



**SOUTH AFRICA**

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**Electoral Commission**

**Auction #: 0010556467**

# **SERVER HARDWARE CAPACITY – DATA CENTRE SERVERS**

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**Failure to comply with the completion of the auction conditions and the required information or submission of the required stipulated documents indicated shall invalidate a bid.**

# 1 Introduction

The Electoral Commission (IEC) seeks to appoint a suitably qualified service provider to supply seventy (70) new server equipment to add to the current server capacity in their data centres.

## 2 Background Information

The Electoral Commission is adding server capacity in preparing for Local Government Elections (LGE) 2026/27. To this end, various projects are being undertaken that will reside in their data centres. These projects require extra hardware capacity over and above the current server landscape. The requirement is not brand-specific, however the Electoral Commission has standardized on Intel processors-based servers and Microsoft Windows Server operating system. The bidder is required to propose the same brand of servers for the different categories of servers as per the technical specifications.

The servers must be delivered with OEM warranty of at least 5 years. They must also have a lifespan of at least 10 years from the date of delivery.

The Electoral Commission has invested extensively in ICT technologies, which provide a platform to effectively support and enable its business processes and to meet its goal of providing a free and fair election process in an open and transparent environment. The Electoral Commission's ICT Department intends to continue running a highly efficient, secure and stable ICT environment making full use of industry standards, best practices and disciplines based upon stable, secure and reliable technologies.

**Bidders must place a bid on the Votaquotes (eProcurement) system and then provide all the required documentation before the closing dates as specified in this document and on the Votaquotes web site. Bidders must be registered and approve on Votaquotes in order to compete for the auction. Bidders must be registered and approved to bid.**

## 3 Technical Specifications

It must be noted that the technical specifications below are the minimum requirements; the only exception that may be accepted will be in case where the bidder's specification is better. Anything below specification will be disqualified.

3.1 The Electoral Commission seeks to procure **Thirty (30) of the Category Five (5) servers** whose minimum specification is below

Category 5 Servers				
Server type	Quantity	Specification		
		Items	Items	Items
Category Five (5)	30	Cat 5.1	Processor Slots	2 x processor slots (minimum)
		Cat 5.2	Processor Type and Quantity	2 x 16 cores 4.0 GHz (minimum) (Intel Xeon Scalable OR AMD EPYC or equivalent)

Category 5 Servers				
Server type	Quantity	Specification		
		Items	Items	Items
		Cat 5.3	Virtualization	Virtualization ready
		Cat 5.4	RAM	4 TB RAM (upgradeable to 8 TB at a minimum)
		Cat 5.5	RAID	Software / Hardware RAID (at least Raid 5 Hardware Raid)
		Cat 5.6	Storage Drives	Solid State Devices (SSD)
		Cat 5.7	Storage Drive Speed	400 MB/s(minimum)
		Cat 5.8	Storage Drive Storage Capacity	Minimum 480 GB useable internal storage when configured as Raid 5 or higher
		Cat 5.9	Ethernet Ports	14 x 10Gb Ethernet ports
		Cat 5.10	Power Supply	Hot swap Redundant power supplies, with standard South African power cables, 1 – 2m in length
		Cat 5.11	Cooling	Redundant cooling fans
		Cat 5.12	Architecture	True 64 Bit architecture
		Cat 5.13	Operating	VMWare 8 & Microsoft Windows Server 2022 certified (or higher)
		Cat 5.14	Form Factor	Rack mountable (2U/4U/8U)
		Cat 5.15	Quality Standards	Fully comply with SANS IEC 60950
		Cat 5.16	Dual Port	Dual Port Fibre Card
		Cat 5.17	Security Chipset	Discreet TPM 2.0 or higher
		Cat 5.18	Warranty	Minimum 5 years OEM Warranty

3.2 The Electoral Commission also seeks to procure **Twenty-four (24) x Category (3) servers** whose minimum specification is below:

Category 3 Servers				
Server type	Quantity	Specification		
		Items	Items	Items
Category Three (3)	24	Cat 3.1	Processor Slots	2 x processor slots (minimum)
		Cat 3.2	Processor Type and Quantity	2 x 8 cores 3.5 GHz (minimum) (Intel Xeon Scalable OR AMD EPYC or equivalent)
		Cat 3.3	Virtualization	Virtualisation ready
		Cat 3.4	RAM	2 TB RAM (upgradeable to 4 TB at a minimum)
		Cat 3.5	RAID	Software / Hardware RAID (at least Raid 5 Hardware Raid)
		Cat 3.6	Storage Drives	Solid State Devices (SSD)
		Cat 3.7	Storage Drive Speed	400 MB/s(minimum)
		Cat 3.8	Storage Drive Storage Capacity	Minimum 480GB useable internal storage when configured as Raid 5 or higher

Category 3 Servers				
Server type	Quantity	Specification		
		Items	Items	Items
		Cat 3.9	Ethernet Ports	4 x 10Gb Ethernet ports
		Cat 3.10	Power Supply	Hot swap Redundant power supplies, with standard South African power cables, 1 – 2m in length
		Cat 3.11	Cooling	Redundant cooling fans
		Cat 3.12	Architecture	True 64 Bit architecture
		Cat 3.13	Operating	Microsoft Windows Server 2022 certified (minimum)
		Cat 3.14	Form Factor	Rack mountable (1U or 2U)
		Cat 3.15	Quality Standards	Fully comply with SANS IEC 60950
		Cat 3.16	Dual Port	Dual Port Fibre Card
		Cat 3.17	Security Chipset	Discreet TPM 2.0 or higher
		Cat 3.18	Warranty	Minimum 5 years OEM Warranty

3.3 The Electoral Commission also seeks to procure **Sixteen (16) Category Two (2) Servers** whose minimum specifications are below:

Category 2 Servers				
Server type	Quantity	Specification		
		Items	Items	Items
<b>Category – Two</b>	<b>16</b>	Cat 2.1	Processor Slots	2 x processor slots (minimum)
		Cat 2.2	Processor Type and Quantity	2 x Quad core 3 GHz (minimum) (Hyper-threaded) (Intel Xeon Scalable or equivalent)
		Cat 2.3	Virtualization	Virtualisation ready
		Cat 2.4	RAM	512 GB RAM (upgradeable to minimum 1TB at a minimum)
		Cat 2.5	RAID	Software / Hardware RAID (at least Raid 5 Hardware Raid)
		Cat 2.6	Storage Drives	Solid State Devices (SSD)
		Cat 2.7	Storage Drive Speed	400 MB/s(minimum)
		Cat 2.8	Storage Drive Storage Capacity	Minimum 480 GB useable internal storage when configured as Raid 5 or higher
		Cat 2.9	Ethernet Ports	2 x 10Gb Ethernet ports
		Cat 2.10	Power Supply	Hot swap Redundant power supplies, with standard South African power cables, 1 – 2m in length
		Cat 2.11	Cooling	Redundant cooling fans
		Cat 2.12	Architecture	True 64 Bit architecture

Category 2 Servers			
Server type	Quantity	Specification	
		Items	Items
		Cat 2.13	Operating
		Cat 2.14	Form Factor
		Cat 2.15	Quality Standards
		Cat 2.16	Dual Port
		Cat 2.17	Security Chipset
		Cat 2.18	Warranty

- 3.4 The servers must be delivered fully assembled and ready for Operating system installation and configuration. The Electoral Commission will be responsible for the operating system configuration and beyond.
- 3.5 The warranty, support and maintenance should enable the Electoral Commission to access hardware support and maintenance including firmware upgrades.
- 3.6 The servers must be supplied with rank mounting kits. The servers must fit in the racks of the dimensions below:
- a) Width: 600 mm
  - b) Height: 2020 mm
  - c) Depth: 1020 mm
- 3.7 All the components must be supplied / certified by the OEM. The Electoral Commission seeks server hardware with an OEM designed Management system included.
- 3.8 The Electoral Commission's standard platform is Intel based equipment; proposed servers must therefore be based on Intel Processors. Proof must be submitted.
- 3.9 Only server hardware certified for Microsoft Windows Server 2022 or later will be considered. Proof must be submitted.
- 3.10 The bidder must standardize on a single brand across all the categories. Failure to Standardize on a single brand will lead to the bid being disqualified.
- 3.11 The bidder will be responsible for the racking and stacking one of the Category 5 servers to demonstrate how it is done. The Electoral Commission will rack and stack all the other servers.

## 4 Planning Assumptions

The Electoral Commission has made the following assumptions:

- 4.1 The Electoral Commission will provide technical resources for all the Electoral Commission's designated work including setup and configuration of own systems and databases.
- 4.2 Wherever the need arises the successful bidder shall do initial equipment configuration of environmental specific requirements.
- 4.3 The delivery of the hardware, software licenses and implementation services required must be completed within the days as stipulated in the delivery and implementation schedule stipulated in section 10.
- 4.4 The bidder must comply with the Electoral Commission's change management process.

## 5 General Bid Conditions

The following standard bid conditions must be adhered to and complied with; failing which the bid will be disqualified.

- 5.1 All bids must be placed online on eProcurement website <https://votaquotes.elections.org.za>
- 5.2 Bidders must complete and submit [Appendix A: Technical Bid Response](#) to demonstrate compliance with the required technical specification.
- 5.3 The bidder must be authorized to sell the product supplied.
- 5.4 An OEM letter of proof of the reseller agreement/authorization must accompany the written documentation for this bid.
- 5.5 Should the reseller authorization be from a distributor, then a proof of authorization authorizing the distributor to resell and/or to authorize others by the OEM must be submitted together with the reseller authorization from the distributor.
- 5.6 The bidder must submit a statement of service, describing the service and support that is covered under the contract/warranty including the roles of the bidder and the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM).
- 5.7 The servers must carry a 5-year warranty from the OEM. The bidder must submit a warranty statement as part of the bid.
- 5.8 The bidder must also include the product lifecycle for the servers proposed. It is expected that the servers should have a lifespan of at least 10 years from delivery date. The product must also not reach End-Of-Life 10 years from delivery date. Bidder to provide proof thereof.
- 5.9 The bidder must submit a price schedule and quotation for the servers proposed. Details of all the components on the servers include the make and model must be included in the price schedule /

quotation.

- 5.10 Bidder must have at least three (3) years' experience in providing the services required. Bidder must provide a profile or letter to confirm.
- 5.11 Bidder must submit at least five (5) contactable references where a project of similar scope (delivery and installation of server hardware) was successfully delivered.
- 5.12 The bidder must demonstrate that the proposed product is available in South Africa, has market penetration and local technical and engineering support. Bidders must specify proof thereof as part of the bid submission.
- 5.13 Preference will be given to solutions that are based on a standard existing product in the market and not products specifically designed or cloned for this bid. The Commission may require proof of market penetration and references.
- 5.14** Bidders must adhere to the delivery schedule in **Section 10**
- 5.15 Bidder must provide an example SLA that incorporates the OEM Warranty as part of the submission
- 5.16 Bidder must provide as part of the submission data/specification sheets (a document usually from the OEM that summarizes the performance and other characteristics of the different categories).

## 6 Quality Control

The following quality control conditions must be adhered to and complied with, failing which the bid may be disqualified.

- 6.1 The bidder takes responsibility for the completeness and quality of their bid submission.
- 6.2 The bidder must undertake and warrant that the server hardware is new and in good condition and in line with the tender specifications.
- 6.3 The bidder will have the primary responsibility of ensuring that the proposed equipment complies with the required specification in terms of functionality and technical specification including quantity and quality.
- 6.4 The Electoral Commission may also call on bidders to make presentations in order for the Electoral Commission to ensure full compliance with all its requirements and as part of the bid evaluation process prior to the conclusion of the adjudication of the bid. Any such request for presentations shall only be for clarification purposes in support of mandatory requirements that must be adhered to as part of the written submission requirements of this bid. Failure to submit mandatory requirements shall not be rectified by the call for presentations. Any restrictions or conditions associated with any elements of the service offering/s must be detailed. The Electoral Commission reserves the right to reject conditions which are considered unfavourable to its business or unacceptable.
- 6.5 The bidder must provide the associated support and maintenance for the duration of the warranty period.

The support and maintenance must include all services as per product code.

- 6.6 The submission of a bid implies acceptance of the terms specified in the provisions laid down in the bid specifications, the procurement and, where applicable, additional documents.
- 6.7 Bidders are expected to examine carefully and respect all instructions and standard formats contained in these specifications.
- 6.8 A bid that does not contain all the required information and documentation will be disqualified.
- 6.9 The Electoral Commission will issue an official purchase order to the successful bidder before any services can be delivered
- 6.10 Awarding of the bid to the successful bidder will be subject to the Electoral Commission's due diligence audit requirements, where applicable.
- 6.11 Although the Electoral Commission will only deal with the principal service provider, if a bidder plans to sub-contract any of the services in this bid, they are required to attach copies of sub-contracting agreements in their bid response documentation. The bidder must also familiarize themselves with Supply Chain Management (SCM) regulations with respect to subcontracting.
- 6.12 Notwithstanding any shortcomings in these specifications, service providers must ensure that the proposed solution will form a workable and complete solution.
- 6.13 The Electoral Commission reserves the right and discretion to amend the quantities or cancel or not award this bid based on any reason including operational or financial requirements.

## **7 Supplier Performance**

- 7.1 Contracting of any service provider to render goods and/or services to the Electoral Commission are subject to the fulfilment of the Electoral Commission's due diligence audit requirements.
- 7.2 An essential component of the Electoral Commission's due diligence audit requirements may involve site visits to potential suppliers/contractors as well as inspection of various key documents underpinning the establishment of the companies involved in bids of the Electoral Commission. This also includes confirmation of capability and capacity requirements to execute the services specified in such bids.
- 7.3 Upon notification of the Electoral Commission's intention to award a contract, the successful bidder may be required to enter into a service level agreement (SLA/contract) with the Electoral Commission.
- 7.4 The purpose of the SLA (if applicable other than what the Electoral Commission's standard purchase orders provide for) is to set performance criteria within the key requirements of this request for quotation, namely quantity, quality and delivery.
- 7.5 The SLA may contain elements such as supplier progress milestones, delivery schedules, quality

checkpoints and invoicing procedures.

- 7.6 The Electoral Commission reserves the right to reject any services delivered not conforming to the bid specification.
- 7.7 Where previously-agreed delivery schedules are not met by a supplier, the Electoral Commission shall have the right to appoint an alternative supplier to make good the shortfall in supply. Any additional costs incurred by the Electoral Commission in obtaining such corrective services or products from another source will be for the account of the defaulting supplier.

## 8 Pricing Requirements

Completion of the detailed pricing schedule by responding to each item is compulsory. Failure to complete and submit this detailed pricing schedule as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

- 8.1 The total bid price must be submitted online on the eProcurement (Votaquotes) portal
- 8.2 The price breakdown [Appendix B: Pricing Schedule](#) must be submitted as part of the bid's supporting documentation and will be used for adjudication.
- 8.3 All costs associated with the supply, delivery, installation and configuration of the server hardware, associated warranty and support and maintenance must be included in the total bid price. The total bid price must be inclusive of all factors which may contribute the cost of fulfilling the bid, factors such as:
- a) Any Hardware and Software costs.
  - b) Delivery costs to the Electoral Commission's national office in Centurion, Gauteng, South Africa.
  - c) Warranty, On-Site Support and Maintenance for 5 years
- 8.4 Bid prices must be VAT inclusive and must be firm for a period of 180 days.
- 8.5 The Electoral Commission reserves the right to adjust costs by excluding some cost factors.
- 8.6 All costs associated with the solution must be captured on the pricing schedule - no additional costs will be entertained.
- 8.7 The equipment proposed must be complete.

## 9 Adjudication and Award of Contract

- 9.1 Bidders are advised to refer to the [Appendix D: Bid Evaluation Criteria](#) to ensure that they have addressed all critical bid requirements.
- 9.2 The bid will be awarded to a bidder whose solution successfully conforms to specifications and is able to deliver the services, and in terms of the provisions of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act,

2000 and specifically the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022.

- 9.3 The Electoral Commission will issue a formal purchase order before any services can be delivered. It should be noted that the Electoral Commission seeks to gain the best solution technically and financially and will select from the results of the bid a solution it deems to give the best investment.
- 9.4 Awarding the bid to a successful bidder is subject to the bidder entering into a service level agreement (SLA) with the Electoral Commission that will formalize and regulate the final deliverables and associated processes and procedures.

## 10 Delivery and Implementation Timeframe

- 10.1 The successful bidder will be required to complete delivery within eight (8) weeks from receipt of an order for the solution (hardware and services).
- 10.2 Bidder must include confirmation from the OEM regarding the delivery lead times of the servers proposed as part of the submission.
- 10.3 Delivery of the equipment and services will be at the following address:

**Election House  
Riverside Office Park,  
1303 Heuwel Avenue,  
Centurion,  
0157**

## 11 Enquiries

All enquiries regarding this bid must be submitted exclusively through the VotaQuotes platform. This requirement supports the principles of fairness, openness, and transparency in the procurement process.

- 11.1 All questions and the official responses will be published on the public VotaQuotes website ([www.votaquotes.elections.org.za](http://www.votaquotes.elections.org.za)) where the bid is advertised.
- 11.2 Bidders are responsible for regularly monitoring the platform for any updates, clarifications, or additional information published during the bidding period.
- 11.3 No telephonic, email, or other forms of communication regarding bid enquiries will be accepted or responded to.
- 11.4 An enquiry cut-off date applies to all bids. The final date and time for submitting enquiries is published on the VotaQuotes platform under the specific bid listing.

## 12 Written Submissions

All submissions must be received on or before the closing date and time for submissions, as stipulated on the e-Procurement website <https://votaquotes.elections.org.za>. Submissions received after the final date and time will lead to bids being disqualified and not considered. Written submissions must be delivered to the Electoral Commission's Procurement & Asset Management Department. Delivery can be through any of the following means:

- Upload to the auction website;
- Place in the Electoral Commission tender box situated in the foyer of the Electoral Commission national office in Centurion at the following address before the closing date and time of this auction;

**Election House  
Riverside Office Park,  
1303 Heuwel Avenue,  
Centurion,  
0157**

**Note: Clearly mark your submission: For the attention of Procurement and Asset Management – AUCTION 0010556467**

Failure to submit all of the required documentation before the closing time shall invalidate the bid. It remains the responsibility of the bidder to confirm receipt of the required documentation with the Electoral Commission Procurement and Asset Management Department.

## 13 Summary of Submission Requirements

- 13.1 All bids must be placed online on eProcurement website <https://votaquotes.elections.org.za>.
- 13.2 All written supporting documentation must be submitted as stipulated in the bid requirement.
- 13.3 Submissions received after the closing date and time will lead to bids being disqualified and not considered.
- 13.4 The following supporting documents must be submitted as part of the written submissions. Failure to submit these will lead to the bid being disqualified.
- 13.5 Completed technical specifications in accordance with the requirements in **Appendix A: Technical Bid Response Sheet** to demonstrate compliance with the bid specification as per 5.2
- 13.6 Five (5) relevant contactable References, as per 5.11 - Appendix C: Guideline Reference Table

- 13.7 Completed pricing schedule as per 8.2 - Appendix B: Pricing Schedule.
- 13.8 A letter of proof of the reseller agreement either from the OEM or an authorized distributor; (i.e. if the reseller is authorized by a distributor) as per 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5. If the reseller agreement is from a distributor, then proof from the OEM authorizing the distributor needs to be included
- 13.9 A statement of service, describing the service and support that is covered under the warranty including the roles of the bidder and the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) as per 5.6
- 13.10 Submit a 5-years' OEM Warranty documentation as per 5.7
- 13.11 Submit a price schedule / quotation showing all the components of the servers being proposed as per 5.9
- 13.12 Submit a profile or letter showing at least 3 years' experience as per 5.10
- 13.13 Submit a product lifecycle for the servers proposed as per 5.8
- 13.14 Submit proof that the proposed servers are Microsoft Server 2022 or later certified.
- 13.15 Submit OEM delivery lead times confirmation as per 10.2.
- 13.16 Submit data/specification sheets (a document usually from the OEM that summarizes the performance and other characteristics of the different categories).

## **14 Closing Date**

The closing date and time of this tender is specified on the eProcurement (Votaquotes) website in accordance the bidding requirements. The closing date and time is determined by the clock on the Electoral Commission's servers and is not negotiable. Bidders must also take note supporting documentation must be delivered before closing date and time.

# 15 APPENDIX A: Technical Bid Response Sheet

<b>Technical Bid Response Sheet</b>						
<p><b>Completion of this technical response sheet by the bidder is compulsory. Bidder must respond to each and every item in the response sheet.</b></p> <p><b>Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.</b></p>						
Specification				Bidder must indicate whichever is applicable		Bidder's response/technical specification for proposed solution – if providing more than minimum requirement
				Yes	No	
<b>30 x Category 5 Servers. Each must have the following components:</b>						
1.	Cat 5.1	Processor Slots	2 x processor slots (minimum)			
2.	Cat 5.2	Processor Type and Quantity	2 x 16 cores 4.0 GHz (minimum) (Intel Xeon Scalable OR AMD EPYC or equivalent)			
3.	Cat 5.3	Virtualization	Virtualization ready			
4.	Cat 5.4	RAM	4 TB RAM (upgradeable to 8 TB at a minimum)			
5.	Cat 5.5	RAID	Software / Hardware RAID (at least Raid 5 Hardware Raid)			
6.	Cat 5.6	Storage Drives	Solid State Devices (SSD)			
7.	Cat 5.7	Storage Drive Speed	400 MB/s(minimum)			
8.	Cat 5.8	Storage Drive Storage Capacity	Minimum 480 GB useable internal storage when configured as Raid 5 or higher			
9.	Cat 5.9	Ethernet Ports	14 x 10Gb Ethernet ports			
10.	Cat 5.10	Power Supply	Hot swap Redundant power supplies, with standard South African power cables, 1 – 2m in length			
11.	Cat 5.11	Cooling	Redundant cooling fans			
12.	Cat 5.12	Architecture	True 64 Bit architecture			
13.	Cat 5.13	Operating	VMWare 8 & Microsoft Windows Server 2022 certified (or higher)			

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Specification				Bidder must indicate whichever is applicable		Bidder's response/technical specification for proposed solution – if providing more than minimum requirement
				Yes	No	
14.	Cat 5.14	Form Factor	Rack mountable (2U/4U/8U)			
15.	Cat 5.15	Quality Standards	Fully comply with SANS IEC 60950			
16.	Cat 5.16	Dual Port	Dual Port Fibre Card			
17.	Cat 5.17	Security Chipset	Discreet TPM 2.0 or higher			
18.	Cat 5.18	Warranty	Minimum 5 years OEM Warranty			
<b>24 x Category 3 Servers. Each must have the following components:</b>						
19.	Cat 3.1	Processor Slots	2 x processor slots (minimum)			
20.	Cat 3.2	Processor Type and Quantity	2 x 8 cores 3.5 GHz (minimum) (Intel Xeon Scalable OR AMD EPYC or equivalent)			
21.	Cat 3.3	Virtualization	Virtualisation ready			
22.	Cat 3.4	RAM	2 TB RAM (upgradeable to 4 TB at a minimum)			
23.	Cat 3.5	RAID	Software / Hardware RAID (at least Raid 5 Hardware Raid)			
24.	Cat 3.6	Storage Drives	Solid State Devices (SSD)			
25.	Cat 3.7	Storage Drive Speed	400 MB/s(minimum)			
26.	Cat 3.8	Storage Drive Storage Capacity	Minimum 480GB useable internal storage when configured as Raid 5 or higher			

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Specification				Bidder must indicate whichever is applicable		Bidder's response/technical specification for proposed solution – if providing more than minimum requirement
				Yes	No	
27.	Cat 3.9	Ethernet Ports	4 x 10Gb Ethernet ports			
28.	Cat 3.10	Power Supply	Hot swap Redundant power supplies, with standard South African power cables, 1 – 2m in length			
29.	Cat 3.11	Cooling	Redundant cooling fans			
30.	Cat 3.12	Architecture	True 64 Bit architecture			
31.	Cat 3.13	Operating	Microsoft Windows Server 2022 certified (minimum)			
32.	Cat 3.14	Form Factor	Rack mountable (1U or 2U)			
33.	Cat 3.15	Quality Standards	Fully comply with SANS IEC 60950			
34.	Cat 3.16	Dual Port	Dual Port Fibre Card			
35.	Cat 3.17	Security Chipset	Discreet TPM 2.0 or higher			
36.	Cat 3.18	Warranty	Minimum 5 years OEM Warranty			
<b>16 x Category 2 Servers. Each must have the following components:</b>						
37.	Cat 2.1	Processor Slots	2 x processor slots (minimum)			
38.	Cat 2.2	Processor Type and Quantity	2 x Quad core 3 GHz (minimum) (Hyper- threaded) (Intel Xeon Scalable or equivalent)			
39.	Cat 2.3	Virtualization	Virtualisation ready			

**Technical Bid Response Sheet**

**Completion of this technical response sheet by the bidder is compulsory. Bidder must respond to each and every item in the response sheet.**

**Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.**

Specification				Bidder must indicate whichever is applicable		Bidder's response/technical specification for proposed solution – if providing more than minimum requirement
				Yes	No	
40.	Cat 2.4	RAM	512 GB RAM (upgradeable to minimum 1TB at a minimum)			
41.	Cat 2.5	RAID	Software / Hardware RAID (at least Raid 5 Hardware Raid)			
42.	Cat 2.6	Storage Drives	Solid State Devices (SSD)			
43.	Cat 2.7	Storage Drive Speed	400 MB/s(minimum)			
44.	Cat 2.8	Storage Drive Storage Capacity	Minimum 480 GB useable internal storage when configured as Raid 5 or higher			
45.	Cat 2.9	Ethernet Ports	2 x 10Gb Ethernet ports			
46.	Cat 2.10	Power Supply	Hot swap Redundant power supplies, with standard South African power cables, 1 – 2m in length			
47.	Cat 2.11	Cooling	Redundant cooling fans			
48.	Cat 2.12	Architecture	True 64 Bit architecture			
49.	Cat 2.13	Operating	Microsoft Windows Server 2022 certified (minimum)			
50.	Cat 2.14	Form Factor	Rack mountable (1U or 2U)			
51.	Cat 2.15	Quality Standards	Fully comply with SANS IEC 60950			
52.	Cat 2.16	Dual Port	Dual Port Fibre Card			
53.	Cat 2.17	Security Chipset	Discreet TPM 2.0 or higher			

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Specification				Bidder must indicate whichever is applicable		Bidder's response/technical specification for proposed solution – if providing more than minimum requirement
				Yes	No	
54.	Cat 2.18	Warranty	Minimum 5 years OEM Warranty			
<b>Other Requirements</b>						
55.	The bidder will be responsible for the racking and stacking, and hardware related configuration of one Category 5 server					
56.	The warranty, support and maintenance enables the Electoral Commission to access on-site hardware support and firmware upgrades					
57.	The bidder wants to standardize on a single brand for all the categories					
58.	The servers are certified to run Microsoft Windows 2022 or higher.					
59.	The servers are supplied with the rack mounting kits					
60.	The servers are fully assembled and ready for installation and configuration. All the components are supplied / certified by the OEM					
61.	The servers fit the Electoral Commission's current racks that have the following dimensions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Width: 600 mm</li> <li>b) Height: 2020 mm</li> <li>c) Depth: 1020 mm</li> </ul>					

## 16 APPENDIX B: PRICING SCHEDULE

### PRICING SCHEDULE – DETAILED BREAKDOWN

Completion of this Price Schedule by the bidder is compulsory. Bidders must also provide a product code for the proposed component.

Failure to complete and submit this pricing schedule as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

Bidder must also provide product codes, Brand and Models of the proposed products

	Product Code	Description	Quantity	Unit Cost inclusive of VAT	Total Cost inclusive of VAT
1.		Category 5 Servers with 5 Year Warranty at a minimum Brand and Model:	30	R.....	R.....
2.		Category 3 Servers with 5 Year Warranty at a minimum Brand and Model:	24	R.....	R.....
3.		Category 2 Servers with 5 Year Warranty at a minimum Brand and Model:	16	R.....	R.....
4.	SERVICES	Installation and Configuration Services for one Category 5 server	1	R.....	R.....
<b>*TOTAL BID PRICE (VAT Inclusive)</b>					<b>R.....</b>

\*\*The total bid price is the bid price that must be placed on eProcurement (auction). No any other additional costs will be accepted for bid evaluation and adjudication purposes.

## **17 APPENDIX C: Guideline Reference Table**

### **Reference #1**

**EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:**

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Contract Value (estimate)	
	Number of servers delivered	
Timeframe	Where was this done?	

Reference #2

**EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:**

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Contract Value (estimate)	
	Number of servers delivered	
Timeframe	Where was this done?	

Reference #3

**EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:**

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Contract Value (estimate)	
	Number of servers delivered	
Timeframe	Where was this done?	

## Reference #4

**EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:**

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Contract Value (estimate)	
	Number of servers delivered	
Timeframe	Where was this done?	

Reference #5

**EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:**

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Contract Value (estimate)	
	Number of servers delivered	
Timeframe	Where was this done?	

## **18 APPENDIX D: Evaluation Criteria**

Bidders are advised to refer to Appendix D to ensure that they have addressed all critical bid requirements which will be used for assessing the bids. Bidders are NOT expected to complete and submit this section.

### **18.1 Stage 1: Assessment of Bidder's Disclosure**

All bids received will be evaluated and assessed in respect of the mandatory information provided in the Bidder's Disclosure (SBD4) as well as the register for restricted suppliers and tender defaulters.

Any potential issues that may arise or transgressions that may identified will be pursued in accordance with statutory obligations and requirements.

In this regard, the following must be noted:

The Electoral Commission must, as part of its supply chain management (SCM) processes, identify and manage all potential conflicts of interest and other disclosures made by a person participating in procurement process to enable the accounting officer or delegated authority to make informed decisions about the person participating in the SCM process.

As such, the Bidders Disclosure form, issued as Standard Bidding Document (SBD) 4, is attached herewith for all entities who participate in the bid process.

As part of the evaluation of the procurement process, the information provided by a person on the SBD4 form must be evaluated.

In so doing, it must be noted that if the bid evaluation establishes that:

- (a) a person within the bidding entity is an employee of the State, the Electoral Commission's CEO must request the relevant accounting officer/accounting authority whether the person-
  - (i) Is prohibited from conducting business with the State in terms of Section 8 of the Public Administration Management Act, 2014; or
  - (ii) has permission to perform other remunerative work outside of their employment, where the PAMA does not apply to such employee;
- (b) the conduct of a person constitutes a transgression of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004;
- (c) the conduct of a person constitutes a transgression of the Competition Act, 1998, the conduct must be reported to the Competition Commission; and
- (d) the conduct of a person must be dealt with in terms of the prescripts applicable to the Electoral Commission.

- 18.1.1 If it is established that a person has committed a transgression in terms of the above, or any other transgression of SCM prescripts, the bid may be rejected and the person may be restricted.
- 18.1.2 The Electoral Commission's CEO must inform National Treasury of any action taken against a person within 30 days of implementing the action.
- 18.1.3 During the bid evaluation process, the Electoral Commission must in addition to other due diligence measures, establish if a person is not listed in-
- (a) the Register of Tender Defaulters; and
  - (b) the list of restricted suppliers.
- 18.1.4 A bid related to a restricted bidder or tender defaulter shall be rejected.
- 18.1.5 The under-mentioned assessment criteria will be used to evaluate the elements relating to SBD4, CSD registration, tax compliance, restricted suppliers and tender defaulters:

	<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	<b>Bidder Requirement (YES/NO)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1.	Bidder is registered on the National Treasury Central Supplier Database (CSD). *		
2.	Bidder is tax compliant. **		
3.	The bidder is not an employee of the state.		
4.	Having certified the SBD4, it is accepted that the bidder's conduct does not constitute a transgression of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act.		
5.	Having certified to the SBD4, it is accepted that the bidder's conduct does not constitute a transgression of the Competition Act.		
6.	The bidder is not a tender defaulter as per the register published on the National Treasury website.		
7.	The bidder is not a restricted supplier as per the register published on the National Treasury website.		

\* No bid shall be accepted if a supplier is not registered on the National Treasury Central Supplier Database (CSD).

\*\* A bidder must be tax compliant before a contract is awarded. A bid will be disqualified if the bidder's tax affairs remains non-compliant as per the provisions of National Treasury Instruction No 09 of 2017/2018 Tax Compliance Status Verification.

## 18.2 Stage 2: Key Qualifying Criteria

Stage 2 – Key Qualifying Criteria				
Failure to comply with any of the requirements below will result in the bid being disqualified				
No.	Description	Yes	No	Comments
1.	Did the bidder place their bid online as per 5.1			
2.	Did the bidder complete and submit technical specification as per 5.2? (Appendix A: Technical Bid Response Sheet)			
3.	Did the bidder complete and submit pricing schedule as per 8.2? (Appendix B: Pricing Schedule)			
4.	Did the bidder submit a letter of proof of the reseller agreement either from the OEM or an authorized distributor (i.e. if the reseller is authorised by a distributor) as per 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5? If the reseller agreement is from a distributor, did the bidder provide proof from the OEM authorizing the distributor?			
5.	Did the bidder submit a statement of service, describing the service and support that is covered under the contract including the roles of the bidder and the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) as per 5.6?			
6.	Did the bidder include price schedule and quotation showing all the components of the servers being proposed as per 5.9?			
7.	Are the servers based on a standard existing product in the market and not products specifically designed or cloned for this bid as per 5.13?			
8.	Did the bidder submit confirmation of the 5-year OEM warranty for the proposed servers as per 5.7?			
9.	Did the bidder submit a product lifecycle showing a lifespan of at least 10 years for the proposed servers as per 5.8?			
10.	Did the bidder submit OEM's delivery lead times confirmation as per 10.2?			
Overall Stage 2 Outcomes:		<b><u>Assessment Comments:</u></b>		
		<b>Bid qualifies for further consideration: (YES/NO):</b>		

## 18.3 Stage 3: Technical Evaluation

**Technical Bid Evaluation**

**Does the bidder comply with all the technical requirements?.**

Specification				Bidder indicated?		Comments
				Yes	No	
<b>30 x Category 5 Servers. Each must have the following components:</b>						
1.	Cat 5.1	Processor Slots	2 x processor slots (minimum)			
2.	Cat 5.2	Processor Type and Quantity	2 x 16 cores 4.0 GHz (minimum) (Intel Xeon Scalable OR AMD EPYC or equivalent)			
3.	Cat 5.3	Virtualization	Virtualization ready			
4.	Cat 5.4	RAM	4 TB RAM (upgradeable to 8 TB at a minimum)			
5.	Cat 5.5	RAID	Software / Hardware RAID (at least Raid 5 Hardware Raid)			
6.	Cat 5.6	Storage Drives	Solid State Devices (SSD)			
7.	Cat 5.7	Storage Drive Speed	400 MB/s(minimum)			
8.	Cat 5.8	Storage Drive Storage Capacity	Minimum 480 GB useable internal storage when configured as Raid 5 or higher			
9.	Cat 5.9	Ethernet Ports	14 x 10Gb Ethernet ports			
10.	Cat 5.10	Power Supply	Hot swap Redundant power supplies, with standard South African power cables, 1 – 2m in length			
11.	Cat 5.11	Cooling	Redundant cooling fans			
12.	Cat 5.12	Architecture	True 64 Bit architecture			
13.	Cat 5.13	Operating	VMWare 7 & Microsoft Windows Server 2022 certified (or higher)			
14.	Cat 5.14	Form Factor	Rack mountable (2U/4U/8U)			
15.	Cat 5.15	Quality Standards	Fully comply with SANS IEC 60950			

<b>Technical Bid Evaluation</b>						
<b>Does the bidder comply with all the technical requirements?.</b>						
<b>Specification</b>				<b>Bidder indicated?</b>		<b>Comments</b>
				<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	
16.	Cat 5.16	Dual Port	Dual Port Fibre Card			
17.	Cat 5.17	Security Chipset	Discreet TPM 2.0 or higher			
18.	Cat 5.18	Warranty	Minimum 5 years OEM Warranty			
<b>24 x Category 3 Servers. Each must have the following components:</b>						
19.	Cat 3.1	Processor Slots	2 x processor slots (minimum)			
20.	Cat 3.2	Processor Type and Quantity	2 x 8cores 3.5 GHz (minimum) (Intel Xeon Scalable OR AMD EPYC or equivalent)			
21.	Cat 3.3	Virtualization	Virtualisation ready			
22.	Cat 3.4	RAM	2 TB RAM (upgradeable to 4 TB at a minimum)			
23.	Cat 3.5	RAID	Software / Hardware RAID (at least Raid 5 Hardware Raid)			
24.	Cat 3.6	Storage Drives	Solid State Devices (SSD)			
25.	Cat 3.7	Storage Drive Speed	400 MB/s(minimum)			
26.	Cat 3.8	Storage Drive Storage Capacity	Minimum 480GB useable internal storage when configured as Raid 5 or higher			
27.	Cat 3.9	Ethernet Ports	4 x 10Gb Ethernet ports			
28.	Cat 3.10	Power Supply	Hot swap Redundant power supplies, with standard South African power cables, 1 – 2m in length			
29.	Cat 3.11	Cooling	Redundant cooling fans			

<b>Technical Bid Evaluation</b>						
<b>Does the bidder comply with all the technical requirements?.</b>						
<b>Specification</b>				<b>Bidder indicated?</b>		<b>Comments</b>
				<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	
30.	Cat 3.12	Architecture	True 64 Bit architecture			
31.	Cat 3.13	Operating	Microsoft Windows Server 2022 certified (minimum)			
32.	Cat 3.14	Form Factor	Rack mountable (1U or 2U)			
33.	Cat 3.15	Quality Standards	Fully comply with SANS IEC 60950			
34.	Cat 3.16	Dual Port	Dual Port Fibre Card			
35.	Cat 3.17	Security Chipset	Discreet TPM 2.0 or higher			
36.	Cat 3.18	Warranty	Minimum 5 years OEM Warranty			
<b>16 x Category 2 Servers. Each must have the following components:</b>						
37.	Cat 2.1	Processor Slots	2 x processor slots (minimum)			
38.	Cat 2.2	Processor Type and Quantity	2 x Quad core 3 GHz (minimum) (Hyper- threaded) (Intel Xeon Scalable or equivalent)			
39.	Cat 2.3	Virtualization	Virtualisation ready			
40.	Cat 2.4	RAM	512 GB RAM (upgradeable to minimum 1TB at a minimum)			
41.	Cat 2.5	RAID	Software / Hardware RAID (at least Raid 5 Hardware Raid)			
42.	Cat 2.6	Storage Drives	Solid State Devices (SSD)			
43.	Cat 2.7	Storage Drive Speed	400 MB/s(minimum)			

**Technical Bid Evaluation**

**Does the bidder comply with all the technical requirements?.**

Specification				Bidder indicated?		Comments
				Yes	No	
44.	Cat 2.8	Storage Drive Storage Capacity	Minimum 480 GB useable internal storage when configured as Raid 5 or higher			
45.	Cat 2.9	Ethernet Ports	2 x 10Gb Ethernet ports			
46.	Cat 2.10	Power Supply	Hot swap Redundant power supplies, with standard South African power cables, 1 – 2m in length			
47.	Cat 2.11	Cooling	Redundant cooling fans			
48.	Cat 2.12	Architecture	True 64 Bit architecture			
49.	Cat 2.13	Operating	Microsoft Windows Server 2022 certified (minimum)			
50.	Cat 2.14	Form Factor	Rack mountable (1U or 2U)			
51.	Cat 2.15	Quality Standards	Fully comply with SANS IEC 60950			
52.	Cat 2.16	Dual Port	Dual Port Fibre Card			
53.	Cat 2.17	Security Chipset	Discreet TPM 2.0 or higher			
54.	Cat 2.18	Warranty	Minimum 5 years OEM Warranty			
<b>Other Requirements</b>						
55.	The warranty, support and maintenance enables the Electoral Commission to access on-site hardware support and firmware upgrades					
56.	The bidder has standardized on a single brand for all the categories					
57.	The servers are certified to run Microsoft Windows2022 or higher.					
58.	The servers are supplied with the rack mounting kits					

<b>Technical Bid Evaluation</b>				
<b>Does the bidder comply with all the technical requirements?.</b>				
<b>Specification</b>		<b>Bidder indicated?</b>		<b>Comments</b>
		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	
59.	The servers are fully assembled and ready for installation and configuration. All the components are supplied / certified by the OEM			
60.	The servers fit the Electoral Commission’s current racks that have the following dimensions:  d) Width: 600 mm e) Height: 2020 mm f) Depth: 1020 mm			
Overall Stage 3 Outcomes:		<b><u>Assessment Comments:</u></b>		
		<b>Bid qualifies for further consideration: (YES/NO):</b>		

## 18.4 Stage 4: Technical Scoring

Bid Evaluation Criteria					
Stage 4 – Technical Scoring					
To qualify to the next phase of adjudication a bidder must score a minimum of 75% (60/80)					
	Criteria	Available Score	Points Allocation	Actual Score	Comments
1	Relevant Reference	50	References: (10 points per reference) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Contact Details (Customer name, Contact Person, Email, Telephone, Physical address) = 2 point</li> <li>b) Product/Solution = 2 points</li> <li>c) Description of Services provided = 2 points.</li> <li>d) Value (Budget Estimate) = 1 point</li> <li>e) Value (Number of servers delivered) = 2 points</li> <li>f) Service provided within the last 5 years = 1 point</li> </ul> <b>Total for references = maximum 50 points per reference (5 references)</b>		
	Experience	15	Bidder has experience that is: (15 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Less than 4 years = 5 points</li> <li>b) Greater than 4 less than 6 = 10 points</li> <li>c) 6 years or more = 15 points</li> </ul>		
	Servers Lifespan	9	The servers proposed have a lifespan of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Category 5 Servers (3 points)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 10 years (2 points)</li> <li>ii. &gt; 10 years (1 point)</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) Category 3 Servers (3 points)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 10 years (2 points)</li> <li>ii. &gt; 10 years (1 point)</li> </ul> </li> <li>c) Category 2 Servers (3 points)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 10 years (2 point)</li> <li>ii. &gt; 10 years (1 point)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

**Bid Evaluation Criteria**

**Stage 4 – Technical Scoring**

To qualify to the next phase of adjudication a bidder must score a minimum of 75% (60/80)

	Criteria	Available Score	Points Allocation	Actual Score	Comments
	Datasheets	6	Bidder submitted data sheets for the products proposed. a) Category 5 Servers (3 points) b) Category 3 Servers (2 points) c) Category 2 Servers (1 points)		
Overall Stage 4 Outcomes:		<p><b><u>Assessment Comments:</u></b></p>			
		<p><b>Bid qualifies for further consideration: (YES/NO):</b></p>			

### **18.5 Stage 5: Adjudication of Bids**

Only bids that comply with the requirements and conditions of the bid and that meet the minimum criteria in the bid evaluation process as stipulated above will be considered for bid adjudication purposes.

Acceptable bids must be market related.

This bid is deemed to exceed R50 million including VAT.

Therefore, the 90/10 preference point system (PPPFA scoring) in terms of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2005 (PPPFA) and the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022 shall apply in the adjudication process of this auction where all acceptable bids received are above R50 million including VAT. Preference points will be allocated as follows:

<b>B-BBEE Status Level of Contributor</b>	<b>Number of Points (90/10)</b>
1	10
2	9
3	6
4	5
5	4
6	3
7	2
8	1
Non-compliant contributor	0

### **Bid Evaluation Committee**

	<b>Evaluation Committee Member's Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

