <sub>ref</sub> and SIP <sub>if</sub> interfaces (including the scalability requirement for the number of interfaces). The NCI Internal capacity may only be constrained by the number of telephones (including the specified scaling factor) and the IP capacity provided through the CCA, PCA and the Purchaser's Ethernet Transport Network capacity."	6
T.324	SoW par. 5.3.2, [253], SD-88, SD-106, SD-119, SI-13  Follow up to CR T96	Could the Purchaser clarify if the Contractor either:  a) has to verify that civil engineering works have been carried out as to match the SIDP, or  b) has to certify that civil engineering works have been carried out according to applicable regulations (e.g.: according to local civil engineering laws, providing certificates issued by a chartered engineer and the likes), including and further to verification mentioned under point a)?	As T.96 states, it is the Contractor's responsibility to identify civil works necessary. It is the Purchaser's responsibility to oversee and accept any civil works done.	6
T.325	CR T.101, SoW 5.3.3.1.4, [284]  Follow up to CR T101	Could the Purchaser confirm that the "Crypto Clearance" mentioned in T.101 corresponds to the "Certificate of Clearance for Access to NATO Crypto Information", Allied Form 104 (AF-104) mentioned in [284]?	Yes, AF-104 is a certificate attesting that an individual has been granted "crypto clearance" (AF-104 = Certificate of Clearance for Access to NATO Crypto Information).	6
T.326	SoW 5.3.3.1.4, [282]  Follow up to CR T101	Could the Purchaser confirm that the "Certificate of Clearance for Access to NATO Crypto Information", Allied Form 104 (AF-104) is provided to Contractor's personnel solely based on a) NATO NS or CTS Clearance and b) successful completion of training course described in [282]?	It is not as simple as stated in the question.  The procedure to acquire the certificate is explained in Annex D of NCI Agency Directive 90-9. This document has been provided to the Bidders on the CD in September 2016.	6

T.331	AMD4 Att.B Follow up to CR T205	MMA-59 (Annex C) specifies management function, which will archive conference call recording to external media. Is the external media centralized, or is  It site specific? Can you clarify if this external media is PFE?	The management function specified in MMA-59 is centralized.  The media (for example a DVD) themselves are PFE. Any media drives, controllers, etc, in order to archive recordings on the media, are part of the functionality to be delivered by the Contractor.	6
T.332	SOW, Sec 6.6.1.1 (ST-50) Follow up to CR T.34, Amendment 4	Can the purchaser indicate the period of support and the time frame involved?	The requirements for PSAT Dress rehearsal, PSAT Alpha testing, and PSAT Beta testing are described in SoW § 6.6.1. These tests are subject to the System Testing Plan (STP, requirements specified in SoW § 2.6.2.6). The STP is a deliverable by the Contractor.	6
T.333	MMA-133	In AMD4, the requirement to route call signaling through Media Aggregation was added.  This does not seem correct to the bidder as assuming centralized call handling signaling is always from each endpoint to PBX and not between two endpoints directly.  In addition the function name Media Aggregation point to the actual media flow being aggregated.  Can the purchaser accept the signaling requirement to be removed or provide further explanation.	No the Purchaser does accept the removal of the requirement.  All Voice Signaling and media traffic between NCI sites shall be routed through the media aggregation function and the PFE BPD, which shall be <b>present at each NCI location</b> .  The purpose of the Media Aggregation function is described in § 2.2.1.2 and can be summarized as a proxy.	6
T.334	MMA-352	Can the purchaser clarify the term "minimum capacity" – Should the platform be equipped with all hardware resources such as interface modules or DSP processors or just be extendable if needed?  This is especially for Node Size = Large, provisioning hardware for 8000 phones dramatically increases cost of the site local deployment.	MMA-352 calls for the implementation of a minimum capacity of local VoIP phones. The definition of the term "implemented" is specified in MMA-3.  It is up to the bidder to allocate hardware and license resources appropriately in his design.	6
T.335	SoW 5.4 / Clarification  T.82 / T.246	Table 13.8 for 10 optional locations is missing DECT and Fax columns. Should bidder assume DECT and faxes as 0 and not include in scope?	The Purchaser assumes that the Bidder refers to Appendix 5 and not § 5.4. of the SoW Core document. For the NCI locations in Table 13-8, the DECT and Fax requirements are 0.	6

T.338	<p>Clarification Response</p> <p>AMENDMEN T 3 – Annex B to Cover Letter, A.19</p>	<p>Further to the purchasers response in regards to the number of key personnel, providing there are no scheduling conflicts and the proposed individual has the correct level of experience and required qualifications,</p> <p>Can an individual be proposed for more than one role?</p>	<p>No, refer to SoW PM-10, which requires “maximum one role per person”</p>	6
T.339	<p>Clarification Request</p> <p>T.103</p>	<p>Based on the response to clarification request T.103 can the purchaser update the bidding instructions and certificates according to the requirement for the SRTS augmentation to be identified as a key personnel role?</p>	<p>As this individual is part of the NeCT, while the NeCT as a whole is listed in the BI § 3.6.1.6.8 and SoW PM-10(8) as Key Personnel, there is no need to list the specific NeCT member appointed as SRTS administrator as a Key Personnel separately.</p>	6