

RFQ NUMBER:	RFQ/25/26/129	
OBJECTIVE OF BID:	To appoint a qualified Internet Service Provider (ISP) to deliver and support Managed Internet Connectivity Services to SAPO for an initial period of six (6) months, with an optional six (6)-month extension at SAPO's discretion based on performance, cost, and operational requirements.	
DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES:	To deliver and support Managed Internet Connectivity Services to SAPO for an initial period of six (6) months, with an optional six (6)-month extension at SAPO's discretion based on performance, cost, and operational requirements	
ISSUE DATE:	2025/11/13	
COMPULSORY SITE VISIT VENUE/DATE/TIME	Not Applicable	
CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS CLOSING DATE and TIME	2025/11/18 Bidders are encouraged to submit clarification questions in writing to South African Post Office Officials mentioned below not later than 2025/11/18 All questions and answers will be uploaded on national treasury website.	
RFQ CLOSING DATE AND TIME:	2025/11/24	Closing Time 11hrs
PROPOSAL TO BE HAND DELIVERED OR EMAILED	SAPO Supply Chain Management Cnr James Drive & Moreleta Street Silverton 0184	

	SAPORFQ@postoffice.co.za
RFQ VALIDITY PERIOD:	120 DAYS - from closing date
ENQUIRIES: PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST	Michael Mabena Tel:012 845 2676 Email address: Michael.Mabena@postoffice.co.za

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SBD1 – INVITATION TO BID

PART A
INVITATION TO BID

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED TO BID FOR REQUIREMENTS OF THE (NAME OF DEPARTMENT/ PUBLIC ENTITY)

BID NUM- BER:	RFQ/25/26/129	CLOSING DATE:	2025/11/24	CLOSING TIME:	11hrs
DESCRIP- TION	To deliver and support Managed Internet Connectivity Services to SAPO for an initial period of six (6) months, with an optional six (6)-month extension at SAPO's discretion based on performance, cost, and operational requirements				

BID RESPONSE DOCUMENTS MAY BE DEPOSITED IN THE BID BOX SITUATED AT (STREET ADDRESS)OR EMAILED

SAPO Supply Chain Management [tender box at gate]

Cnr James Drive and Moreleta Street

Silverton

0184

EMAILED TO:SAPORFQ@postoffice.co.za**BIDDING PROCEDURE ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO**

CONTACT PERSON	Michael Mabena	CONTACT PER- SON	Michael Mabena
TELEPHONE NUM- BER	012 845 2676	TELEPHONE NUM- BER	012 845 2676
FACSIMILE NUM- BER	N/A	FACSIMILE NUM- BER	N/A
E-MAIL ADDRESS	: Michael.Mabena@postoffice.co.za	E-MAIL ADDRESS	: Michael.Mabena@postoffice.co.za

TECHNICAL ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO:**SUPPLIER INFORMATION**

NAME OF BIDDER					
POSTAL ADDRESS					
STREET ADDRESS					
TELEPHONE NUM- BER	CODE		NUMBER		
CELLPHONE NUM- BER					
FACSIMILE NUM- BER	CODE		NUMBER		
E-MAIL ADDRESS					
VAT REGISTRA- TION NUMBER					
SUPPLIER COMPLI- ANCE STATUS	TAX COMPLI- ANCE SYS- TEM PIN:		OR	CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE No:	MAAA

ARE YOU THE AC-CREDITED REPRESENTATIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES OFFERED?	☐ Yes ☐ No [IF YES ENCLOSE PROOF]	ARE YOU A FOREIGN BASED SUPPLIER FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES OFFERED?	☐ Yes ☐ No [IF YES, ANSWER THE QUESTIONNAIRE BELOW]
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QUESTIONNAIRE TO BIDDING FOREIGN SUPPLIERS

IS THE ENTITY A RESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (RSA)? ☐ YES ☐ NO

DOES THE ENTITY HAVE A BRANCH IN THE RSA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

DOES THE ENTITY HAVE A PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT IN THE RSA?
☐ YES ☐ NO

DOES THE ENTITY HAVE ANY SOURCE OF INCOME IN THE RSA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IS THE ENTITY LIABLE IN THE RSA FOR ANY FORM OF TAXATION? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IF THE ANSWER IS "NO" TO ALL OF THE ABOVE, THEN IT IS NOT A REQUIREMENT TO REGISTER FOR A TAX COMPLIANCE STATUS SYSTEM PIN CODE FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN REVENUE SERVICE (SARS) AND IF NOT REGISTER AS PER 2.3 BELOW.

PART B TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR BIDDING

1. BID SUBMISSION:
1.1. BIDS MUST BE DELIVERED BY THE STIPULATED TIME TO THE CORRECT ADDRESS. LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR CONSIDERATION. 1.2. ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON THE OFFICIAL FORMS PROVIDED (NOT TO BE RE-TYPED) OR IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED IN THE BID DOCUMENT. 1.3. THIS BID IS SUBJECT TO THE PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK ACT, 2000 AND THE PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, THE GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT (GCC) AND, IF APPLICABLE, ANY OTHER SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT. 1.4. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WILL BE REQUIRED TO FILL IN AND SIGN A WRITTEN CONTRACT FORM (SBD7).
2. TAX COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS
2.1 BIDDERS MUST ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THEIR TAX OBLIGATIONS. 2.2 BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THEIR UNIQUE PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN) ISSUED BY SARS TO ENABLE THE ORGAN OF STATE TO VERIFY THE TAXPAYER'S PROFILE AND TAX STATUS. 2.3 APPLICATION FOR TAX COMPLIANCE STATUS (TCS) PIN MAY BE MADE VIA E-FILING

THROUGH THE SARS WEBSITE WWW.SARS.GOV.ZA.

2.4 BIDDERS MAY ALSO SUBMIT A PRINTED TCS CERTIFICATE TOGETHER WITH THE BID.

2.5 IN BIDS WHERE CONSORTIA / JOINT VENTURES / SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE INVOLVED; EACH PARTY MUST SUBMIT A SEPARATE TCS CERTIFICATE / PIN / CSD NUMBER.

2.6 WHERE NO TCS PIN IS AVAILABLE BUT THE BIDDER IS REGISTERED ON THE CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE (CSD), A CSD NUMBER MUST BE PROVIDED.

2.7 NO BIDS WILL BE CONSIDERED FROM PERSONS IN THE SERVICE OF THE STATE, COMPANIES WITH DIRECTORS WHO ARE PERSONS IN THE SERVICE OF THE STATE, OR CLOSE CORPORATIONS WITH MEMBERS PERSONS IN THE SERVICE OF THE STATE.”

NB: FAILURE TO PROVIDE / OR COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE PARTICULARS MAY RENDER THE BID INVALID.

SIGNATURE OF BIDDER: _____

CAPACITY UNDER WHICH THIS BID IS SIGNED: _____

(Proof of authority must be submitted e.g. company resolution)

DATE: _____

SBD4 - BIDDER'S DISCLOSURE

1. PURPOSE OF THE FORM

Any person (natural or juristic) may make an offer or offers in terms of this invitation to bid. In line with the principles of transparency, accountability, impartiality, and ethics as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and further expressed in various pieces of legislation, it is required for the bidder to make this declaration in respect of the details required hereunder.

Where a person/s are listed in the Register for Tender Defaulters and / or the List of Restricted Suppliers, that person will automatically be disqualified from the bid process.

2. BIDDER'S DECLARATION

- 2.1 Is the bidder or any of the directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners of the bidder employed by the state? **YES/NO**

If so, furnish particulars of the names, individual identity numbers, in table below.

Full Name	Identity Number	Name of State institution

3. Bidders' disclosure in respect of independent bidding

I, the undersigned, in submitting the accompanying bid, do hereby make the following statements that I certify to be true and complete in every respect:

- 3.1 I have read and understand the contents of this disclosure;
- 3.2 I understand that the accompanying bid will be disqualified if this disclosure is found not to be true and complete in every respect;
- 3.3 The bidder has arrived at the accompanying bid independently from, and without consultation, communication, agreement or arrangement with any competitor.
- 3.4 In addition, there have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements with any competitor regarding the quality, quantity, specifications, prices, including methods, factors or formulas used to calculate prices, market allocation, the intention or decision to submit or not to submit the bid, bidding with the intention not to win the bid and conditions or delivery particulars of the products or services to which this bid invitation relates.
- 3.5 The terms of the accompanying bid have not been, and will not be, disclosed by the bidder, directly or indirectly, to any competitor, prior to the date and time of the official bid opening or of the awarding of the contract.
- 3.6 There have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements made by the bidder with any official of the procuring institution in relation to this procurement process prior to and during the bidding process except to provide clarification on the bid submitted where so required by the institution; and the bidder was not involved in the drafting of the specifications or terms of reference for this bid.
- 3.7 I am aware that, in addition and without prejudice to any other remedy provided to combat any restrictive practices related to bids and contracts, bids that are suspicious will be reported to the Competition Commission for investigation and possible imposition of administrative penalties in terms of the Competition Act No 89 of 1998 and or may be reported to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) for criminal investigation and or may be restricted from conducting business with the state for a period not exceeding 10 years in terms of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act No 12 of 2004 or any other applicable legislation.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION FURNISHED ABOVE IS CORRECT AND ACCEPT THAT THE STATE MAY REJECT THE BID OR ACT AGAINST ME SHOULD THIS INFORMATION PROVE TO BE FALSE.

.....
Signature Date

.....
Position/ Designation Name of bidder

Directors

Bidders to submit the list of Directors on the company letterhead as follows:

First Name	Middle Name (where applicable)	Surname	Gender	Race

Shareholders

Bidders to submit the list of Shareholders on the company letterhead as follows:

First Name	Middle Name (where applicable)	Surname	Gender	Race

Share certificates must be submitted

A. SCOPE OF SUPPLY AND SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

1. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

To deliver and support Managed Internet Connectivity Services to SAPO for an initial period of six (6) months, with an optional six (6)-month extension at SAPO's discretion based on performance, cost, and operational requirements

2. POINT OF DELIVERY OF SERVICES

SAPO National

3. PRICE BASIS

- 3.1 Bidders shall take into account that the Post Office's total requirements may not be allocated to only one bidder.
- 3.2 The successful bidder shall commit to the programme of continuous improvement, which will result in cost-efficiencies during the currency of the relationship.

4. PAYMENT

The Contract Price is the amount, agreed to by both parties during contract negotiation process, which the Post Office shall pay to the Service Provider for the Services rendered in terms of the Agreement. The Contract Price for the Services provided by the Service Provider to the Post Office shall be inclusive of VAT and payable 30 days upon statement date.

5. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS

- 5.1 Bidders responding to this RFQ are deemed to do so, on the basis that they acknowledge and accept all the Terms and Conditions of this RFQ.
- 5.2 Proposals must be submitted through the Tender Box or emailed. It is the bidder's sole responsibility to ensure that the bid has been submitted and inserted in the tender box received by no later than the **2025/11/24 @. 11hrs**. Proposals received after the stipulated bid closing date and time will not be considered for bid evaluation purposes.
- 5.3 Any amendments to the proposal documents, whether erasures or by means of correction fluid (e.g. Tippex), must be initialled by the bidder.
- 5.4 All documents and correspondence must be in English, failure to comply, the bid proposal will not be evaluated.
- 5.5 Pricing schedule must be completed in South African Rands (ZAR). Failure to provide the bid in South African Rands will result in the bid being non-responsive.
- 5.6 Proposals must be compiled in the following manner:
 - 5.6.1 One (1) original proposal (marked 'original') must be submitted in an arch lever file(s).
 - 5.6.2 Loose-leaf (not bound) proposal must be supplied, in the arch lever file(s).
 - 5.6.3 **Bidders who are doing JV must submit consolidated BBBEE Certificate for scoring point.** If a consolidated BBBEE Certificate is not submitted together with the proposal at closing date of the bid, the bidder will not be disqualified but receive zero (0) points for Specific Goals/Preference points.
- 5.7 Hand delivered proposals must be delivered **sealed**. The following information shall appear on the outside of the sealed proposal:
 - 5.7.1 Name of bidder;
 - 5.7.2 Description of proposal;

- 5.7.3 RFQ number;
- 5.7.4 Closing date and time;
- 5.7.5 Name of person for whose attention the proposal is intended; and
- 5.7.6 The name and address of the Bidder must be written on the reverse side of the proposal / envelope.

6. CONSULTATION PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSAL

Bidders shall consult, **in writing**, with the undernoted Post Office officials should there appear to be any discrepancy, ambiguity or uncertainty pertaining to the meaning or effect of any description, dimension, quality, quantity or any other information contained in this bid. The Post Office undertakes to provide clarification in writing to all Bidders, provided that the request is received prior to the closing date and time for clarifications.

Officials	Location	Contact Details
Michael Mabena (Act Procurement Officer)	South African Post Office Limited Supply Chain Management Cnr. James Drive and Moreleta Street, Silverton, Pretoria.	<u>012 845 2676</u> : Michael.Mabena@postoffice.co.za

7. CLARIFICATIONS

- 7.1 Bidders are encouraged to submit clarification questions in writing to South African Post Office Officials mentioned above by the **2025/03/25**.
- 7.2 The SAPO will respond in writing to queries and distribute to all bidders
- 7.3 Oral communication or instruction by SAPO or its representative shall have no standing in this RFQ unless and until they have been confirmed in writing.
- 7.4 SAPO accepts no responsibility for the failure of any bidder not receiving notifications or correspondence relating to this RFQ.

8. VALIDITY PERIOD OF PROPOSAL

The period during which the Post Office shall have the right to accept a proposal without any right of withdrawal on the part of the bidder shall be Hundred and Twenty(**120**) days from the date on which proposals are due. After such period a bidder may withdraw his proposal if he has not been notified of its acceptance.

Bidders are to note that they may be requested to extend the validity period of their bid, at the same terms and conditions, if the internal evaluation process has not been finalised within the validity period. However, once the adjudication body has approved the process and award of the business to the successful bidder(s), the validity of the successful bidder(s)' bid will be deemed to remain valid until a final contract has been concluded.

Should a bidder fail to respond to a request for extension of the validity period before it expires, that bidder will be excluded from the tender process?

With regard to the validity period of the next highest scoring bidder(s), please refer to clause **10.3.11**

9. COST OF THE BID

Each Bidder shall bear all of its costs (of whatsoever nature) associated with the preparation or submission of its bid and of negotiating with the SAPO regarding a possible contract agreement and any other costs and expenses incurred by the Bidders in connection with or arising out of the competitive procurement process.

10. BIDDING CONDITIONS

- 10.1 The South African Post Office reserves the right to reject and /or disqualify any proposal:
 - 10.1.1 Received without all the data and information requested.
 - 10.1.2 Submitted after the stated submission deadline [closing date]
 - 10.1.3 Which does not conform to instructions and specifications detailed herein;
- 10.2 That fails to comply with the specification.
 - 10.2.1 That contains any information that is found to be incorrect or misleading in anyway.
 - 10.2.2 Such non-compliant bids shall be rejected without further evaluation, provided that SAPO believes, in its own discretion, that the non-compliance is minor then SAPO may continue with the evaluation, or seek clarification thereon or reject the bid.
- 10.3 The South African Post Office reserves the right:
 - 10.3.1 Not to award or cancel this RFQ at any time and shall not be bound to accept the highest scoring or any bid.
 - 10.3.2 To negotiate with one or more Preferred or Reserved Bidders identified in the evaluation process, regarding any terms and conditions, including price without offering the same opportunity to any other Bidder who has not been awarded the status of the Preferred or Reserved Bidder.
 - 10.3.3 To accept part of a bid rather than the whole bid.
 - 10.3.4 To split the award of the bid between two or more Bidders.
 - 10.3.5 To cancel and/or terminate the bid process at any stage, including after the Closing Date and/or after presentations have been made, and/or after bids have been evaluated and/or after the Preferred Bidders and Reserved Bidders have been notified of their status as such.
 - 10.3.6 To carry out site inspections, product evaluations or explanatory meetings in order to verify the nature and quality of the Services bidden for, whether before or after adjudication of the bid.
 - 10.3.7 Request audited financial statements or other documentation for the purposes of a due diligence exercise;
 - 10.3.8 to cancel the contract and/request that National Treasury place the Respondent on its Database of Restricted Suppliers for a period not exceeding 10 years, on the basis that a contract was awarded on the strength of incorrect information furnished by the Respondent or on any other basis recognised in law;
 - 10.3.9 To award the bid to a Bidder who is not the highest scoring Bidder, provided that an objective criteria was indicated in the evaluation criteria.
 - 10.3.10 To correct any mistakes at any stage of the bid that may have been in the bid documents or occurred at any stage of the bid process.
 - 10.3.11 To award the business to the next highest scoring bidder(price and specific goal), provided that he/she is still prepared to provide the required Goods/Services at the quoted price, should the preferred bidder fail to sign or commence with the contract within a reasonable

period after being requested to do so. Under such circumstances, the validity of the bids of the next ranked bidder(s) will be deemed to remain valid, irrespective of whether the next ranked bidder(s) were issued with a Letter of Regret. Bidders may therefore be requested to advise whether they would still be prepared to provide the required Goods/Services at their quoted price, even after they have been issued with a Letter of Regret.

- 10.4 No attempts may be made, whether directly or indirectly, to canvass any member of SAPO staff before the award of the contract. Any enquiries must be referred, in writing, to the specified person(s).

11. JOINT VENTURES, CONSORTIUMS, PARTNERSHIPS AND TRUSTS

- 11.1 A trust, consortium or joint venture, will qualify for points for their specific goal as a legal entity, provided that the entity submits their B-BBEE status level certificate.
- 11.2 A trust, consortium or joint venture will qualify for points for their specific goal as an unincorporated or incorporated entity, provided that the entity submits their consolidated B-BBEE scorecard as if they were a group structure and that such a consolidated B-BBEE scorecard is prepared for every separate bid. If a consolidated BBBEE Certificate is not submitted together with the proposal at closing date of the bid, the bidder will not be disqualified but receive zero (0) points for Specific Goals/Preference points
- 11.3 Bidders must submit concrete proof of the existence of joint ventures and/or consortium arrangements. SAPO will accept signed agreements as acceptable proof of the existence of a joint venture and/or consortium arrangement.
- 11.4 The joint venture and/or consortium agreements must clearly set out the roles and responsibilities of the Lead Partner and the joint venture and/or consortium party. The agreement must also clearly identify the Lead Partner, with the power of attorney to bind the other party/parties in respect of matters pertaining to the joint venture and/or consortium arrangement.

12. SAMPLES (If applicable)

SAPO shall not pay for samples provided and damaged / destroyed samples as a result of destruction testing.

13. CONDITIONS OF PURCHASE

The terms and conditions applicable to any order / contract that may result from this bid will be stated in the main contract between SAPO and appointed service provider.

B. CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

1 DEFINITION

Unless otherwise expressly stated, or the context otherwise requires, the words and expressions listed below shall, when used in this Confidentiality Agreement, bear the meanings ascribed to them:

- 1.1 "Bidder" shall mean any person who attends the briefing session and/or any entity which is represented at the briefing session whose details and signature are set out in the attendance register;
- 1.2 "Confidentiality Agreement" shall mean this confidentiality Agreement; and
- 1.3 "Post Office" shall mean the South African Post Office, a public company with limited liability duly incorporated in accordance with company laws of the Republic of South Africa with registration number 1991/005477/06.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Bidder has attended a briefing session which is hosted by the Post Office, at which the Post Office shall provide information to Bidders who wish to enter into discussions with the Post Office concerning a number of issues pertaining to the possible provision of services by the Bidder to the Post Office, which discussions may or may not result in the Post Office and the Bidder entering into an agreement, arrangements, discussions or alliances.
- 2.2 During the briefing session and in negotiating the business relations, the Post Office shall disclose confidential information relating to its business to the Bidder.
- 2.3 The Bidder agrees to be bound by the terms and to be subject to the conditions of this Confidentiality Agreement.

3 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Confidential Information in respect of this Confidentiality Agreement shall include, but not be limited to, all oral, written, printed, photographic and recorded information of all types that is:

- 3.1 Confidential or secret information relating to the commercial and financial activities of the Post Office, which would include legal, financial, contractual or commercial arrangements between the Post Office group of companies, customers and/or third parties;
- 3.2 Confidential information and details concerning current or prospective customers, suppliers, commercial associates and other parties with whom the Post Office enjoys a commercial relationship;
- 3.3 Proposed, impending or actual commercial transactions, arrangements, ventures, agreements or opportunities which are of a confidential or secret nature;
- 3.4 Trade secrets, operating procedures, quality control procedures, approximate operation personnel requirements, descriptions, trade names, trademarks, know how, techniques, technology, copyright, and all goodwill relating to the business and any other existing intellectual property rights or any intellectual property created as a result of the provision of services;
- 3.5 Confidential or privileged information concerning disputes, claims, litigation or similar actions in which any party is or may become involved; and
- 3.6 Any other information surrounding the nature of the discussions giving rise to this Confidentiality Agreement.

4 EXCLUDED INFORMATION

There will be no obligation of confidentiality or restriction on the use of information where:

- 4.1 The information is publicly available, or becomes publicly available otherwise than by action of the Bidder;
or
- 4.2 The information was already known to the Bidder (as evidenced by its written records) prior to its receipt under this or any previous confidentiality agreement between the parties or their affiliates; or
- 4.3 The information was received from another party not in breach of an obligation of confidentiality.

5 NON-DISCLOSURE

- 5.1 The Bidder acknowledges that the Confidential Information is a valuable and unique asset proprietary to the Post Office.
- 5.2 The Bidder agrees that it shall not disclose the Confidential Information to any third party for any reason or purpose whatsoever without the prior written consent of the Post Office.
- 5.3 The Bidder may disclose the Confidential Information only to its directors and other officers, employees and professional advisors agents and consultants only on a strictly need-to-know basis and on the terms and conditions provided for in this Confidentiality Agreement.
- 5.4 The Bidder undertakes not to use the Confidential Information for any purpose other than:
 - 5.4.1 That for which it is disclosed; and
 - 5.4.2 In accordance with the provisions of this Confidentiality Agreement.
- 5.5 The Bidder undertakes to ensure that their employees will observe and comply with their obligations in respect thereof, whether or not they remain employees of the Bidder.
- 5.6 The Bidder agrees that it shall only, where necessary, disclose the Confidential Information to its professional advisers, agents and consultants, provided that such professional advisers, agents and consultants sign a similar undertaking and that they are aware of the confidential nature of the information being made available to them.
- 5.7 The Bidder shall takes all steps necessary to procure that such professional advisers, agents and consultants agree to abide by the terms of this Confidentiality Agreement to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of the Confidential Information to third parties.

6 OWNERSHIP

- 6.1 All Confidential Information disclosed by the Post Office to the Bidder is acknowledged by the Bidder to be proprietary to the Post Office who shall retain all right, title and interest in and to that information.
- 6.2 The possession of the Confidential Information by the Bidder does not to confer any rights of whatever nature in such Confidential Information to the Bidder.
- 6.3 No provision in this Confidentiality Agreement shall be interpreted to confer any right of license under any trademark, patent or copyright, or any applications for such a trademark, patent or copyright which may be pending now or in the future to the Bidder.

7 STANDARD OF CARE

The Bidder agrees that it shall protect the Confidential Information disclosed pursuant to the provisions of this Confidentiality Agreement using the same standard of care that it applies to its own proprietary, secret or confidential information, but in any event not less than a reasonable standard of care, and that the Confidential Information shall be stored and handled in such a way as to prevent any unauthorized disclosure thereof.

8 RETURN OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

- 8.1 The Post Office may at any time request the return of the Confidential Information disclosed to the Bidder. Upon the return of the Confidential Information, the Bidder shall submit a written statement to the Post Office confirming that the Bidder has not retained in its possession or under its control, either directly or indirectly, any Confidential Information.
- 8.2 Alternatively to the return of the material contemplated in clause 8.1 above, the Bidder shall, at the request of the Post Office, destroy the Confidential Information and furnish the Post Office with a written statement to the effect that all Confidential Information in the possession or under the control of the Bidder has been destroyed.
- 8.3 The Bidder shall comply with the request in terms of this clause 8 within forty-eight hours of receipt of such a request.

9 BREACH

- 9.1 Any breach of any obligation or undertaking by the Bidder will constitute a material breach of this Confidentiality Agreement.
- 9.2 The Bidder shall be liable to pay the Post Office all costs incurred in the protection of its interests in terms of this Confidentiality Agreement on an attorney and own client scale.
- 9.3 The Bidder acknowledges that the Post Office shall be entitled to apply to court for an interdict or other appropriate relief against the Bidder, should the Post Office have any reasonable basis to believe that the Bidder is or may be in breach of this Confidentiality Agreement and thus endangering the proprietary interests of the Post Office.

10 DURATION

The obligations undertaken by the Bidder in terms of this Confidentiality Agreement shall endure notwithstanding the termination of this Confidentiality Agreement or notwithstanding that either party decides at any time, whether before or after the commencement of this Confidentiality Agreement, not to pursue the discussions to enter into a business relationship or that the relationship between the parties pursuant to those discussions is terminated for any reason whatsoever

11 GENERAL

- 11.1 This Confidentiality Agreement constitutes the sole record of the agreement between the parties with regard to the subject matter hereof. No party shall be bound by any express or implied term, representation, warranty, promise or the like not recorded herein.
- 11.2 No addition to, variation of, or agreed cancellation of this Confidentiality Agreement shall be of any force or effect unless in writing and signed by or on behalf of the parties.
- 11.3 No relaxation or indulgence which the Post Office may grant to the Bidder shall constitute a waiver of the rights of the Post Office and shall not preclude the Post Office from exercising any rights which may have arisen in the past or which might arise in future.
- 11.4 The Bidder agrees and confirm by their signature to the RFQ Documents that any present and/or previous discussions or correspondence shall, for purposes of this Confidentiality Agreement, be considered to be Confidential Information.
- 11.5 An approval or consent given by a party under this Confidentiality Agreement shall only be valid if in writing and shall not relieve the other party from responsibility for complying with the requirements of this Confidentiality Agreement nor shall it be construed as a waiver of any rights under this Confidentiality Agreement except as and to the extent otherwise expressly provided in such approval or consent, or elsewhere in this Confidentiality Agreement.

SIGNATURE

.....

NAME OF DELEGATED SIGNATORY

.....

(PRINT)

in his capacity of

DESIGNATION OF SIGNATORY

.....

(PRINT)

who warrants his authority to sign on behalf of

NAME OF BIDDER (COMPANY)

.....

DATE

.....

C. CERTIFICATE OF ACQUAINTANCE WITH BID DOCUMENTS

I/We _____ of _____ do hereby certify (Name of Company) that I/we acquainted myself/ourselves with the contents of all the documents listed in the Schedule of Bid Documents, as laid down by The South African Post Office for carrying out of the proposed works.

SIGNED AT _____ on this _____ day of _____ 20_____

SIGNATURE : _____

NAME OF DELEGATED SIGNATORY : _____
(PRINT) in his capacity of

DESIGNATION OF SIGNATORY : _____
(PRINT) who warrants his authority to sign on behalf of the bidding company

D. SPECIFICATION

1. Introduction

The South African Post Office (SAPO) requires a **secure, resilient, and high-performance Managed Internet Service** to support its national enterprise operations, online communication, and digital service platforms. This specification defines the requirements for the provision, management, and technical support of the Internet access service and all associated security, monitoring, and reporting components necessary to maintain SAPO's business continuity and cybersecurity posture.

2. Objective of Bid

The objective of this request is to appoint a qualified **Internet Service Provider (ISP)** to deliver and support **Managed Internet Connectivity Services** to SAPO for an initial period of **six (6) months**, with an **optional six (6)-month extension** at SAPO's discretion based on performance, cost, and operational requirements.

This is a **fully managed service** — not a bandwidth-only or best-effort Internet subscription.

The appointed service provider will be responsible for:

- Ensuring **24x7 service availability** (99.9% uptime or higher).
- Managing **connectivity, firewalls, DNS, VPN, SSL, and IP address administration**.
- Providing SAPO with **real-time performance and security visibility** through a secure dashboard.
- Delivering proactive support, outage notification, and root cause analysis (RCA) for all incidents.

3. Scope of Work

Managed Service Principle Statement

The Service Provider must deliver a **Comprehensive, Fully Managed Service** covering all elements described in this section. The intent is for SAPO to contract a **single, all-inclusive managed service** under a **fixed monthly cost for the service** listed below and as depicted in the pricing schedule. The managed service fee for the specific requirements should include:

- All required infrastructure (including hardware, network components, and supporting systems).
- All applicable software and licences.
- Configuration, implementation, monitoring, and ongoing management.
- Service governance, reporting, and SLA compliance.
- Continuous maintenance, upgrades, and security management.

The Service Provider shall assume **end-to-end responsibility** for the performance, availability, and compliance of the service, ensuring that the proposed solution inherently meets or exceeds all specifications, performance metrics, and uptime commitments set out in the following subsections.

No additional or unforeseen costs shall be borne by SAPO for any element reasonably required to deliver the contracted service to the agreed standards.

3.1. Secure Managed Internet Connectivity

The Service Provider must deliver a comprehensive, Fully Managed Service covering all elements described in this section. SAPO's intent is to contract a single, all-inclusive managed service under a fixed monthly fee covering all required infrastructure, software, licences, configuration, monitoring, and management.

Secure Connectivity Managed Services Deliverables:

- Minimum symmetrical bandwidth of 200 Mbps.
- **Redundancy, path diversity, or failover mechanisms** necessary to achieve the required availability.
- The supplier's proposed architecture must inherently meet the **availability, throughput, and performance** metrics set out in this specification.
- Enterprise-grade Internet gateway with monitored and managed routing.
- End-to-end QoS, latency, and packet-loss management.
- Public IP address assignment and BGP route propagation.
- **Managed Firewall Services:** Deploy and manage high-availability next-generation firewalls (NGFW) with IPS/IDS and WAF. Provide SAPO IT Security with reporting access.
- Real-time utilization monitoring with dashboard access for SAPO IT Security offering real-time and historical visibility of utilization, top talkers etc.

3.2. Anti-DDoS Protection Services

The Service Provider must implement and manage robust Anti-DDoS protection to detect, mitigate, and prevent distributed denial-of-service attacks in real time.

Anti-DDoS Managed Service Deliverables

- Deliver a Fully Managed Anti-DDoS solution providing continuous real-time monitoring, detection
- Mitigation of volumetric and application-layer attacks.
- The service must ensure $\geq 99.9\%$ availability, automatic threat response, and integration with the firewall and network gateways. SAPO IT Security must have dashboard visibility, real-time alerts, and monthly threat reports, with event logs retained for a minimum of 90 days.

3.3. Secure VPN Service

The Service Provider must deliver a Fully Managed, secure VPN solution enabling concurrent users with integrated Active Directory (AD) authentication and enforced 2-Factor Authentication (2FA).

Secure VPN Managed Services Deliverables:

- Support up to 250 concurrent VPN users with **SAPO Active Directory (AD)** integration and **2-Factor Authentication (2FA)**. Include full session and user visibility. VPN activity, alerts, and uptime. Logs retained for **minimum 90 days**

3.4. DNS & Domain Management

The Service Provider must host and fully manage SAPO's primary and secondary DNS zones, ensuring secure, resilient, and high-availability name resolution. The service must include the management of up to 50 MX and A record updates per change request, with appropriate controls, validation, and audit trails.

DNS & Domain Management Managed Services Deliverables

- Host and manage SAPO's primary and secondary DNS zones.
- Manage DNS 50 MX record and A-records per change request

3.5. SSL Certificate Management

The Service Provider must manage the full lifecycle of SAPO's SSL certificates, including the procurement, configuration, and timely renewal of Wildcard SSL Certificates and Multi-Domain OVSSL Certificates, ensuring uninterrupted security and compliance across all SAPO web services.

SSL Certificate Managed Services Deliverables

- Manage procurement, renewal of (1 x Wildcard SSL Certificate, 1x Multi domain OVSSL Certificate)

3.6. Training & On Boarding

The Service Provider must provide comprehensive training covering product functionality, portal navigation, SLA reporting, and escalation procedures. Train 6 X SAPO IT Operations resources on product offering, portal usage, SLA reporting, and escalation procedures on the related product stack. Conduct initial demonstration of dashboards and reports.

3.7. Exclusions

- Email security and anti-spam services.

4. Core Technical Competency Requirements

Bidders must demonstrate a Minimum of five (5) years' experience in terms of the following **Core Technical Competency Requirements**:

- Providing enterprise-grade managed Internet and security services.
- VPN, DNS, SSL, and firewall management.
- Ability to integrate with Active Directory and Multi-Factor Authentication platforms.
- Experience managing public IP address blocks and BGP route announcements.

5. Service Level Requirements

Metric	Requirement
Service Availability	≥ 99.9 % uptime (24×7×365)
Critical Incident	Response within 15 min; RCA within 24 hours
High Severity	Response within 1 hour
Medium Severity	Response within 4 hours
Low Severity	Response within 24 hours

Metric	Requirement
Reporting	Monthly SLA and performance report within 5 business days post month-end

Governance:

- All incidents tracked via SAPO's approved service desk.
- Monthly SLA review meetings are mandatory.

6. Project Implementation Timeline

- Service project implementation must commence immediately upon receipt of **Purchase Order**.
- **Migration and configuration** must be completed within **30 calendar days/1 month** from project commencement date, i.e. Purchase Order date.

7. IT Conditions to Bid

- Service Provider must comply with SAPO **Information Security, Network Change Control, and Access Governance** policies.
- Logs, configuration data, and performance records remain SAPO property.
- All data handled under this contract must comply with **POPIA** and SAPO data protection standards.
- The six (6)-month contract extension provided for in this bid document will be exercised solely at SAPO's discretion.

8. Due Diligence

SAPO reserves the right to conduct due diligence to verify information submitted with the bidder's bid proposal and may amongst other relate to the following:

- Requesting bidder presentations, demonstrations or solution walkthroughs.
- Conducting technical validation of redundancy and monitoring capabilities.
- Contacting client references to verify confirmations provided and/evidence of past customer uptime performance achievements.
- Failure to provide verifiable information or supporting docs upon request will result in disqualification of the bidder

9. Pricing Requirements

- Pricing must be firm, fixed, and all-inclusive of all components and licensing as per the scope of work.
- Prices must be quoted in **South African Rand (ZAR), including of VAT**.
- Pricing must include **all setup, management, monitoring, reporting, and NOC operations**.
- Pricing must be a **service-based proposal, not a link-based or circuit-based quotation**.
- The Service Provider is responsible for all redundancy, carrier selection, and failover design to meet uptime guarantees.

- No additional fees will be permitted /accepted for secondary or backup links.
- Pricing for the six (6) month contract extension term provided must remain valid and fixed.

E. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation of the bidders will be done as follows:

- **Phase 1:** Gatekeeping Criteria
- **Phase 2:** Bid Conditions
- **Phase 3:** Commercial (Price & Specific Goals)

1. Gatekeeping Criteria

The bidder is required to provide SAPO with the following in their bid proposal. **Failure to comply with the gate-keeping criteria will result in the disqualification of the bid.**

Bidders must submit complete pricing schedule **Annexure F**.

2. Bid Conditions

Should the bidder fail to submit at the time of closing of the bid, bidder/s will be requested to submit the outstanding bid condition/s document(s) within two (2) working days excluding statutory requirements that being tax compliancy, Seven (7) working days for tax compliance shall apply from the date the request was sent by SAPO. Failure to comply will result in the disqualification of their bid. Bidders must submit the following documents with their proposals.

2.1 Bidders Experience

The bidder must submit on their company letterhead a confirmation that they have a minimum of five (5) years' experience in terms of supply of Managed Internet Connectivity Services, as it pertains to the following Core Technical Competency Requirements:

- a) Providing enterprise-grade managed Internet and security services.
- b) VPN, DNS, SSL, and firewall management.
- c) Ability to integrate with Active Directory and Multi-Factor Authentication platforms.
- d) Experience managing public IP address blocks and BGP route announcements.

Bidders are required to use **Annexure BC** as a template for purposes of confirming the bidders experience in terms of the supply of Managed Internet Connectivity Services including the required Technical Competencies. In addition the bidder has to provide the details/names of at least two(2) client references/client company's including their contact details that will be used to verify the confirmation provided.

2.2 Project Migration & Configuration Lead Time

The bidder is required to submit a letter (on their company's letterhead) to confirm that the project migration and configuration lead time will not exceed 30 calendar days/1 month from Purchase Order date.

Bidders are required to use **Annexure PL** as a template for purposes of confirming that the project migration and configuration lead time will not exceed 30 calendar days/1 month from Purchase Order date.

2.3 Central Supplier Database

Bidders must be registered on the National Treasury Central Supplier Database (CSD). If the bidders are not registered the bidder can register online at the following website www.csd.gov.za to upload mandatory information as required.

2.4 SBD Forms

- ✓ Bidders must complete and submit SBD1 forms.
- ✓ Bidders must complete and submit SBD4 forms

2.5 Tax compliance requirements

SAPO will not do business with a supplier who is not tax compliant.

A CSD MAAA number provided by the bidder on the SBD1 form, will enable SAPO to verify a bidder's tax compliance status.

2.6 Restricted Suppliers

SAPO shall disqualify bidders that are on the National Treasury list of restricted suppliers.

2.7 Specific Goals and Commercial

2.7.1 Specific Goals

The specific goal that this project seeks is to appoint a service provider/s that meets the following criteria:

- At least $\geq 51\%$ Black owned
- At least $\geq 51\%$ of the company owners should be youth owned
- At least $\geq 51\%$ of the company owners should be women owned
- At least $\geq 1\%$ of the company owners should be owned by disabled person(s)

The Preferential Point System that will be used is **20/80** (20 Preferential Point and 80 Pricing)

Note: Tenderers who do not submit specific goal requirement will not be disqualified from the bid process, but they will score zero (0) points for the specific goal(s) envisioned with this project.

2.7.2 Commercial

Commercial: Price (80) and Specific Goals (20)

Specific Goal	Points	Required Documents to be submitted for evaluation
Bidding Company is $\geq 51\%$ Black owned or more.	10	BEE Certificate - SANAS accredited OR Signed Sworn Affidavit by a Commissioner of oaths (EMEs and QSEs). OR a CIPC/DTI BBBEE Certificate (EMEs and QSEs).
Bidding Company is $\geq 51\%$ Youth owned	5	BEE Certificate - SANAS accredited OR Signed Sworn Affidavit by a Commissioner of oaths (EMEs and QSEs). OR a CIPC/DTI BBBEE Certificate (EMEs and QSEs).
Bidding Company is $\geq 51\%$ women owned.	3	BEE Certificate - SANAS accredited OR Signed Sworn Affidavit by a Commissioner of oaths (EMEs and QSEs). OR a CIPC/DTI BBBEE Certificate (EMEs and QSEs).

Bidding Company is ≥1% owned by disabled person	2	BEE Certificate - SANAS accredited OR Signed Sworn Affidavit by a Commissioner of oaths (EMEs and QSEs).OR a CIPC/DTI BBBEE Certificate (EMEs and QSEs).
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F. ANNEXURE BC***BIDDER TO INSERT THEIR COMPANY LETTERHEAD*****DATE:** _____**THE BIDDERS' NAME:** _____

Herewith we, "the bidder" confirm that we have the required minimum five (5) years' experience in terms of the supply of Managed Internet Connectivity Services as it pertains to the following Core Technical Competency Requirements:

TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES REQUIREMENTS	INDICATE YES OR NO	NAME OF CLIENT REFERENCE/CLIENT COMPANY	CONTACT DETAILS OF CLIENT REFERENCE/CLIENT COMPANY (Contact number and email address)
Providing enterprise-grade managed Internet and security services.		<u>Client 1:</u> _____ _____ <u>Client 2:</u> _____ _____	<u>Client 1:</u> _____ _____ <u>Client 2:</u> _____ _____
VPN, DNS, SSL, and firewall management.		<u>Client 1:</u> _____ _____ <u>Client 2:</u> _____ _____	<u>Client 1:</u> _____ _____ <u>Client 2:</u> _____ _____
Ability to integrate with Active Directory and Multi-Factor Authentication platforms.		<u>Client 1:</u> _____ _____ <u>Client 2:</u> _____ _____	<u>Client 1:</u> _____ _____ <u>Client 2:</u> _____ _____
Experience managing public IP address blocks and BGP route announcements.		<u>Client 1:</u> _____ _____ <u>Client 2:</u> _____ _____	<u>Client 1:</u> _____ _____ <u>Client 2:</u> _____ _____

Experience managing public IP address blocks and BGP route announcements				

SAPO reserves the right to conduct due diligence by contacting the service provider’s client to confirm the above experience

Signature:

Name of signatory:

Title of signatory:

Contact Details:

Email address:

G. ANNEXURE PL

DATE: _____

THE BIDDERS' NAME: _____

Herewith we, "the bidder" confirm the following:

STATEMENT	INDICATE YES OR NO
The project migration and configuration lead time will not exceed 30 calendar days/1 month from Purchase Order date.	

Signature: _____

Name of signatory: _____

Title of signatory: _____

Contact Details: _____

Email address: _____

H. PRICING SCHEDULE

Pricing Requirements

- Pricing must be firm, fixed, and all-inclusive of all components and licensing as per the scope of work.
- Prices must be quoted in **South African Rand (ZAR), including of VAT.**
- Pricing must include **all setup, management, monitoring, reporting, and NOC operations.**
- Pricing must be a **service-based proposal, not a link-based or circuit-based quotation.**
- The Service Provider is responsible for all redundancy, carrier selection, and failover design to meet uptime guarantees.
- No additional fees will be permitted/ accepted for secondary or backup links.
- Pricing for the six (6) month contract extension term provided must remain valid and fixed

Pricing Schedule

The pricing schedule below must reflect a **single, consolidated monthly managed service fee per service as depicted in the table below**, covering all deliverables and components defined in this specification. The intent is to ensure complete cost transparency and eliminate any hidden or additional charges during the contract period.

Core Scope (As per Section 3 of the Specification)	Unit	Duration / Qty	Unit Price Incl VAT)	Total (Incl VAT)
Secure Managed Internet Connectivity (200 Mbps, ≥99.9% uptime & all related managed service components)	Per Month	6 Months	R _____	R _____
Anti DDOS Protection Service (≥99.9% uptime & all related managed services components)	Per Month	6 Months	R _____	R _____
Secure VPN Service (≥99.9% uptime & 2FA. AD integration & all related managed services components)	Per Month	6 Months	R _____	R _____

Core Scope (As per Section 3 of the Specification)	Unit	Duration / Qty	Unit Price Incl VAT)	Total (Incl VAT)
DNS & Domain Management Services (Up to 50 records & all related managed services components)	Per Month	6 Months	R _____	R _____
Training & On Boarding (On boarding services & Training of 6 SAPO resources across solution stack)	Once-Off	6 persons	R _____	R _____
Total (6-Month Base Term)				R _____
Total (6-Month Contract Extension Term)				R _____

Other Cost

Ad-Hoc Services Required	Unit	Qty	Unit Price (Incl VAT) 6-Month Base Term	Unit Price (Incl VAT) 6-Month Contract Extension Term
Multi Domain OVSSL Certificate	Per Certificate	As & When required	R _____	R _____
Wildcard SSL Certificate	Per Certificate	As & When required	R _____	R _____

I. RETURNABLE DOCUMENT(S)

Returnable Documents means all the documents, and Annexures, as listed in the tables below. There are three types of returnable documents as indicated below and Respondents are urged to ensure that these documents are returned with their bids. The section contains bookmarks for ease of reference.

Administrative Documents

Respondents are required to submit with their bid submissions the following Administrative Documents, and also confirm submission of these documents by so indicating [Yes or No] in the tables below:

Administrative Returnable Documents	Submitted [Yes or No]
Completed SBD 1	
Completed SBD 4	
Completed Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure	
Completed Certificate of Acquaintance with bid Requirements	
Latest CSD Report / MAAA number	

Evaluation Documents:

Gatekeeping Documents

The bidder is required to comply with the gatekeeping criteria to be eligible for further evaluation.

Failure to comply with the gate-keeping criteria will result in the disqualification of the bid.

Gatekeeping Returnable Documents	Submitted [Yes or No]
Pricing Schedule	

Bid Condition Documents

Should the bidder fail to submit at the time of closing of the bid, bidder/s will be requested to submit the outstanding bid condition/s document(s) within two (2) working days excluding statutory requirements that being tax compliance.

Seven (7) working days for tax compliance shall apply from the date the request was sent by SAPO. Failure to comply will result in the disqualification of their bid.

Bid Conditions Returnable Documents	Submitted [Yes or No]
Completed and signed Annexure BC	
Completed and signed Annexure PL	

Points for Specific Goals

Tenderers who do not submit specific goal requirement will not be disqualified from the bid process, but they will score zero (0) points out of 20 for the specific goal.

Required Documents to be submitted for evaluation	Submitted [Yes or No]
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Valid BBBEE Certificate - SANAS accredited OR Signed Sworn Affidavit by a Commissioner of oaths (EMEs and QSEs) OR a CIPC/DTI BBBEE Certificate (EMEs and QSEs).	
Joint Venture (i.e. incorporate/unincorporated), a consolidated BEE certificate must be submitted to earn the relevant point(s).	