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## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**BID No. 09/22**

### EXTERNAL INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING THE SECRETARY GENERAL

#### Questions of interested companies.

#### Answers from the GS/OAS

1. *With regard to 5.3.1, our company is a partnership, rather than a corporation, so I assume that it will suffice to provide our partnership registration documents? And, as a partnership (which organizational form is typical of law firms), we do not have “bylaws.” We have a partnership agreement, but its terms are disclosed only to Firm partners. Under the circumstances, is it acceptable to forego item 5.3.2?*

We understand this limitation and bidders should make their best efforts to provide any requested documentation or provide alternative replacement information or a reasonable explanation as to why some documents are not presented.

2. *As for 5.3.3, I am not aware of a DC law that would require us to provide a “license” or certification” to bid on this procurement. But, if need be, my colleague and I could provide a copy of our bar licenses authorizing us to practice law in our respective states. Would that suffice?*

The GS/OAS is interested in ensuring that bidders have a permit to operate where constituted and they should also provide any applicable supporting documentation that would allow them to complete the required services.

3. *As for item 5.3.5., as a partnership, we do not have stockholders or directors and officers. But, I can supply the names of our Global Chairman and CEO; members of the Global Board; and I can confirm that no partner owns more than 50% of partnership interests.*

We understand this limitation and bidders should make their best efforts to provide any requested documentation or provide alternative replacement information or a reasonable explanation as to why some documents are not presented.

4. *Finally, in lieu of the information requested in item 5.4.1, may we instead provide, as we do when we receive similar requests, a “schedule of financial information” for each year showing total partnership equity, total costs and expenses, and net earnings for the year?*

We understand this limitation and bidders should make their best efforts to provide any requested documentation or provide alternative replacement information or a reasonable explanation as to why some documents are not presented.

5. *We understand the Organization of American States (OAS) technical requirements that bidders' provide audited financial statements is to assist the OAS in assessing a bidder's financial condition to perform the contract. Can bidders supply materials showing their financial condition, other than audited financial statements to satisfy this requirement, for example, a Dun & Bradstreet report and/or a letter from the Firm's accountants vouching for the firm's financial health and its ability to perform the proposed contract?*

We understand this limitation and bidders should make their best efforts to provide any requested documentation or provide alternative replacement information or a reasonable explanation as to why some documents are not presented. To address this question, do note that the GS/OAS uses Dun & Bradstreet reports to assess this requirement.