

HEALTH INSURANCE SERVICES SOLICITATION
RFQ No. S-PA100-06-R-0001

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

QUESTION #1. Clause C.1.1.24.1. - Servicios Medicos Migone S.A. started its services on June/1/2006. With regard to the previous experience required, would this be a reason to reject the proposal??

ANSWER: Offerors shall meet the minimum solicitation requirement (i.e. 2 years in business, etc.) for its offer to be considered per L.4.3.2.1..

QUESTION #2. Financial Statement – An Income (profit-loss) Statement showing the profits for six months would be sufficient to sustain the proposal?

ANSWER: Offerors shall meet the minimum solicitation requirement of two years for its offer to be considered per L.9.

QUESTION #3. Taking into account the Servicios Medicos Migone S.A.'s prior experience, would the list of contractors and subcontractors for said period suffice.

ANSWER: See responses above.

QUESTION #4. Reference: SECTION B - PART I PRICE - HEALTH INSURANCE - We refer to pages 3 and 4 of subject Section. Specifically in regard to the Total Price for the First, Second, Third and Fourth Option Years. We understand that these TOTAL PRICES should be those related to each specific Option Year. Therefore, they should not be related to the BASE YEAR, which corresponds only to the BASE YEAR OF THE CONTRACT. If this is the case, please clarify and confirm.

ANSWER: Yes, TOTAL PRICES in pages 3 and 4 should be those specific for each option year (e.g. First, Second, Third and Fourth option years).

QUESTION #5. Regarding Par. B.4.2.1 Employee Pool - Would you please give more details regarding this topic. We don't see very clear how we should provide prices regarding this specific system.

ANSWER: This clause only applies **IF** the offeror includes embassy employees in a pool with other employees. Please also refer to clause L.4.3.4.

QUESTION #6. It is established that item "3. B Section. Deduction Amounts" should be filled and included in B.3 and B.7. - **CONSULTATION:** What is item B.7 about, since it does not appear in the detail of the Terms of Reference.

ANSWER: The reference to B.7 in the cover letter is a typing mistake and should not be considered.

QUESTION #7. Section B, Part I, item B.4.2.1. Employees Transportation. - **CONSULTATION:** Determine type and scope of required service.

ANSWER: Please note that clause B.4.2.1 refers to Employee Pool. Please check answer #5 above.

QUESTION #8. Section C, Part I, item C.1.1.1.3.

CONSULTATION: Specify which would be the procedures provided at the IPS (Social Security Institute), which the Contractor should provide.

ANSWER: None. This clause requires that contractor shall provide “any and all medical specialties, treatment, medical procedures, studies and tests provided in Paraguay at any time, ***INCLUDING those rendered at the IPS***, during the effective period of the contract”

QUESTION #9. Section C, Part I, 1.1.5.1. - **CONSULTATION:** Explain when will these items/products or material not be covered by the contract, considering that the osteosynthesis and prosthesis material is not part of the foreseen exclusions on item C.1.1.25.

ANSWER: This clause only refers that in case, for any reason and under any circumstance, an item, material or product is not covered, the charge to the beneficiary may not exceed the regular market price for that item.

QUESTION #10. Section C, Part I, item C.1.1.6. Obstetric Care - **CONSULTATION:** Regarding the length of the treatment which should be determined by the employees’ personal physician: Specify which treatment is it about. The treatment of obstetric care or the treatment of the short series of antiretroviral drugs?

ANSWER: Coverage under this clause is 100% and the employee’s physician to determine the length of any treatment that may be required.

QUESTION #11. Section C, Part I, item C.1.1.8. Family Planning. - **CONSULTATION:** Since family planning has been excluded from the covering, we understand that fertility and assisted fertilization treatments would also be excluded from the covering.

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION #12. Section C, Part I, item 1.1.10. Expenses incurred abroad. - **CONSULTATION:** If the expenses incurred abroad are excluded, we understand they will not become part of the traveler’s assistance covering regarding cases of emergencies and urgencies.

ANSWER: YES

QUESTION #13. Section C, Part I, item 1.1.18. Psychiatric Treatment. - **CONSULTATION:** What is the meaning of “special fare”?

ANSWER: Special fee means that treatment coverage is based on a special fee established by contractor and paid by the patient.

QUESTION #14. Section C, regarding to the covering of the depending individuals (C.1.5.1. and C.3.0.) - **CONSULTATION:** Determine up to what age should the employee’s financially depending single sons receive the covering.

ANSWER: Dependent Coverage shall be provided as stated in C1.5.1. “...*An eligible child will be covered until the end of the calendar year in which the child turns age 21. There is no age limit for an eligible child who is physically or mentally handicapped so as to be unable to live independently.*”

QUESTION #15. Section I, Contract Clauses.

CONSULTATION: What is the scope of the obligations established in this section, regarding the Paraguayan bidding companies, subject to the prevailing rules in the Republic of Paraguay, since said clauses appear as applicable for Contractors subject to the laws of the U.S.A.?

ANSWER: All contract clauses in Section I are applicable to the companies providing an offer under this solicitation.

QUESTION #16. Section I, Contract Clauses, item 52.216-19. ORDERS LIMITATIONS.

CONSULTATION: Determine the scope and application regarding the service to be engaged.

ANSWER: This clause refers to the ordering of services. This contract is an indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contract because the number of employees may/will change during the effective period of the contract. When they do, a delivery order will be issued in accordance with H.3.

QUESTION #17. Section I, Contract Clauses, item 52.217-8. OPTION TO EXTEND SERVICES.

CONSULTATION: Determine the scope and application regarding the service to be engaged.

ANSWER: Contract Clause 52.217-8 provides the USG the option to extend services for up to 6 (six) months upon expiration of any optional year.

QUESTION #18. Section I, Contract Clauses, item 52.222-39. NOTIFICATION OF EMPLOYEES RIGHTS DSE CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF LABOR UNION CONTRIBUTIONS OR REWARDS. -

CONSULTATION: What is the scope of the mentioned obligation regarding the Paraguayan bidding companies, subject to the prevailing rules in the Republic of Paraguay?

ANSWER: Contract Clause 52.222-39 does not apply to this contract as long as the conditions in paragraph (e)(5) are met.

QUESTION #19. Section I, Contract Clauses, item 52.237-7. INDEMNIZATION AND MEDICAL RESPONSIBILITY INSURANCE. **CONSULTATION:** Considering there is no legal provision in Paraguay that forces the engagement of an insurance according to the terms and scope mentioned in this clause, what amount and which covering are estimated should the policy cover?

ANSWER: If no legal provision is required and if no such coverage is available in Paraguay, Offerors must then look out of country to get the coverage and provide a detailed level of coverage, per specialty, they will provide under the contract. *This only applies if the offeror will actually be performing the medical services directly. If the offeror is just an insurance provider or broker then 52.237-7 does not apply.*

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QUESTION #20. Section K.2 – 52.203-11. Certification and Statement regarding gratuities to influence on certain Federal transactions (September, 2005). - **CONSULTATION:** Is the fact of signing the offer enough to fulfil as required by this item or do we have to present a certificate and/or statement? In this case, which is the text it should contain?

ANSWER: The offeror, by signing its offer, certifies compliance with this clause. No further action is then required.

QUESTION #21. Section K.3 – 52.204-3. Identification of tax contributor (October, 1998).

CONSULTATION: To fulfil with the TIN, is it enough to present the RUC (Contributor's Unique Register) and/or the I.P.S. (Social Security Institute) Employer's Number. We understand there is no obligation to present the TIN for being a foreign company without neither incomes nor offices in the U.S.A.

ANSWER: Right, the TIN portion of this clause does not apply to foreign entities who do not conduct business in the US. Anyway, make sure the third and fourth paragraphs of item (d) are checked. Please provide all other information as appropriate.

QUESTION #22. Section K.4 – 52.204-6. Contractor's Identification Number – Number of the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) (October, 2003). - **CONSULTATION:** Should the Paraguayan bidder, in this case, have a DUNS number? If the answer is yes, which is the office where said number should be requested?

ANSWER: No local Dun and Bradstreet office is available in Asuncion. The US Government will provide DUNS number if firm is unable to.

QUESTION #23. Section K.5 – 52.204-8. Annual Statements and Certifications (January, 2006).
CONSULTATION: Should the bidder perform the annual statements and certifications details in this item, and in this case, which is the procedure to do so?

ANSWER: If Clause 52.204-8 does not apply to the offeror, then offeror shall check paragraph (b)(2)(ii).

QUESTION #24. Section K.9 – 652.225-70. Boycott of the Arab League against Israel (August, 1999).

CONSULTATION: Is the fact of signing the offer enough to fulfil as required by this item or do we have to present a certificate and/or statement? In this case, which is the text it should contain?

ANSWER: The offeror, by submitting its offer, certifies compliance with this clause. No further action is then required.

QUESTION #25. Section K.10 – Defense Base Act Insurance – Contractor’s Covered Employees according to L.10 642.228-64. Rates regarding Defense Base Act Insurance – Limitation.

CONSULTATION: How is this Defense Base Act applicable to this contract?

ANSWER: Sections K.10 and L.10 are self explanatory requiring the provision of covered contractor’s employees and DBA insurance cost calculations. If Local compensation plan is mandated then DBA is not applicable and offeror should fill in K.10 accordingly.

QUESTION #26. K.6 52.209-5 REFERRING TO MATTERS OF RESPONSIBILITY.

Corresponds certificates of the General Direction of Public Registrations of the Judicial Power of the Government of the Paraguay.?

ANSWER: Offerors shall carefully read and follow the instructions as provided in this clause.

QUESTION #27. L. 9 REFERRING TO FINANCIAL STATES - The certification by a third company corresponds to the "Constancy" of presentation of Financial States carried out in r the Treasury Department of the Government of the Paraguay.?

ANSWER: This clause refers to “certification” not to a mere “constancy” of presentation.

QUESTION #28. GARANTIA OF MAINTENANCE OF OFFERING - Will be Necessary an offering maintenance Guarantee

ANSWER: If not called in the solicitation then it is not required

QUESTION #29. NUMBER TIN - The Contributor Identification number (TIN) will not be required because Paraguayan business Medicine is not a commercial business of the United States.

ANSWER: Please refer to the answer to question #21 above

QUESTION #30. You COPY OF LEGAL DOCUMENTATIONS - The copies of the documentations as Statutes, certificates, licenses, balances certificates by the classes of the Government of the Paraguay will be presented in their original language (español).?

ANSWER: Offers submitted in response to this solicitation shall be in the English language. Supplemental documentation as Status, certificates, licenses, balance certificates may be in Spanish.

QUESTION #31. I NUMBER OF DUNS - This it should be removed before presenting the tender or once be known that business was judged?

ANSWER: Please refer to the answer to question #22 above

QUESTION #32.. AUTENTICACION OF DOCUMENTS? - All the documents should be authenticated by notary I publish, I refer at 4 o'clock you copy that they request not by the legal documentation of the business if not the additional manuscripts (technical specifications, medical guide and others)?

ANSWER: Please check the solicitation for the duly notarized documents required.

QUESTION #33. It NUMBERED OF DOCUMENTS: the documentation should go enumerated?

ANSWER: If not called in the solicitation then it is not required but offerors may want to number their offer and documentation if they wish.

QUESTION #34.SERVICES OF THE INSURANCE I MEDICATE TO - That refers that the contractor should be assured that the atencion medicates under the present contractor (sic) exclude not the atencion? patient with HIV/AIDS to be not that the exclusion? governess been authorized by HR/IE/CMD As we know if is excluded of this organizaci? not?

ANSWER: Please refer to Clause C.1. that reads: *"The Contractor shall insure that health care under this Contractor does not exclude HIV/AIDS care, unless exclusion has been authorized by HR/OE/CMD".* Please also refer to clause C.1.1.11.

QUESTION #35. CASES SPECIALIZED - Cover of the 100% for the processing in central medicos specialized for cases of burns or contagious illnesses that percentage of burns in the body we speak? The contagious illnesses of which specifically we are speaking?

ANSWER: Coverage as called in this clause is 100%.

QUESTION #36. H4 (a)(1) **CONSULTATION:** In the point (a) (1) it establishes a balance surplus in the ceiling of annual reimbursement by person, which is the annual amount that must be reimbursed (top?). As far as the procedure of the reimbursement we understand that the limit of such is the tariffs that the company has agreed with the lenders of the different medical specialties

ANSWER: This applies if the offeror/contractor is an Insurance Company, or if the offeror/contractor has established an annual per person reimbursement ceiling.

NOTHING FOLLOWS