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# Competition regulations

Competitive procedure with negotiation, cf. The Norwegian Act on Public procurement and Regulations on Public procurement part I and III

Case no. 2024/615

**AI Tools - Pathology**

### History

Version	Responsibility	Date	Comment/Changes
v1.0	Sykehusinnkjøp HF	26.11.2024	Document created

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## **1 General information about the competition**

### **1.1 About this document**

This document (*Competition Regulations*) is the Contracting Authority's competition regulations regarding the procurement of AI Tools for pathology.

This document describes the competition rules, the general context of the tender and how the competition will be executed.

### **1.2 Contracting Authority and Customer**

#### **1.2.1 About the Contracting Authority**

*Sykehusinnkjøp HF* was founded on 17 December 2015 and has strategic and operational responsibilities for procurement in specialist health services. The entity is owned by the four Regional Health Authorities: Helse Sør-Øst RHF, Helse Nord RHF, Helse Midt-Norge RHF and Helse Vest RHF, each of which owns equity shares of 25 percent.

The entity shall only provide services to its owners, their wholly owned businesses, non-profit entities with operating agreements with the regional health enterprises and businesses subject to or wholly owned by the Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care that contribute to providing specialist health services.

*Sykehusinnkjøp HF* carries out procurement and contract management on behalf of the health enterprises with underlying companies.

In this competition, *Sykehusinnkjøp HF* acts as the Contracting Authority, on behalf of Helse Vest IKT AS, which again acts on behalf of all the regional health authorities during the procurement process.

#### **1.2.2 About the Customer**

The customer in this Agreement is Helse Vest IKT AS, Helse Stavanger HF, Helse Fonna HF, Helse Bergen HF and Helse Førde HF (Hereinafter referred to as "Helse Vest").

The healthcare organizations in *Helse Sør-Øst RHF* by "*Teknologi og digitalisering*" has an option to enter into similar agreements as Helse Vest.

It is *Sykehusinnkjøp HF* that will manage the agreement commercially, while Helse Vest IKT AS will manage the solution for the healthcare institutions in Helse Vest.

## 2 Procurement structure and agreement period

### 2.1 Information about the project

Helse Vest is the first region in Norway to achieve complete digital diagnostics in pathology. The four pathology departments in the region all use the same scanners, the same laboratory information and management system (LIMS, Unilab) and image management system (IMS, Sectra). The Helse Vest region is currently in a unique (inter)national position to prove the real innovative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in pathology diagnostics.

Currently many different AI tools and image analyses software packages have been CE-IVD approved for use in clinical routine practice, but until now very few pathology departments have implemented these computer-aided diagnostic (CAD) tools in daily clinical practice.

The four pathology departments in Helse Vest aim to implement AI tools to enhance the efficiency, speed and objectivity of pathology diagnostics. More importantly, patients will benefit from superior tissue diagnostics that forms the basis for personalized treatment.

The short-term goal is to purchase and implement AI tools for:

- Automatic quantification of proliferation biomarker KI67 in breast cancer (Sub Contract 01)
- Automatic detection and grading of prostate cancer. (Sub Contract 02)

An important partner in this project will be Helse Vest IKT because the AI tools to be acquired have to be integrated with our IMS Sectra.

Helse Sør-Øst operates 8 pathology departments and is participating in the competition with the option to enter into similar agreements as Helse Vest.

### 2.2 Number of Suppliers

The Contracting Authority will enter into an agreement with one Supplier for each sub-contract. One Supplier can win both sub-contracts.

### 2.3 Agreement form and duration

The Contracting Authority will use Government Standard Agreements for IT procurements (SSA standard agreements).

- SSA-L (Agreement concerning Ongoing Purchases of Services via the Internet)

### 2.4 Options

The healthcare organizations in *Helse Sør-Øst RHF by "Teknologi og digitalisering"* has an option to enter into similar agreements as Helse Vest. It is specified that this option is non-binding for the customer.

### 3 General rules for the competition

#### 3.1 Procurement procedure

The procurement is regulated by the Norwegian Act on Public Procurement of 17 June 2016 no. 73 (“the Procurement Act”) and part I and III of the Regulation on Public Procurement of 12 August 2016 no. 974 (“the Procurement Regulation”).

The procurement process is conducted as a competitive procedure with negotiation, with the following two phases:

- 1) Pre-qualification
- 2) Tender process including negotiations and evaluation

In a competitive procedure with negotiation all interested suppliers can submit a request for participation in the competition. The Contracting Authority will conduct a pre-qualification, based on the qualification requirements and selection criteria. The rules regarding the pre-qualification are given in section 5. The pre-qualified Suppliers will then be invited to submit tenders. The rules regarding the tender process are given in section 6.

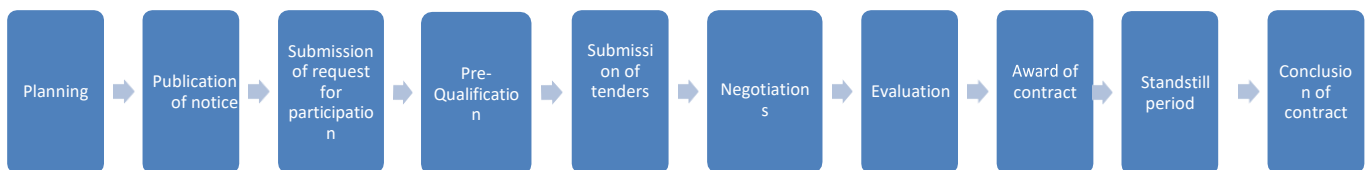


Figure: Steps in a negotiated procedure

#### 3.2 Communication

All communication in the process shall be conducted via the Merccell portal, [www.merccell.no](http://www.merccell.no). No other communication with any other representative of the Contracting Authority with respect to this procurement process is permitted, and enquiries made in any other way may not be answered. All communications are logged.

When the Supplier is logged into the competition, the "Communication" tab should be selected. Then click the "New Message" icon in the menu bar. Enter information to the Contracting Authority and then tap the "Send" icon. With respect to questions concerning all suppliers, the Contracting Authority will provide an anonymized answer in the form of additional information. Additional information is available under the "Communication" tab and then under the "Additional Information" tab. The Supplier will also receive an e-mail with a link to additional information.

If the Supplier has any questions related to the functionality of the Merccell portal, please contact Merccell Support on Tel: +47 21 01 88 60 or by e-mail to: [support@merccell.com](mailto:support@merccell.com).

#### 3.3 Use of electronic signature

The request for participation and the tender shall be signed either by use of electronic signature, or by use of non-electronic signature in the tender letter.

Electronic signatures can be obtained on [www.commfides.com](http://www.commfides.com), [www.buypass.no](http://www.buypass.no) or [www.bankid.no](http://www.bankid.no). Mercell also supports signature with BankID on Mobile, Buypass Mobile as well as Commfides Ansatt e-ID.

Please note that it may take a few days for an electronic signature to be delivered. Therefore, this process should be initiated as soon as possible.

Electronic signature outside of Norway: Please note that the Mercell portal supports the following electronic signatures from Sweden and Denmark:

Sweden: Svensk Bank ID, Nordea

Denmark: Nem ID, TDC/OCES

In the EU, Mercell utilises a service provided by Unizeto (<http://unizeto.eu/>) through an agreement with Difi and the EU project PEPPOL ([www.peppol.eu](http://www.peppol.eu)). This supports the vast majority of X.509 certificates, but unfortunately it is not possible to list the relevant certificates.

Mercell recommends testing the signing with the available certificate as soon as possible (well before the tender deadline). The test functionality is available in the registration/tender delivery location.

### 3.4 The procurement documents

The procurement documents consist of the contract notice and the Competition Regulations (this document) with annexes and appendices. They comprise all documents which the Contracting Authority and the Customer have designed to describe or determine the elements of the procurement, including documents that describe the subject-matter of the contract, the contract terms and conditions and the competition rules, and any supplementary documents and additional information. All documents are made available in the Mercell portal.

The Competition Regulations have the following annexes and appendices:

Document	Name	Description/Instructions
This document	Competition Regulations	
Attachment 1	Tender letter	Template
Attachment 2	Supplier information	Template
Attachment 3	Commitment statement	Template
Attachment 4	Answer form technical and professional qualifications	Template
Attachment 5	Guidelines and grounds for redaction of bids	Template
<b>SSA-L</b>		
Appendix 1	Customer specification of requirements	
Appendix 1a	Requirements matrix	
Appendix 2	The Supplier's description of the Service	The document must be completed by the supplier
Appendix 2a	Requirements matrix	The document must be completed by the supplier



Appendix 3	Plan for the establishment phase	
Appendix 4	Service level with standardised damages	
Appendix 5	Administrative provisions	
Appendix 6	Overall price and price provisions	The document must be completed by the supplier
Appendix 7	Changes to the general contractual wording	
Appendix 8	Changes to the Agreement subsequent to the conclusion of the Agreement	
Appendix 9	Terms for the Customer's access to and use of third-party deliverables	
Appendix 10	DPA draft	

### **3.5 Questions to the procurement documents**

The Suppliers are obliged to carefully review the procurement documents and notify the Contracting Authority without undue delay if errors, ambiguities, incompleteness or the like are found.

The Suppliers can ask questions and request further information concerning the procurement documents. Such questions and requests shall be submitted in writing via the Mercell portal within the deadlines specified in section 4, Procurement schedule.

The Contracting Authority requests the Suppliers to limit each entry to one question and to state questions in a neutral manner. The question shall include a reference to the document name and the specific section before stating the question.

The Contracting Authority will answer the questions in a general and anonymized manner. The questions and answers will be made available to all Suppliers in the Mercell portal. The Contracting Authority will, if relevant, provide answers in the form of updated and/or supplementary documents, enhanced descriptions and clarifications.

### **3.6 Changes to the procurement documents**

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to make corrections, additions and changes to the procurement documents. All changes, etc. will be made available in the Mercell portal.

The Contracting Authority may extend the deadline for submission of requests for participation or tenders as a result of new information provided or changes made to the procurement documents. Any such extension will be notified to the Suppliers in the Mercell portal.

It is the Suppliers' responsibility to keep up to date with any changes, etc. to the procurement documents.

### **3.7 Language requirements**

The request for participation, the tender and all required documentation shall be submitted in English.

The contracts with appendices will be in English.

Any supporting documentation may be presented in Norwegian, Scandinavian or English.

### **3.8 Freedom of information**

Tenders, including requests for participation, and procurement protocols are exempt from public access until the contract award, cf. the Norwegian Freedom of Information Act of 19 May 2006 no. 16 section 23, third paragraph.

Information considered trade secrets is exempt from public access pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act section 13, cf. the Norwegian Public Administration Act of 10 February 1967 section 13 and the Procurement Regulations section 7-3.

Thus, the Suppliers shall provide a redacted version of the tender where contents considered trade secrets are redacted, cf. Annex 6 – Guidelines for redaction of bids. The redacted version of the tender shall be accompanied by a list of redacted contents and a short account as to why the contents are trade secrets. Nevertheless, the Contracting Authority is obliged to conduct an independent assessment of the tender and exempt information from public access only by statutory authority.

### **3.9 Additional and supplementary documentation and clarifications**

Where information or documentation submitted by a Supplier is or appears to be incomplete or erroneous, or where specific documents are missing, the Contracting Authority may, but is not obliged to, request the Supplier to submit, supplement, clarify or complete the relevant information or documentation, cf. the Procurement Regulation section 23-5.

### **3.10 Environmental and social responsibility**

The Contracting Authority is concerned that goods and services are produced and executed in a manner that is societal and ethically viable. The health authorities are environmentally certified according to ISO 14001. The health authorities will focus continuously on reducing the impact their procurements have on the external environment. All products and services provided to the health authorities shall, as a minimum, comply with applicable environmental legislation.

### **3.11 Costs of participation**

Any costs that the Supplier incurs in connection with participation in the competition are the complete responsibility of the Supplier and will not be refunded by the Contracting Authority.

### **3.12 Termination of the procurement process**

The Contracting Authority can terminate the competition and abandon the procurement process if there are reasonable grounds for such actions, cf. the Procurement Regulation section 25-4. Examples of reasonable grounds are loss of planned financing, significant cost increase compared to the budget, lack of approval from the Board of Directors and lack of approval from the regional health authorities.

## **4 Procurement schedule**

The Contracting Authority plans to carry out the procurement procedure according to the following tentative procurement schedule:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
Notice of contract	Week 2 2025
<b>Pre-qualification phase</b>	30 days

Deadline to submit questions to the pre-qualification process	See Mercell
Deadline to submit application for qualification	See Mercell
Announcement of pre-qualification results	Est Week 7 – 2025

The procurement schedule is tentative and may be subject to changes pursuant to Contracting Authority's discretion. The Suppliers will be informed of any changes to the schedule via the Mercell portal.

## 5 Rules regarding pre-qualification

### 5.1 *Submission of the request for participation*

The request for participation together with all required documentation pursuant to section 5.4 (Qualification requirements) must be uploaded to the Mercell portal within the deadline for submission of requests.

The request for participation shall be signed by a representative of the Supplier who has the authority to bind the company legally and financially

The request for participation shall be delivered in accordance with the following structure:

Document	Name	Format
Attachment 1	Application letter	PDF-format
Attachment 2	Supplier information	PDF-format
Attachment 3	Declaration of commitment (if applicable)	PDF-format
Attachment 4	Answer form technical and professional qualifications (requirement 5.5.3 and 5.5.4)	PDF-format
Attachment 5	Documentation of qualification requirement 5.5.1	PDF-format
Attachment 6	Any other necessary document	PDF-format / Word / Excel

The Supplier is responsible for the request being delivered according to the specified structure, and that it contains the requested documentation.

### 5.2 *Deadline for submission of requests for participation*

See Mercell for the deadline for the submission of requests for participation.

### 5.3 *Use of subcontractors*

The Supplier shall provide a list of all proposed subcontractors and a description of the delivery by those subcontractors in Appendix 2.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to demand substitution of proposed subcontractors if there are justifiable reasons for such substitution, cf. Procurement Regulation 24-4.

Provisions regarding exclusion/rejection of Suppliers shall apply equally to subcontractors, cf. Procurement Regulation 24-4.

## **5.4 Qualification requirements – general information**

### **5.4.1 About the qualification requirements**

The qualification requirements are the minimum requirements relating to Supplier's ability to perform the contract. The purpose of the qualification requirements is to ensure that the Supplier has the necessary organization, financial standing, and technical and professional abilities.

The Supplier is responsible for ensuring that all questions, requirements and clarifying points in the qualification requirements are answered.

The Contracting Authority will base its evaluation of the qualifications of the Suppliers on an overall assessment of the requirements set out below.

The qualification requirements set out below must be met throughout the procurement process. The Suppliers are obliged to notify the Contracting Authority about any changes relevant to their fulfilment of the qualification requirements or the Contracting Authority's assessment of grounds for exclusion. The Contracting Authority may also throughout the procurement process, at its own discretion, request updated documentation to verify that the Supplier continuously fulfils the qualification requirements and that there are no grounds for exclusion.

### **5.4.2 The European Single Procurement Document (ESPD)**

To qualify for participation in the competition, the Supplier shall, in addition to the requested documentation specified in section 5.5, submit the European Single Procurement Document (ESPD), integrated into the Merccell portal.

The Supplier shall complete the ESPD form, declaring the fulfilment of the qualification requirements and that there are no grounds for exclusion.

The grounds for exclusion in the Procurement Regulation go beyond those in the EU Procurement Directive and the standard ESPD form. Consequently, it is specified that all grounds for exclusion in the Procurement Regulation section 24-2, including the purely national grounds for exclusion, apply in this competition, cf. ESPD Part III (Exclusion grounds), Section D (Purely national exclusion grounds).

The following grounds for exclusion in the Procurement Regulation section 24-2 are purely national grounds for exclusion:

- Section 24-2 (2): In this provision it is stated that the Contracting Authority shall exclude a supplier if it has become aware that the supplier has been found guilty or has been served and accepted a penalty notice for the stated criminal offences. The requirement obliging the Contracting Authority to exclude suppliers who have been served and accepted a penalty notice for the stated criminal offence is a specifically Norwegian requirement.
- Section 24-2 (3) letter i: The grounds for exclusion in the ESPD form only apply to serious defects in professional conduct, whereas the Norwegian grounds for exclusion include other serious defects that may cast doubt on the Supplier's professional integrity.

In this competition, the Supplier can give a global indication for the fulfilment of all qualification requirements stated in the procurement document. This is done in Part IV, Section α of the ESPD.

## 5.5 Table of qualification requirements

### 5.5.1 Registration

<b>Qualification Requirements</b>	<b>The Supplier shall be a legally established and registered business</b>
<b>Documentation Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Norwegian Suppliers: Documentation that proves that the Supplier is legally registered in the Register of Business Enterprises.</li> <li>Foreign Suppliers: Documentation that proves that they are legally registered in a register of business enterprises, professional register or a commercial register in the State in which they are established.</li> </ul> <p>If the Supplier is a group of economic operators (e.g., a Joint Venture), the information required in this section shall be provided for each individual group member. The qualification requirement shall be met by each group member.</p>

### 5.5.2 Economic and financial standing

<b>Qualification Requirements</b>	<b>The Supplier shall have sufficient economic and financial standing to perform the contract.</b>
<b>Documentation Requirements</b>	<p><b>Credit rating</b>, no older than six months, based on the last known accounting figures. The rating shall be conducted by a government-approved credit rating company.</p> <p>Credit ratings from a government-approved credit rating company will be obtained by The Contracting Authority. It is therefore not necessary for the supplier to submit this documentation in the application for participation.</p> <p>Supplier may prove its economic and financial standing by any other document which the Contracting Authority considers appropriate.</p>

### 5.5.3 Technical and professional ability

<b>Qualification requirement 1</b>	<b>The Supplier shall have sufficient technical and professional ability, demonstrated by experience from delivery of comparable AI solutions for pathology to customers</b>
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<b>Documentation requirement 1</b>	A description of the most important deliveries or services performed in the last three years, including information about the value, time, scope and beneficiary. The description shall be provided in Attachment 4 – Technical and professional qualifications.
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#### 5.5.4 Quality assurance system

<b>Qualification Requirements</b>	<b>The Supplier shall have a well-functioning quality assurance system</b>
<b>Documentation Requirements</b>	A description of the Supplier’s quality assurance system, including the procedures for development, testing, handover and deviation management. The description shall be provided in Attachment 4 – Technical and professional qualifications.

#### 5.6 Tax certificate

The selected Supplier shall provide a certificate issued by the appropriate authority of paid taxes and social security contributions and of paid VAT (tax certificate), no older than six months from the deadline for submission of request for participation (this only applies for Norwegian companies).

If the authority of the jurisdiction in which the Supplier is based does not issue such documents and certificates, the Supplier may offer alternative documentation subject to the approval of the Contracting Authority.

If the Supplier is a group of economic operators (e.g. a Joint Venture), the required information shall be provided for each individual group member. The requirement shall be met by each individual group member.

#### 5.7 Reliance on the capacity of other entities

The Supplier may, if necessary, rely on the capacity of other entities to fulfil the qualification requirements relating to economic and financial standing (section 5.5.2) and/or the technical and professional ability (section 5.5.3).

If the Supplier wishes to rely on the capacity of other entities, the Supplier shall submit a commitment statement from the relevant company/companies, see Attachment 3 - Commitment Statement. Further, the entity’s economic and financial standing and/or technical and professional ability must be documented in accordance with the relevant requirements in section 5.5.2 and 5.5.3.

Entities on which the Supplier relies to fulfil the qualification requirements, shall be legally established entities and must also submit the European Single Procurement Document (ESPD). In addition, such entities shall submit the documentation requested in section 5.5.

The Supplier may not rely on the capacity of other entities to fulfil the requirements relating to registration (section 5.5.1) or quality assurance system (section 5.5.4).

When the Supplier allies itself with other companies to fulfil the qualification requirements, it shall be stated which areas and portions of the procurement scope are to be covered by the main supplier and subcontractor(s) respectively. It shall clearly state which qualifications are documented for the main contractor and any subcontractors respectively. The Contracting Authority will assess whether the main and subcontractor together meet the qualification requirements.

### **5.8 Assessment of qualifications**

After the deadline for submission of requests for participation has expired, the Contracting Authority will assess whether the Suppliers meet the qualification requirements. The assessment will be based on the submitted documentation, including any additional information, etc.

All qualification requirements must be met for the Supplier to be qualified. Suppliers that do not meet the qualification requirements, will be rejected.

### **5.9 Selection and selection criteria**

All qualified Suppliers will be invited to submit tenders.

### **5.10 Deadline for request for preliminary injunction**

Any request for a preliminary injunction against the Contracting Authority's decision to reject a request, or not select a Supplier, shall be submitted to the court within 15 days after such a notice is sent, cf. the Procurement Regulation section 20-7.

## **6 Rules regarding tender process**

### **6.1 Invitation to tender**

Pre-qualified Suppliers will be invited to submit tenders. The invitation will be sent via the Merzell portal.

### **6.2 Tender conference**

The Contracting Authority do not plan to hold a tender conference.

### **6.3 Partial tender bids**

The Contracting Authority is asking for a complete solution.

Nevertheless, it is possible for the supplier to submit offers for one or two subcontracts.

### **6.4 Variant tenders**

The Contracting Authority does not permit submission of variant tenders, i.e., tenders that propose other solutions than the one described in the specifications and requirements set out by the Contracting Authority in the procurement documents.

## 6.5 *Submission of the tender (Stage 2)*

The tender must be uploaded to the Mercell portal within the tender submission deadline. Tenders delivered too late will be rejected. Please note that the Mercell portal system does not allow for tenders to be submitted after the deadline.

The Supplier is responsible for allocating necessary time and resources to upload the tender within the tender submission deadline.

The tender shall at minimum be delivered in accordance with the following structure:

Document	Name	Format
Attachment 1	Tender letter	PDF-format
Appendix 2 / Appendix 2a Requirement matrix	The Supplier's description of the Service	PDF-format / Word / Excel
Appendix 6	Overall price and price provisions	PDF-format / Word
Attachment X	Any other necessary document	PDF-format / Word / Excel

## 6.6 *Tender submission deadline*

See Mercell for the tender submission deadline.

## 6.7 *Period of tender validity*

Each submitted tender shall be valid for a period of 6 months from the tender submission deadline, unless the Contracting Authority has established a shorter tender validity. The Supplier shall confirm the validity of tender in the tender letter.

## 6.8 *Reservations and deviations*

To avoid reservations and deviations in the tenders, the Contracting Authority encourages the Suppliers to submit questions during the tendering period.

If the Supplier makes reservations to any part of the procurement documents or the contract, the Supplier shall make clear and unambiguous references to the relevant parts in the Tender letter.

The Supplier may not invoke any reservations or deviations that are not listed in the Tender letter.

Notwithstanding the above, the Contracting Authority is entitled to consider any reservations or deviations which are not listed in the Tender letter, but which are discovered during the evaluation.

Final tenders that contain substantial reservations or deviations from the procurement documents will be rejected, in accordance with the Procurement Regulation section 24-8 (1) letter b.

Further, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to reject tenders that contain reservations or deviations that are not considered to be insignificant, cf. the Procurement Regulation section 24-8 (2) letter a.



## **6.9 Tactical pricing**

Tactical pricing is not allowed.

It is considered tactical pricing where a Supplier exploits errors and weaknesses in the procurement documents.

The Contracting Authority has the right to require the Supplier to explain how the tender is priced. If the Contracting Authority finds that tactical pricing has occurred, the tender may be rejected.

## **6.10 Tender opening**

The tender opening will not be public.

## **6.11 Negotiations**

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to conduct the negotiations in phases, in order to reduce the number of tenders to be negotiated. The Contracting Authority may also conduct an initial reduction of tenders to be negotiated before the commencement of negotiations. Any reduction will be based on the award criteria.

The Contracting Authority will conduct the negotiations in any number of phases which it deems necessary. The Suppliers are invited to submit a revised tender at the end of each phase. Minutes will be recorded for each negotiation phase.

All sides of the tender are subject to negotiation. However, for practical and cost reasons, not all aspects of the procurement will be subject to detailed negotiations. The Contracting Authority will decide which topics will be subject to negotiations, and thus also decide whether certain topics are closed off for further negotiations. Negotiations regarding the award criteria or minimum requirements are not allowed.

The negotiations can be conducted either through negotiation meetings or in writing.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to conduct reference visits during the negotiations if appropriate. In the event of any reference visits, the Contracting Authority will contact the Supplier in advance to arrange these.

The negotiations are concluded by the Contracting Authority when a final tender is requested. The final tender cannot be subject to further negotiation.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to conduct reference visits following receipt of the final tender if appropriate. In the event of any reference visits, the Contracting Authority will contact the Supplier in advance to arrange these.

Commencement of negotiations shall not be considered as a rejection of the original tender. The Contracting Authority reserves the right to revert to the original tender or any subsequent submitted tender if negotiations are unsuccessful.

The Contracting Authority also reserves the right to award the contract based on the initial tenders without conducting negotiations.

## 7 Award of contract

### 7.1 Award criteria

The Contracting Authority will award the contract to the Supplier who offers the tender with the best ratio between cost and quality as defined in the weighted award criteria listed in the table below.

The Suppliers are encouraged to study the award criteria carefully in order to offer competitive and attractive tenders.

Award criterion	Weight	Description
Total cost	50 %	Evaluation of the Supplier's total tender costs.  The evaluation will be based on the Supplier's answers given in the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSA-L Appendix 7</li> </ul>
Quality of the solution	50 %	The evaluation will be based on the Supplier's answers given in the Appendix 2a – Requirements matrix (requirements marked B and C)
Total	100 %	

For further and complementary information and guidelines on what is included in each award criterion and what will be subject to evaluation, the Contracting Authority refers to the respective appendices mentioned in the table above.

The Contracting Authority believes that environmental considerations are better addressed through minimum requirements in the specification rather than as evaluation criteria. The majority of the climate impact comes from energy consumption in the data center where the analyses are performed, and minimum requirements related to this have been set.

### 7.2 Evaluation – Quality of the solution

A professional team will evaluate the tenders. The evaluation team will consider the fulfilment of the requirements based on the solution presented in the tender. All requirements to be answered are linked to an award criterion. The requirement points are weighted in advance so that the sum of all points corresponds to the stated weighting of the award criteria.

The tenders will be evaluated using a proportional method in accordance with the weighting of the award criteria. During the assessment of quality, the respective requirements will be reviewed, and a score from 0 to 10 will be assigned, where 10 represents the highest score.

### 7.3 Evaluation – Total cost

The cost evaluation will be based on a realistic 4-year scenario, using unit prices outlined in SSA-L Appendix 6.

#### **7.4 Award of contract**

Prior to signing the contract, the Contracting Authority will inform all Suppliers in writing which Supplier will be awarded the contract. The Contracting Authority will provide reasons for the decision, cf. the Procurement Regulation section 25-1.

The Contracting Authority will determine a standstill period of minimum ten days from the day after such written notice is sent to all Suppliers, until the contract is signed.