



[19/08/2026]

[CT2274/2026 - Services - Tender for the Implementation of a Fully Compliant European Digital Identity Wallet (EUDIW), Supporting Trust Ecosystem and use cases for the Malta Digital Innovation Authority (MDIA)]

Clarification Note # [09]

To all prospective bidders

Reference is made to the above-captioned tender for which the deadline for submission of offers is **[24/09/2026]** at **[09:30am]**.

Please find a set of clarifications which are construed to form an integral part of the tender document.

Question No. [01]: *Contract notice - page 3, Section 5.1.12 "Terms of procurement"*

The contract notice (page 3, Section 5.1.12 "Terms of procurement") states: "Tenderers may submit more than one tender." Is the assumption right, that a Prime contractor can submit more than one tender as a Prime contractor?

Answer No. [01]: Kindly refer to the General Rules Governing Tenders v4.10 with particular emphasis on Article 3 of the said document.

Question No. [02]: *Tender Document - CT2274/2026 - Quality Assurance Schemes and Environmental Management Standards*

"The economic operator, as well as any subcontractors involved in the processing of data or delivery of security-relevant components, must be certified against ISO/IEC 27001. Evidence of valid certification shall be provided as part of the bid submission."

Does this mean that (a) any economic operator who has a direct contract with the contracting authority must have an ISO 27001 certification or (b) only if it is directly involved in the processing of data or delivery of security relevant components?

Answer No. [02]: Section 1, Article 5, Section B, (d) states that “The economic operator, as well as any subcontractors involved in the processing of data or delivery of security-relevant components, must be certified against ISO/IEC 27001.” The tender document does not identify which components are considered security relevant. It is the responsibility of bidders to identify any subcontractors involved in the processing of data or delivery of security-relevant components within their proposed solution and to ensure compliance with the ISO/IEC 27001 requirement.

Question No. [03]: *Quality Assurance Schemes and Environmental Management Standards*
Will the contracting authority accept our status as a certified QTSP under the eIDAS Regulation, together with our underlying ETSI certifications (in particular ETSI EN 319 401 and ETSI EN 319 411-1/-2), as equivalent to the required ISO/IEC 27001 certification?

Answer No. [03]: As per Section 1, Article 5 (B) (d) Quality Assurance Schemes and Environmental Management Standards, under 'Certificates by independent bodies about quality assurance standards' "The economic operator, as well as any subcontractors involved in the processing of data or delivery of security-relevant components, must be certified against ISO/IEC 27001. Evidence of valid certification shall be provided as part of the bid submission.

Further reference can be made to Article 5.6 of the General Rules Governing Tenders “Where in the tender document a standard, brand or label is quoted, it is to be understood that the Contracting Authority will accept equivalent standards, brands or labels. However, it will be the responsibility of the respective bidders, at tendering stage, to prove that the standards, brands or labels they quoted are equivalent to the standards, brands or labels requested by the Contracting Authority.”

Question No. [04]: *Technical Offer and Organisation & Methodology - Scoring methodology*
Please confirm the scoring methodology applicable to the BPQR technical evaluation criteria. Are all criteria evaluated on a qualitative scale ranging from 0% to 100% of the available marks, or are certain criteria assessed on a binary or discrete basis?

More specifically:

- *Are criteria stated as “Max of X marks” evaluated proportionally between 0% and 100%, depending on the quality of the response?*
- *Are criteria stated as “X marks or 0”, “100% or 1%”, or accompanied by specific evaluator marking options assessed exclusively according to those fixed options?*

- For mandatory elements stated as “1 mark or 0”, is the full mark awarded once the minimum requirement is satisfied, with no possibility of an intermediate score, while failure results in zero marks and disqualification?

- Where ePPS provides an option of 0 marks for an unmet add-on criterion, does this override the general tender rule stating that an unmet add-on criterion receives a minimum score of 1%?

Answer No. [04]: As per Section 1, Article 6 Criteria for Award, when evaluating technical offers, each evaluator awards for each criterion/sub-criterion a score out of a maximum of 100 in accordance with the technical criteria and any sub-criteria as outlined in the evaluation grid. If thresholds are set for each/any of the criteria/sub-criteria by setting a value out of 100, those offers that do not obtain the set threshold for the individual criterion/sub-criterion will be eliminated.

Question No. [05]: *Tender Document - CT2274/2026 - Section 1, Article 5 (B) (d) Quality Assurance Schemes*

Is the assumption right that an ISO 14298 certification can be considered equivalent to an ISO 27001 certification and accepted from MDIA?

Answer No. [05]: Section 1, Article 5, Section B, (d) states that “The economic operator, as well as any subcontractors involved in the processing of data or delivery of security-relevant components, must be certified against ISO/IEC 27001.” The tender document does not identify which components are considered security relevant. It is the responsibility of bidders to identify any subcontractors involved in the processing of data or delivery of security-relevant components within their proposed solution and to ensure compliance with the ISO/IEC 27001 requirement.

Question No. [06]: *Tender Document - CT2274/2026 - Economic and Financial Standing*

Is it sufficient to provide the publicly available financial statements, including the auditor’s report, to demonstrate Economic and Financial Standing, where the economic operator is a company within a group whose shares are publicly listed on a stock exchange?

Answer No. [06]: As per Section 1, Article 5 (B) (b), the requirements state that “The economic operator should provide its average yearly turnover for the number of years specified in the relevant procurement documents as follows: The bidder must provide a signed declaration by a warranted Auditor appointed by the economic operator, which confirms the minimum average yearly turnover during the past three (3) financial years shall be not less than €2,500,000”.

Question No. [07]: *Tender Document - CT2274/2026 - Economic and Financial Standing*
Is it correct to assume that Economic and Financial Standing may be demonstrated using the financial standing of the parent company, provided that the parent company guarantees the liabilities of the subsidiary through a guarantee signed by the parent company's CEO?

Answer No. [07]: Kindly refer to the applicable Public Procurement Regulations, including, but not limited to, Regulation 235 of the Public Procurement Regulations, S.L. 601.03 published under the Public Finance Management Act, Chapter 601 of the Laws of Malta.

Question No. [08]: *Clarification Request Regarding Submission of Technical Offer and BPQR Responses in ePPS*

Dear Contracting Authority,

Based on our review of the tender documentation and the ePPS submission sections, our understanding is as follows:

Under TECHNICAL → 1. BPQR Criteria, tenderers are required to upload their detailed responses to the BPQR evaluation criteria, with each criterion/question addressed in a separate document, as applicable.

Under TECHNICAL → 2. Technical Questionnaire, tenderers are required to upload the completed Technical Offer Form, namely the Organisation & Methodology Form, with Part 1 only completed.

The responses corresponding to Part 2 of the Organisation & Methodology Form, which relate to the BPQR evaluation criteria, are to be submitted under TECHNICAL → 1. BPQR Criteria rather than within the Organisation & Methodology Form uploaded under the Technical Questionnaire section.

Could the Contracting Authority kindly confirm whether the above interpretation is correct, or otherwise advise on the expected submission structure for these documents?

Thank you,

Answer No. [08]:

- Yes, in accordance to the requirements listed in the BPQR table.
- Yes, the TENDERER'S TECHNICAL OFFER (Note 3) is to be submitted and filled in accordingly.
- Yes, in accordance with the requirements listed in the BPQR table.
- Yes, the TENDERER'S TECHNICAL OFFER (Note 3) is to be filled in and submitted accordingly along with all the documentation required as listed in the BPQR table.

Question No. [09]: *Clarification Question on the document CT2274_2026 - Financial Bid Form - Digital Identity Wallet*

We understand the The Contracting Authority is bound to procure 80% of the awarded Contract Value. Can you confirm that the 80% refer to the milestones and that some milestones can be deselected, or does the 80% relate to items 13, 14 and 16 as specified in the financial bid form.

Answer No. [09]: Section 2, Article 26.1 states that “The Contracting Authority is bound to procure 80% of the awarded Contract Value”, hence this does not refer to specific Milestones. The General Conditions for Service Contracts V4.8 define Contract Value as “The total value of the contract to be paid by the Contracting Authority in terms of the agreed terms and conditions”.

All other tender documents, conditions and requirements, which are not superseded by this clarification remain in place.

Department of Contracts