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SADC SECRETARIAT RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATIONS

REFERENCE NUMBER: SADC/INFRA/TTTTFP/TRIPS/2022

REQUEST FOR SERVICES TITLE: HOSTING OF THE TRIPARTITE TRANSPORT REGISTERS AND INFORMATION PLATFORM SYSTEM (TRIPS) – HOST SITE NO. 2

DATE OF ISSUE OF RESPONSES: 22nd August 2022

Question No	Question	SADC Secretariat Response
Nr.1	Can I get a MS Word copy of the Request for offer document? This would help us in doing compliance matrix. Is there a guiding response format?	<p>A MS Word copy of the Request for offer document is available and published together with this response to the questions on the websites of COMESA, EAC and SADC.</p> <p>The response should be tailored to the evaluation criteria stated in Section C of TRS-002-002 “<i>Request for Offers for Hosting the Tripartite Transport Registers and Information Platform System (TRIPS) – Host Site No 2</i>” and include the listed documents to be submitted.</p>
Nr.2	How much details are required on the Network and DC passive	High level designs of the Network and DC passive components will be sufficient.

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	<p>components? Is High level designs just enough?</p>	<p>However, the designs of the network must include details regarding the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connectivity to the International Internet Infrastructure along the East Coast of Africa, inclusive of connections that provide redundancy;• Capacity and reliability of the primary and secondary connections:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ current bandwidth,▪ historical availability (up time) supported by statistics, and▪ accommodation of TRIPS traffic and future growth by way of expansion.
Nr.3	<p>There is some indication of financial and costs but it is not clear the structure of the costing?</p>	<p>Paragraph 5 in Section A of TRS-002-002 <i>“Request for Offers for Hosting the Tripartite Transport Registers and Information Platform System (TRIPS) – Host Site No 2”</i> is clear on the costs and reads as stated below.</p> <p>5. NO COST HOSTING OFFERS</p> <p>All hardware for servers, data storage, back-up and network components will be procured and funded by SADC Secretariat as Contracting Authority through the TTTFP on behalf of the Tripartite. Installation, configuration and commissioning of the TRIPS Application Software, together with training of the hosting centre staff will also be procured and funded by SADC Secretariat through the TTTFP</p> <p>Preference is for the TRIPS to be hosted in an existing Government ICT hosting facility where the operating costs arising from internet bandwidth, power consumption and hosting staff attributed to TRIPS will be negligible relative to the operating costs of the hosting centre, allowing the host Member/Partner State to carry such marginal additional costs on behalf of the Tripartite.</p> <p>Only offers of hosting TRIPS on the basis of “No Cost” to the Tripartite and COMESA, EAC and SADC will be considered.</p>

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		<p>Hence no cost details are required.</p> <p>In solicitations by the RECs for hosting offers by member states, it is expected that the member states who submit offers will not charge for the hosting due to the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The hardware, including the rack and the SAN for storage, as well as the disc back-up solution will be funded by the European Union and installed by the supplier in the hosting facility. Training to the hosting staff will also be provided by the supplier.• The contract with the supplier includes onsite support of all hardware for a period of 5 years.• Likewise, the contract with the supplier includes the supply, installation, configuration and training on the system software together with the licensing thereof for a period of 5 years.• The contract for the development of the application software includes the maintenance thereof.• The TRIPS will not replicate data from the national systems of the member states and only store data being requested for the duration of time until successful delivery thereof has been confirmed. No cloud storage is envisaged as the redundancy configuration of the TRIPS allow for storage and back-up of the limited amount of data that may be stored for a short period at any point in time. <p>The costs to be carried by the hosting Member/ Partner State are limited to the marginal additional electricity, additional internet bandwidth to</p>
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		accommodate the TRIPS traffic and staffing time attributable to hosting the TRIPS within an existing hosting facility.
Nr.4	What's the preference on the offers, is it rack space, space to host a rack with cooling, power and connectivity or compute platform (servers and storage plus connectivity)?	<p>From the Response to Question 3 above, it is clear that the offer to be made is limited to <u>space to host a rack with cooling, power and internet connectivity in an existing government hosting centre.</u></p> <p>Based on the equipment recently installed in the TRIPS Host Site No 1 in Windhoek, Namibia with connectivity to the International Internet Infrastructure along the West Coast of Africa, the following is indicative of the equipment that are to be hosted at TRIPS Host Site No 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single Rack – footprint and dimensions are as follow<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ width = 600mm, depth=1075mm, height 42U• Power requirements of Rack & Equipment<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Typical 877 VA, Maximum 1754 VA• Cooling requirements for Rack & Equipment<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Typical 3260 BTU, Maximum 6520 BTU

End of Responses

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