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?**

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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.