



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
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la science et la culture

Notice to Suppliers: I

Date: October 19, 2022

Title: IRQ/RFQ/22/99/Request for Quotation for the Supply, Deliver and Install Blade Server and Associated Accessories

Subject: Deadline Extension and Response to Supplier's Request for Clarification

- A. **Quotation Submission Deadline:** All the suppliers are advised that the deadline for submitting Quotation has been extended to **October 30, 2022, before 6:00 pm Baghdad time**. Please note the deadline is not subjective to further extension beyond fofoesaid date/time.
- B. **All Suppliers are advised of the following clarification for the raised question on the announced RFQ**

<u>Question #</u>	<u>Questions</u>	<u>UNESCO Response to offeror's "Request for Clarification"</u>
1	Provide the the end user details/below	Please find below the details
	Company Name	Ministry of Education (MoE) Baghdad
	Contact person	Muthana Ali, Director of Statistics, General Directorate of Planning, MoE, Baghdad
	Phone Number	00964 790 119 5861
	Email address	muthanaalii@yahoo.com
	Full Address	Ministry of Education premises at Nidhal Street, Baghdad
6	Req. servers is 1CPU-32Core ? If yes, can we give Server with Dual CPU-16Core (total 32) instead?	If the manufacturer cannot furnish one processor with 32 cores, feel free to propose a different configuration based on the number of available slots in your proposed blade system/enclosure. Keep in mind that the 1,024 GB of RAM and CPU cores will be provisioned initially on two servers. We expect the blade system to support redundancy at the power supply and the network interface card. Our goal is to be able to scale up computing and storage resources and to allocate them dynamically among the various applications in a virtualized environment. Regardless of the manufacturer specifications, we expect all proposals to state clearly the number of enclosure slots occupied and the number of remaining usable slots.

7	For item 16 (Raid 10 need to be supported): minimum HDD should be 4 HDDs – No HDD is mentioned	The proposed blade systems/enclosures should include the necessary HDD controller to support HDDs within the enclosure or the SAN that we have requested. We had requested 2x 18 TB SAS HDDs at 7.2K RPMs in Item No. 22.
8	For item 22 (SAN storage): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No model or brand mentioned Should need SAN FC-Switch (do you have it already?) – not mentioned If you don't have SAN FC-Switch, we need to know how many ports (8/16/24 Ports) The server will need (FC card + SFP transceivers + FO patch cords) to connect to SAN storage / SAN FC-Switch – also not mentioned 	We did not specify a brand for the SAN to leave the option open for bidders to propose what they deem fit to meet our requirements. Concerning the connection of the servers to the SAN, please provide an itemized list of all the required SKUs to install and commission the servers and SAN. Any Top Of Rack switches or I/O modules or any other items that are needed to connect the servers to the SAN based on a brand new data center. Depending on the existing data center environment where the equipment might be deployed, we will make a final decision on the SKU items to be ordered, if some of them already exist at the co-location center.
9	We would like to ask you about number #6 and #16 for Hard Disk Controller, how much the size and speed.	In Item No. 22 of the RFQ, we specified the desired starting storage to be 2x 18 TB SAS HDDs at 7.2K RPMs on the SAN. If you offer two separate rackmount servers each with their own storage, the hard disks must be a total of four with a similar storage capacity of 10 TB or 12 TB SAS HDDs at 7.2K RPMs.
10	We would like to know if you require IPMI for the blade chassis.	We expect the Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI) to be offered as part of the blade chassis to gain remote management and monitoring capabilities. The Integrated Lights-Out (iLO) technology by HPE, Integrated Dell Remote Access Controller (iDRAC) by Dell, Integrated Management Module (IMM) by IBM Lenovo etc are examples of such abilities.
11	Do you have a preferred size for the blade chassis.	We anticipate having a minimum 10U size for the blade system.
12	For the SAN enclosure, do you prefer SFF or LFF?	We prefer the Large Form Factor (LFF / 3.5-inch) because it provides us more storage capacity in the long term than the Small Form Factor (SFF / 2.5-inch).
13	For disks, do you prefer SSD?	Please feel free to offer Solid State Drives (SSD), either SFF or LFF depending on your proposed enclosure, as an option along with the SFF or LFF HDDs, as an option)
14	Under the item Data Base Management System (DBMS) 10. Microsoft SQL Server 2019 Enterprise Edition License, your requirement is for a license for how many CPU cores?	By having blade systems, we plan to run our applications in a Virtual Operating System Environment (VOSE). Therefore, it is not advisable to assume that we will be using all the cores in a specific physical server. Please quote the 2-core base SKU for SQL Server Enterprise Edition running in a VOSE with optional SKUs for 4 cores, 8 cores, 16 cores, and 24 cores. Microsoft offers reduced pricing for a larger number of cores.

15	Is Microsoft SQL Server 2019 Enterprise Edition the version you require, or do you accept Microsoft SQL Server 2019 Standard Edition?	We require the Enterprise Edition. Please quote the main server SKU and another SKU that includes Software Assurance, which will support having free on-premises replicas for High Availability and Disaster Recovery. Microsoft has released Release Candidate 0 (RC0) for their new Microsoft SQL Server 2022. We expect it to be generally available starting most likely in November with December 31, 2022, being the latest date that Microsoft has committed to its global customers. The price is the same for both 2019 and 2022. In all cases, make sure you request Education pricing for hardware and software, which are heavily discounted, because these systems will be provided by UNESCO to the Ministry of Education in Iraq to automate all schools across Iraq.
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Yours sincerely,
UNESCO Office for Iraq