TERMS OF REFERENCE

TLS/SSL CERTIFICATE RENEWAL

1. INTRODUCTION

The Agricultural Research Council is a premier science institution that conducts research with partners, develops human capital, and fosters innovation to support and develop the agricultural sector.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

The service provider is expected to issue a TLS/SSL new certificate valid for 24 months.

3. DELIVARABLES

The ARC requires the following deliverables:

1. One (1) new TLS/SSL certificate for www.weatherrisk.arc.agric.za valid for 24 months.

4. COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

Suppliers responding to this request must meet the following requirements:

1. **Valid Accreditation:** Must be an accredited Certificate Authority (CA) or an authorized reseller of a trusted CA recognized globally.

2. **Experience:** Demonstrable experience in issuing and installing TLS/SSL certificates for at least 3 years, preferably for government or large institutional websites.

3. **Technical Capability:** Must provide certificates compatible with major browsers and operating systems, supporting modern encryption standards (e.g., TLS 1.2 or higher).

4. **Support and Maintenance:** Must provide technical support during installation, validation, and renewal processes, including troubleshooting any certificate-related issues.

5. **Documentation:** Must submit proof of previous TLS/SSL deployments, including references or work certificates.

6. **Compliance:** Certificates must comply with industry best practices, including extended validation (if applicable), SHA-2 hashing, and proper key length (2048-bit minimum RSA or equivalent ECC).

7. **Turnaround Time:** Must be able to issue the new certificate within 5 business days of award.

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