

Invitation to Bid ITB12/00559

Clarification Questions and Answers (received as of 10/07/2012)

Question 1: As mentioned by other bidders, the published technical specifications of most of the items are very specific and narrow, allowing only models from particular manufacturers to be offered. Such non generic specifications are not in line with the UNDP procurement regulations, in case an exemption has not been requested and approved.

Answer 1: UNDP is following the transparency and competitiveness in its procurement processes. Taking into account that the required equipment is specific, as well as to ensure competition, an international expert was hired by UNDP to develop the minimum technical specification for the specific equipment envisaged for the beneficiary. The developed technical specifications were closely consulted with the Centre of Forensic Medicine. It shall also be highlighted that these are the *minimum* specifications required for the proposed equipment, thus any model/product with similar or higher specifications would comply. On the other hand, most of the required equipment are configurable pieces, the manufacturers being able to construct an unit based on the required specifications. Following a thorough market research UNDP has been reassured that the proposed specifications allow for several worldwide producers of this kind of equipment to be technically qualified.

Question 2: Lot 1/ item 6 - Trinocular microscope

- A. Interpupillary adjustment: is 47-64mm acceptable? This is fully compliant with the specified application too and has no direct influence on results.
- B. Stage: is 216x150mm acceptable? This is fully compliant with the specification application too and has no direct influence on results.

Answer 2:

- A. Yes, it is acceptable.
- B. Yes, it is acceptable.

Question 3: Lot 1/ item 7 - polarized light microscope

- A. Interpupillary adjustment: is 47-64mm acceptable? This is fully compliant with the specified application too and has no direct influence on results.
- B. Stage: the requested stage contradicts the type of microscope required. All polarized light microscope must have round 360° rotatable stage/table, as otherwise the samples cannot be observed.

We presume that the specified requirements are a copy-paste mistake from the previous item. Please confirm.

Answer 3:

- A. Yes, it is acceptable.
- B. Yes, round 360° rotatable stage is acceptable.

Question 4: Lot 1/ item 8 - phase contrast microscope

- A. Interpupillary adjustment: is 47-64mm acceptable? This is fully compliant with the specified application too and has no direct influence on results.
- B. Stage: is 216x150mm acceptable? This is fully compliant with the specification application too and has no direct influence on results.

Answer 4:

- A. Yes, it is acceptable.
- B. Yes, it is acceptable.

Question 5: Metrological certification - none of the specified items in lot 1 are considered as metrological instrument, so the certification at the local institute is not applicable. The items are certified according to the CE standard and sold like this in the EU and most of the other countries. Please confirm that only an applicable CE certificate is sufficient.

Answer 5: According to the solicitation documents (see Annex V (Schedule Requirements) to the Invitation to Bid), only items subject to metrological certification shall be certified by the corresponding authority from the Republic of Moldova. To check the list of instruments/equipment/products subject to metrological certification in Moldova, please see the following link http://www.standard.md/public/files/ServiciulMetrologie/Tarife_Metrologie_2011.pdf . If the items listed in Lot I are not subject to national metrological certification due to the fact that these items are not mentioned in the above-mentioned list and, thus, are not metrological instruments, then the CE certificate shall be sufficient. At the same time, it is expected that the proposed equipment shall correspond to the GLP and ISO 9001 standards besides the CE certificate (please see the Common requirements for each Lot in Annex VI (Technical Specifications) to the Invitation to Bid).

Question 6: Delivery time: Considering the complexity of the inquired instruments and the fact the most of the inquired equipment is made per order and not on stock, the requested delivery time of 45 days is not realistic, as the manufacturers of the requested instrument informed us that usual delivery times are much longer. Are longer delivery times acceptable?

Answer 6: A delivery period of 45 calendar days is considered reasonable for the delivery of the requested equipment. In case if the bidder does not meet this requirement, then the bid may be considered unresponsive and, thus, disqualified.