Clarification questions on Terms of Reference (Technical specification) for Development of e-Forms Processing System for Statistical Reports:

Question:

1. There is a requirement in Chapter 6.4.3.3.2 "Implementation scenario" table, in the "Main sequence" row, item #7: "The system verifies the data and saves the form in the database". Please, clarify the following:

    a. What is this database: an existing NBS IS database or database created especially for "e-Forms Processing System" purposes?

Answer: new database should be developed

    b. Which is a preferable DBMS platform for this database?

Answer: there is no explicit requirements on DBMS platform, however the platform has to be conformant to industrial standards, provide high scalable and ability to manage big data volumes (see 6.2), has a vendor warranty and support, be available for Linux/Unix and Windows platforms.

    c. If this database supposed to be implemented especially for "e-Forms Processing System" purposes than clarify the following issues regarding its data life cycle, please:

        i. How much time the e-forms of every legal entity ("Enterprise") need to be stored in this database?

        ii. When the e-form need to be deleted from the database?

Answer: they are not supposed to be deleted from database

        iii. Does the deleted e-form need to be archived?

        iv. Does the archived e-form need to be easily available for reviewing?

        v. How many e-forms of every legal entity need to be stored in this database per month/year?

Answer: please refer to table in 6.2

Question:

2. Which requirements listed below are mandatory (incompliant solution will be automatically disqualified) for the Bidder:

    a. (Chapter 7 "Software platform requirements", paragraph #1) "In accordance with the strategy and development prospects of IS NBS, the development of «e-Reporting» initially should be based on industrial integrated portal platform, which is the foundation for building and developing of the NBS portal, which should effectively and timely provide access to information, processes, data and applications.";

Answer: mandatory

    b. (Chapter 7.1 "Functional requirements") "The following general functional requirements for integrated portal platform have been identified and must be taken into consideration by the Supplier in his offer:"

        i. "wiki-pages" (Chapter 7.1 "Functional requirements", list item #3.b);

        ii. "Mandatory support of W3C XForms standard" (Chapter 7.1 "Functional requirements", list item #7.a)";

Answer: mandatory

    c. (Chapter 7.2 "System requirements") "The following system requirements for integrated portal platform must be taken into consideration by the Supplier in his offer:"

        i. "Standard, industrial solution, proven by time and big customers base, having implementations with large number of users" (Chapter 7.2 "System requirements", list item #1);

        ii. "Multiplatform support – support of different operating systems for the whole platform and for its components, including Microsoft Windows, Linux, UNIX" (Chapter 7.2 "System requirements", list item #2);

   iii. **"Integration with corporate messaging servers (Microsoft Exchange, Lotus Domino...)"** (Chapter 7.2 "System requirements", list item #12)";

  Answer: mandatory

 d. (Chapter 9.2 "E-forms", paragraph #1) "Electronic forms of statistical reports and questionnaires must be based on a modern and open industrial W3C standard of electronic forms XForms".

  Answer: mandatory

 e. (Chapter 9.2 "E-forms", paragraph #5 (last in this Chapter)) "The system must provide an application interface (API) to work with digital forms, **including access to XForms models**..."

  Answer: mandatory

Question:

3. Please clarify does the solution need to support both Microsoft Exchange and Lotus Domino messaging servers together or it is allowed to support only one of them?

 Answer: both

Question:

4. Please clarify does the solution need to support all Microsoft Windows and Linux and UNIX operational systems together as operational environment for its components or it is allowed to support only one of them?

 Answer: the solution must be multiplatform and support all of the following platforms: Microsoft Windows, Linux and UNIX.

Question:

5. There are two requirements:
 a. (Chapter 9.2 "E-forms", paragraph #3) "The entry of data in e-forms must be made using a web browser without requiring users to install additional software.";
 b. (Chapter 9.5 "User interface") "The user interface must be made as a web interface and support the following browser types:
  i. Microsoft Internet Explorer v6.x and higher;
  ii. Mozilla Firefox v3.5.x and higher;
  iii. Google Chrome".

Both two requirements are abhorrent the one of the other because no one of required Web browsers support XForms without specific XForms extensions or engines which must be additionally installed within a web browser environment. Could you please specify extensions or engines which are allowed to be implemented in the e-Forms Processing System user interface?

 Answer: corresponding solution should be proposed by Bidder; pure browser-based solution would be a preference.

Question:

6. Does the Bidder need to include licenses for operational systems software into his financial proposal?

 Answer: no, this should be indicated as part of HW configuration (see 8.1)

Question:

7. Does the Bidder need to include licenses for industrial Database Management System software into his financial proposal?

 Answer: yes

Question:

8. Does the Bidder need to include licenses for industrial Application Server into his financial proposal?

 Answer: yes

Question:

9. What is the total number of end-users which must be trained by Supplier?

Answer:

1 Administrator

1 Form admin

1 trainer

15 end-users

Question:

10. What is the deadline for submitting questions for clarification related to TOR?

Answer: The deadline for submission of clarification questions is two weeks prior to the deadline for submission of proposals, i.e. 8 March 2010.

Question:

11. What is the projected budget for this auction? We are interested to establish exactly what we can offer to us within your budget estimate.

Answer: The budgeted amount for this system cannot be disclosed. The bidders must present their technical proposal (solution) in accordance with the requirements stipulated in the solicitation documents (ToR, Instructions to Offerors, etc.) and, separately, a financial proposal to cover the works proposed in the technical one. The winner will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria described in the solicitation documents, and the winning proposal shall present the best combination of quality and price.

Question:

12. Can you tell us how long to implement? Not specified in the TOR.

Answer: Dates of implementation: developing software and documentation-5 months, testing 1 month, 2 months-experimental operation, industrial implementation-1 month. Total-9 months.

Question:

13. Do you have any preference for technology and hardware shipped in the project?

Answer: No preference.

Question:

14. The submission of a security deposit is required for participation (Bid Bond). What is the guarantee of participation?

Answer: There is no need to lodge a guarantee of participation.