



SOUTH AFRICA

Electoral Commission

Auction # 0010559263

Backup Storage Appliances

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

1 Introduction

The Electoral Commission seeks to procure Backup Storage Appliances to replace the current Quantum DXI devices at National Office, Disaster Recovery (DR) site and Provincial Offices to deal with the increased backup requirements.

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 and stable ICT environment making full use of industry standards, best practices and disciplines based upon stable and reliable technologies.

Bidders must place a bid on the Votaquotes (e-Procurement) system and then provide supporting documentation by either uploading on the votaquotes (e procurement) system or submitting manually via the tender box before the closing date as specified in this document and the Votaquotes(e-procurement) website. Bidders must be registered to bid.

2 Background

The Electoral Commission has invested extensively in its Information and Communication Technology (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 and stable ICT environment making full use of industry standards, best practices and disciplines based upon stable and reliable technologies.

The Electoral Commission requires a potential bidder to supply, configure and install the backup storage appliances for head office, disaster recovery site and 9 provincial offices.

3 Technical Specifications

The technical specification for the required products is as per the bid specifications provided below. 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 exceeds

the minimum requirements. Any offers below the minimum specification requirement will be disqualified.

3.1 Backup Storage Appliances for Head Office and Disaster Recovery Site

MINIMUM TECHNICAL AND FUNCTIONAL SPECIFICATION		
	Requirements	Minimum Compliance Requirements
1	Quantity	2 (National Office and Disaster Recovery Site)
2	Storage Area Network	All Flash
3	Usable Capacity after RAID configurations	600TB
4	Expandable to	700TB
5	Disk Drives	NVMe, Self-Encrypted, RAID 6 or Similar
6	Access Protocols	NFS/SMB/OST/VTL/AccentFS/VDMS
7	Connectivity	Standard: 2x 10GBASE-T (RJ45) Combination of up to 3 optional NICs: Quad-port 10 GbE (Optical or Copper) Dual-port 100 GbE (Optical or Copper, max 2) Dual-port 32 Gb FC. To be supplied by the bidder
8	Data Protection and Security	At-rest and in-flight data encryption Replication Cloud Share tiering Secure Snapshots Role-based access control Audit logging Multi-factor authentication Secure email Path-to-Tape
9	Replication	Should be compatible with the current DXI for data migration and replication purpose
10	Administration, Monitoring and Reporting	GUI / CLI / Web Services / SNMP / SMTP / Advanced Reporting / Metrics Explorer / Cloud-Based Analytics
11	System Availability	Redundant power and cooling Hot-swappable NVMe drives
12	Installation and configuration	2
13	Support	Year complete care support for each device

3.2 Backup Storage Appliances for Provinces

MINIMUM TECHNICAL AND FUNCTIONAL SPECIFICATION		
	Requirements	Minimum Compliance Requirements
1	Quantity	9 (Provincial Offices)
2	Storage Area Network	All Flash
3	Usable Capacity after RAID configurations	15TB
4	Expandable to	25TB
5	Disk Drives	NVMe, Self-Encrypted, RAID 6 or Similar
6	Access Protocols	NFS/SMB/OST/VTL/AccentFS/VDMS
7	Connectivity	Standard: 2x 10GBASE-T (RJ45) Combination of up to 3 optional NICs: Quad-port 10 / 25 GbE (Optical or Copper) Dual-port 100 GbE (Optical or Copper, max 2) Dual-port 32 Gb FC. To be supplied by the bidder
8	Data Protection and Security	At-rest and in-flight data encryption Replication Cloud Share tiering Secure Snapshots Role-based access control Audit logging Multi-factor authentication Secure email Path-to-Tape
9	Replication	Should be compatible with the current DXI for data migration and replication purpose
10	Administration, Monitoring and Reporting	GUI / CLI / Web Services / SNMP / SMTP / Advanced Reporting / Metrics Explorer / Cloud-Based Analytics
11	System Availability	Redundant power and cooling Hot-swappable NVMe drives
12	Installation and configuration	2
13	Support	5 year complete care warranty

4 Planning Assumptions

The Electoral Commission has made the following assumptions:

4.1 The Electoral Commission will provide technical resources for all Electoral Commission

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 operating systems and environmental specific requirements and ensure that all connectivity are supplied.
- 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 below.
- 4.4 The bidder must comply with Electoral Commission change control management process.

5 General Bid Conditions

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

- 5.1 Bidders must place bids online on the Electoral Commission's eProcurement website by not later than the stipulated closing date and time on the auction.
- 5.2 Bidder must complete and submit Appendix A: Technical Bid Response Sheet to show compliance with the technical bid requirements.
- 5.3 The bidder must be authorized to sell the product supplied.
- 5.4 An OEM letter or 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
- 5.6 The bidder must provide at least five (5) contactable list of clients of past services of the same nature.
- 5.7 Bidders must include brochures and/or Data Sheets for the proposed devices.
- 5.8 The bidder must provide equipment's that have lifespan of 10 years from the date of delivery. Bidders are required to provide the lifespan of the proposed products in the form

of a letter from the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM).

5.9 Reference details in 5.6 must include the following: customer name, contact person, contact details (telephone, email, and physical address), service description and value of services offered, per contract. Appendix C provides a guideline and client details required. Some guideline definitions include:

5.9.1 Services rendered in the past project to include budget, personnel resources utilized for the duration of the contract.

5.9.2 Similar services are those services, which includes supply of similar services as per the technical requirements and of comparative value.

5.10 Bidders must have a least 5 years' experience in providing support and maintenance for storage devices. Bidder must submit a proof of 5 years' experience.

5.11 Bidder must include an example SLA or OEM Statement of Warranty showing how the support and maintenance will be executed over the period.

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 switches hardware is new, 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 and/or OEM 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

- 8.1 Total Bid price must be submitted online on the eProcurement (Votaquotes) portal.
- 8.2 Bidders must complete and submit a detailed price breakdown of the proposed solution in the pricing schedule Appendix B.
- 8.3 Bidders are advised to take into account that the following costs are factored into the price. The Electoral Commission will not entertain additional charges on these items.
 - 8.3.1 Hardware, installation and configuration costs
 - 8.3.2 Delivery costs to the Electoral Commission's offices.
 - 8.3.3 VAT inclusive
 - 8.3.4 Support and maintenance costs over 5 years.
 - 8.3.5 The Electoral Commission pays for support and maintenance annually in advance not for the whole entire contract period.
 - 8.3.6 Bid prices must be firm for a period of one hundred and eighty (180) days.
- 8.4 The Electoral Commission reserves the right to adjust costs by excluding some cost factors.
- 8.5 All costs associated with the solution must be captured on the pricing schedule - no additional costs will be entertained.
- 8.6 The solution must be a complete solution

9 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 must be able to complete delivery within 8 weeks of receiving the official purchase order.

10.2 The equipment will be delivered at the Electoral Commission's National Office in Centurion for national office device. The address is as follows: Election House, Riverside Office Park, 1303 Heuwel Avenue, Centurion, 0157 and the rest of the addresses for the other sites will be provided to the successful bidder.

11 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: 0010559263

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

12 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.

12.1 All questions and the official responses will be published on the public VotaQuotes website (www.votaquotes.elections.org.za) where the bid is advertised.

12.2 Bidders are responsible for regularly monitoring the platform for any updates, clarifications, or additional information published during the bidding period.

12.3 No telephonic, email, or other forms of communication regarding bid enquiries will be accepted or responded to.

12.4 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.

13 Briefing Session

13.1 Details of the briefing will be published on the e-Procurement website.

14 Summary of Submission Requirements

14.1 Submit bid and bid price online on the Votaquotes portal.

14.2 Detailed technical specifications in accordance with the technical requirements to demonstrate compliance, include technical documentation and brochures and/or

datasheets as part of the bid;

- 14.3 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). If the reseller agreement is from a distributor, then proof from the OEM authorizing the distributor needs to be included in the bid proposal.
- 14.4 The bidder shall provide at least five (5) list of clients of similar work including customer name, customer contact name, and contact details (email address and telephone contact) that was done in the last 5 years. Refer to Appendix C for guideline.
- 14.5 Bidders must submit a letter providing confirmation that the lifespan of the proposed products is not less than 10 years.
- 14.6 Bidders must complete and submit Appendix A: Technical bid response Sheet.
- 14.7 Bidders must complete and submit pricing schedule together with the bid proposal. Refer Appendix B for pricing schedule

15 Closing Date

The closing date and time of this bid is specified on the eProcurement (Votaquotes) website in accordance with 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 that supporting documentation must be delivered **before the closing date and time**.

16 Appendix A: Technical Bid Response

16.1 Technical Bid Response for National Office and DR Site

Appendix A1: Technical Bid Response Sheet – National Office and DR Site
Bidders must complete and submit the Technical Response Bid Sheet.
Failure to complete and submit shall lead to disqualification

Item Number	Description	Compliance Requirement	Bidder must indicate whichever is applicable		Bidder's response/technical specification for proposed solution – if providing more than minimum requirements
			Yes	No	
1	Quantity	1 (National Office) and 1 (Disaster Recovery Site)			
2	Storage Area Network	All Flash			
3	Usable Capacity after RAID configurations	600TB			
4	Expandable to	700TB			
5	Disk Drives	NVMe, Self-Encrypted, RAID 6 or Similar			
6	Access Protocols	NFS/SMB/OST/VTL/AccentFS/VDMS			
7	Connectivity	Standard: 2x 10GBASE-T (RJ45) Combination of up to 3 optional NICs: Quad-port 10 GbE (Optical or Copper) Dual-port 100 GbE (Optical or Copper, max 2) Dual-port 32 Gb FC. To be supplied by the bidder			
8	Data Protection and Security	At-rest and in-flight data encryption Replication Cloud Share tiering Secure Snapshots Role-based access control Audit logging Multi-			

Appendix A1: Technical Bid Response Sheet – National Office and DR Site
Bidders must complete and submit the Technical Response Bid Sheet.
Failure to complete and submit shall lead to disqualification

Item Number	Description	Compliance Requirement	Bidder must indicate whichever is applicable		Bidder's response/technical specification for proposed solution – if providing more than minimum requirements
			Yes	No	
		factor authentication Secure email Path-to-Tape			
9	Replication	a) Should be compatible with the current DXI for data migration and replication purpose			
10	Administration, Monitoring and Reporting	GUI / CLI / Web Services / SNMP / SMTP / Advanced Reporting / Metrics Explorer / Cloud-Based Analytics			
11	System Availability	Redundant power and cooling Hot-swappable NVMe drives			
12	Installation and configuration	1 (National Office) and 1 (Disaster Recovery Site)			
13	Support	5 year complete care support for each device			

Appendix A2: Technical Bid Response Sheet – Provinces
Bidders must complete and submit the Technical Response Bid Sheet.
Failure to complete and submit shall lead to disqualification

Item Number	Description	Compliance Requirement	Bidder must indicate whichever is applicable		Bidder's response/technical specification for proposed solution – if providing more than minimum requirements
			Yes	No	
1	Quantity	9 X Provincial Offices			
2	Storage Area Network	All Flash			
3	Usable Capacity after RAID configurations	15TB			
4	Expandable to	25TB			
5	Disk Drives	NVMe, Self-Encrypted, RAID 6 or Similar			
6	Access Protocols	NFS/SMB/OST/VTL/AccentFS/VD MS			
7	Connectivity	Standard: 2x 10GBASE-T (RJ45) Combination of up to 3 optional NICs: Quad-port 10 GbE (Optical or Copper) Dual-port 100 GbE (Optical or Copper, max 2) Dual-port 32 Gb FC. To be supplied by the bidder			
8	Data Protection and Security	At-rest and in-flight data encryption Replication Cloud Share tiering Secure Snapshots Role-based access control Audit logging Multi-factor authentication Secure email Path-to-Tape			
9	Replication	a) Should be compatible with the current DXI for data			

Appendix A2: Technical Bid Response Sheet – Provinces
Bidders must complete and submit the Technical Response Bid Sheet.
Failure to complete and submit shall lead to disqualification

Item Number	Description	Compliance Requirement	Bidder must indicate whichever is applicable		Bidder's response/technical specification for proposed solution – if providing more than minimum requirements
			Yes	No	
		migration and replication purpose			
10	Administration, Monitoring and Reporting	GUI / CLI / Web Services / SNMP / SMTP / Advanced Reporting / Metrics Explorer / Cloud-Based Analytics			
11	System Availability	Redundant power and cooling Hot-swappable NVMe drives			
12	Installation and configuration	9 X Provincial Offices			
13	Support	5 year complete care support for each device			

17 Appendix B: Pricing Schedule

Appendix B: Pricing Schedule

Company Name (Bidder):

The completion of all pricing schedules is compulsory. Failure to complete the below will result in the bid being disqualified Prices must include VAT

No.	Product Code (SKU)	Description	QTY	Unit Cost	Total Costs
1		National Office Backup Storage Appliance	1	R	R
2		Disaster Recovery Site Backup Storage Appliance	1	R	
3		Provincial Offices Backup Storage Appliances	9	R	R
4		Installation and Configurations	11	R	R
5		5-year complete care and support	11		
5		Delivery Costs to Electoral Commission's Offices	11	R	R
Total Bid Price (inclusive of VAT)					
(This is the bid price that must be captured on eProcurement)					R

Bid price (Grand Total of the items) inclusive of VAT must be submitted online on the eProcurement (Votaquotes) portal

18 Appendix C: Guideline Reference Table

Reference #1

Guideline Client List Table

EACH CLIENT LIST MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product(s)	
	Services offered	
Services Value	Contract value	
	Date of the service rendered	

Reference #2

Guideline Client List Table

EACH CLIENT LIST MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product(s)	
	Services offered	
Services Value	Contract value	
	Date of the service rendered	

Reference #3

Guideline Client List Table

EACH CLIENT LIST MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product(s)	
	Services offered	
Services Value	Contract value	
	Date of the service rendered	

Reference #4

Guideline Client List Table

EACH CLIENT LIST MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product(s)	
	Services offered	
Services Value	Contract value	
	Date of the service rendered	

Reference #5

Guideline Client List Table

EACH CLIENT LIST MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS

Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product(s)	
	Services offered	
Services Value	Contract value	
	Date of the service rendered	

19 Appendix D: Bid Evaluation

Bid Evaluation Process

19.1 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, attached as Bidder's Disclosure (SBD4), was extended to all entities which were invited to participate in the SCM 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:

- (b) a person within the bidding entity is an employee of the State, the Electoral Commission's Accounting Officer/accounting authority 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;
- (c) the conduct of a person constitutes a transgression of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004;
- (d) the conduct of a person constitutes a transgression of the Competition Act, 1998, the conduct must be reported to the Competition Commission; and
- (e) the conduct of a person must be dealt with in terms of the prescripts applicable to the

Electoral Commission.

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.

The Electoral Commission's Accounting Officer/accounting authority must inform National Treasury of any action taken against a person within 30 days of implementing the action.

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.

A bid related to a restricted bidder or tender defaulter shall be rejected.

The under-mentioned assessment criteria will be used to evaluate the elements relating to SBD4, CSD registration, tax compliance, restricted suppliers and tender defaulters:

Assessment Criteria	Bidder Requirement (YES/NO)	Comments
Bidder is registered on the National Treasury Central Supplier Database (CSD). *		
Bidder is tax compliant. **		
The bidder is not an employee of the state.		
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.		
Having certified to the SBD4, it is accepted that the bidder's conduct does not constitute a transgression of the Competition Act.		
The bidder is not a tender defaulter as per the register published on the National Treasury website.		

Assessment Criteria	Bidder Requirement (YES/NO)	Comments
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.

19.2 Stage 2: Key Qualifying Criteria

Stage 2 – Key Qualifying Criteria				
Company Name (Bidder):				
Failure to comply with any of the requirements below will result in the bid being disqualified				
No.	Description	Yes	No	Comments
1.	Bidder placed bid online?			
2.	Bidder completed and submitted Appendix A: Technical bid response as per 5.2?			
3.	Bidder completed and submitted Appendix B: Pricing schedule as per 8.2?			
4.	Bidder submitted 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?			
5.	Bidder has submitted 5 references of the same nature as per 5.6?			
6.	Bidder submitted a letter confirming that the proposed products have a lifespan of 10 years as per clause section 5.8?			
Overall Stage 2 Outcomes:	<u>Assessment Comments:</u>			
	Bid qualifies for further consideration: (YES/NO):			

19.3 Stage 3 Technical Bid Evaluation

Item Number	Description	Compliance Requirement	Bidder's indication		Comments
			Yes	No	
1	Quantity	1 (National Office) and 1 (Disaster Recovery Site)			
2	Storage Area Network	All Flash			
3	Usable Capacity after RAID configurations	600TB			
4	Expandable to	700TB			
5	Disk Drives	NVMe, Self-Encrypted, RAID 6 or Similar			
6	Access Protocols	NFS/SMB/OST/VTL/AccentFS/VDMS			
7	Connectivity	Standard: 2x 10GBASE-T (RJ45) Combination of up to 3 optional NICs: Quad-port 10 GbE (Optical or Copper) Dual-port 100 GbE (Optical or Copper, max 2) Dual-port 32 Gb FC. To be supplied by the bidder			
8	Data Protection and Security	At-rest and in-flight data encryption Replication Cloud Share tiering Secure Snapshots Role-based access control Audit logging Multi-factor authentication Secure email Path-to-Tape			
9	Replication	Should be compatible with the current DXI for data migration and replication purpose			

Item Number	Description	Compliance Requirement	Bidder's indication		Comments
			Yes	No	
10	Administration, Monitoring and Reporting	GUI / CLI / Web Services / SNMP / SMTP / Advanced Reporting / Metrics Explorer / Cloud-Based Analytics			
11	System Availability	Redundant power and cooling Hot-swappable NVMe drives			
12	Installation and configuration	1 (National Office) and 1 (Disaster Recovery Site)			
13	Support	5 year complete care support for each device			
		Provincial Offices Storage Appliances			
14	Quantity	9 Provincial Storage Appliances			
15	Storage Area Network	All Flash			
16	Usable Capacity after RAID configurations	15TB			
17	Expandable to	25TB			
18	Disk Drives	NVMe, Self-Encrypted, RAID 6 or Similar			
19	Access Protocols	NFS/SMB/OST/VTL/AccentFS/VDMS			
20	Connectivity	Standard: 2x 10GBASE-T (RJ45) Combination of up to 3 optional NICs: Quad-port 10 GbE (Optical or			

Item Number	Description	Compliance Requirement	Bidder's indication		Comments
			Yes	No	
		Copper) Dual-port 100 GbE (Optical or Copper, max 2) Dual-port 32 Gb FC. To be supplied by the bidder			
21	Data Protection and Security	At-rest and in-flight data encryption Replication Cloud Share tiering Secure Snapshots Role-based access control Audit logging Multi-factor authentication Secure email Path-to-Tape			
22	Replication	Should be compatible with the current DXI for data migration and replication purpose			
23	Administration, Monitoring and Reporting	GUI / CLI / Web Services / SNMP / SMTP / Advanced Reporting / Metrics Explorer / Cloud-Based Analytics			
24	System Availability	Redundant power and cooling Hot-swappable NVMe drives			
25	Installation and configuration	9 X Provincial Offices			
26	Support	5 year complete care support for each device			
Overall Stage 3 Outcomes		Assessments Comments:			
		Bid qualifies for further consideration: (YES / NO)			

19.4 Stage 4 – Technical Scoring

Stage 4 – Technical Scoring					
To qualify to the next phase of adjudication a bidder must score a minimum of 75% (42/56)					
	Product Description	Available Score	Points Allocation	Actual Score	Comments
1	Relevant references	30	<p>List Of Clients</p> <p>a) Contact Details (Customer name, Contact Person, Email Address, Telephone Number, Physical address) = 1 point</p> <p>b) Product/Solution = 2 point</p> <p>c) Description of Services provided = 1 point.</p> <p>d) Services provided in the last 5 years = 2 point</p> <p>Total for references = maximum 6 points per reference (minimum 5 references required).</p>		
	Experience	10	<p>Bidder has experience that is:</p> <p>a) Greater than 10 years = 10 points</p> <p>b) 5 to 10 years = 6 points</p>		
	Example SLA / Statement of Warranty	12	<p>Bidder has included an example SLA / OEM Statement of Warranty (4 points) which shows the following:</p> <p>c) Service Levels (e.g Priority 1, 2 and 3) (2 points)</p> <p>d) Response Times (2 points)</p> <p>e) Mean Time to Repair (MTTR) times (2 points)</p> <p>f) Replacement of Unrepairable Equipment (2 points)</p>		

Stage 4 – Technical Scoring

To qualify to the next phase of adjudication a bidder must score a minimum of 75% (42/56)

	Product Description	Available Score	Points Allocation	Actual Score	Comments
	Data Sheet	4	Bidder has included a data sheet for the proposed product (4 points)		
	TOTAL:	56			
Overall Stage 4 Outcomes		<u>Assessments Comments:</u>			
		<p align="center">Bid qualifies for further consideration: (YES / NO)</p>			

19.5 Stage 5 – PPPFA & Price scoring

Stage 5 - Bid Evaluation Results

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.

Only market related bids will be acceptable.

Adjudication of qualifying bids will be done in accordance with the 80/20 preference point system provided for in the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022.

The number of preference points will be allocated dependent on the B-BBEE status level of contributor as stated in the table below which is contained in the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022.

B-BBEE Status Level of Contributor	Number of Points
1	20
2	18
3	14
4	12
5	8
6	6
7	4
8	2
Non-compliant contributor	0

Bid Evaluation Committee

	Name	Signature
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		