**CLARIFICATIONS NO.1 TO THE TENDER DOSSIER**

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| **Contract Title:** | **Supply of Equipment for Strengthening the Capacity of Turkish Forensic Laboratories in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking** |
| **Publication Reference:** | **EuropeAid/140697/IH/SUP/TR** |
| **Location:** | **Turkey** |

Further to the requests received from the tenderers, the following clarifications are provided:

**ANNEX II + III TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS AND TECHNICAL OFFER**

**QUESTION 1)**

**Item 1.1.2 Gas Chromatograph (GC)**

It is very important to have a gas chromatography system which is flexible enough to be adapted current and prospect measurements in various configurations. Consequently, having the ability to connect multiple detectors and inlets around the gas chromatography system ensures aforementioned flexibility. Many of the gas chromatograpy manufacturers can provide systems with this flexibility.

We kindly request you to add the following specification to “1.1.2. Gas Chromatograph (GC)” items.

**“2 injection block and 3 detectors except mass detector could be mountable to Gas Chromatography System at the same time.”**

**ANSWER 1)**

Technical Specifications defines minimum requirements. Tenderers are free to offer additional specifications provided that minimum requirements are satisfied. In this context, no revision is made.

**QUESTION 2)**

**Item 1.1.2.2.: “The proposed brand/model shall have analysed at least one thousand samples. This should be proved with an official document within the offer.**”

We kindly request contracting authority to specify the exact document which is requested at the above technical specification.

**ANSWER 2)**

No exact document is defined for this specification; however it can be e.g. in the form of official letters signed and stamped by the authorized representative of the clients explicitly indicating the brand/model of the item and confirming that it has analysed at least one thousand samples.

**QUESTION 3)**

**Item 1.1.2.8.: “Column oven shall be heated minimum up to 400 °C with 1 °C increments, at least 15 steps temperature programs shall be applicable and it shall be capable of applying ramp rates between 1 and 100 °C/min.”**

In Chromatography experiment, maximum 2 or 3 steps temperature programs can be used. Therefore, we kindly request contracting authority to revise the specification as, **“Column oven shall be heated minimum up to 400 °C with 1 °C increments, at least 10 steps temperature programs shall be applicable and it shall be capable of applying ramp rates between 1 and 100 °C/min.”**

**ANSWER 3)**

Please be informed that this specification is defined in accordance with the needs of the beneficiary. Therefore, no revision is made in this specification.

**QUESTION 4)**

**Item 1.1.3.5.: “Ion source shall be heated to at least 300 °C.”**

GS system’s ion source with higher upper temperature limits provides better results for polar compounds. Additionally, requiring inert ion source would increase robustness of the system and decreases maintenance costs in the long run as it is stated below.

An inert ion source requires less cleaning and provides greater spectral integrity by eliminating surface activity reactions. An inert ion source more effectively resists active compounds sticking to the source. Majority of the leading mass spectrometer producers supply this features.

We kindly request you to change this specification as below:

**“1.1.3.5 Ion source shall be heated to at least 350 °C and shall be constructed from solid inert material.”**

**ANSWER 4)**

Please see Answer 1.

**QUESTION 5)**

**Item 1.1.3.7.: “Scan speed shall be at least 20.000 amu/sec.”**

We would like to inform contacting authority that increasing the scan speed will cause low sensitivity on the experiment. Therefore, in general, app. 8.000-10.000 amu/sec is used in forensic laboratories.

Please revise the specification as, **“Scan speed shall be at least 12.000 amu/sec.”**

**ANSWER 5)**

Please be informed that this specification is defined in accordance with the needs of the beneficiary. Therefore, the specification is not altered.

**QUESTION 6)**

**Item 1.1.3.11.: “There must be at least two filament installed in the system in Electron Impact mode**.”

The reason why the manufacturers put second filament is obviously their filament is not long-lasting. In this kind of system, the cost and duration of the changing filaments are also higher and longer. Instead, single filament (long lasting) with easily changeable will be more useful for the end-user.

Therefore, we kindly request contracting authority to revise the specification as, “**There must be at least two filament installed in the system in Electron Impact mode or if the system has a single filament, it shall be changeable by the user in less than 5 minutes.”**

**ANSWER 6)**

Please be informed that this specification is defined in accordance with the needs of the beneficiary. Therefore, no revision is made in this specification.

**QUESTION 7)**

**Item 1.1.4 Autosampler**

Majority of basic autosampler products offer heating, shaking and barcode reading features. Appropriately shaked samples before analysis yields in better chromatographic results especially ones waiting for some time. Nowadays most of the derivation steps can be achieved automatically by utilizing mentioned basic features. Automatization of the derivation step decreases analysis costs, saves valuable time and increases productivity of the laboratory; consequently, ensures repeatable test results. As an example, morphine and amphetamine analysis requires derivation and it must be carried out accurately and consistently each time, which can be guaranteed by aforementioned autosamplers and additional features. With this features more sensitive, repeatable and reliable results will be obtained especially in morphine and amphetamine analysis.

We kindly request you to add the following specification to “1.1.4. Autosampler” item.

**“Autosampler unit should have heating, mixing and barcode reading features”**

**ANSWER 7)**

Please see Answer 1.

**QUESTION 8)**

**Item 1.1.4.1.: “Autosampler (standard sampler with at least 150 samples) shall be controllable and programmable with computer.”**

Duration of the experiment for one sample will last min. 30 minutes. In this regard, for a single day, maximum 48 samples can be achieved within 24-hour working time. Therefore, 150 samples will never be used and it is not a realistic value.

We kindly request contracting authority to revise the specification as **“Autosampler (standard sampler with at least 100 samples) shall be controllable and programmable with computer.”**

**ANSWER 8)**

Please be informed that this specification is defined in accordance with the needs of the beneficiary. Therefore, no revision is made in this specification.

**QUESTION 9)**

**Item 1.1.6 Software**

Modern analysis libraries contains retention times for specific types of analytes, alongside conventional spectrums of those analytes. These extra information coded in the library documents helps the identification of unknown samples accurately and reliably, and significantly decreasing the false positive results by confirming mass spectrums of materials with their corresponding exit times. Utilizing these libraries could give invaluable assistance in identification of unknown samples accurately and reliably.

We kindly request you to add the following specification to “1.1.6. Software” item.

**“GC/MS data system shall have Forensics and pesticide retention time library databases, based on a retention time correction software, that shall contain retention times and spectra of minimum 700 forensic and 900 pesticide analytes.”**

**ANSWER 9)**

Please see Answer 1.

**QUESTION 10)**

**Item 1.2.2.2.: “The proposed brand/model shall have analysed at least one thousand samples. This should be proved with an official document within the offer.”**

We kindly request contracting authority to specify the exact document which is requested at the above technical specification.

**ANSWER 10)**

Please see Answer 2.

**QUESTION 11)**

**Item 1.2.2 Gas Chromatograph** (GC)

It is very important to have a gas chromatography system which is flexible enough to be adapted current and prospect measurements in various configurations. Consequently, having the ability to connect multiple detectors and inlets around the gas chromatography system ensures aforementioned flexibility. Many of the gas chromatography manufacturers can provide systems with this flexibility.

We kindly request you to add the following specification to “1.2.2. Gas Chromatograph (GC) items.”

**“2 injection block and 3 detectors except mass detector could be mountable to Gas Chromatography System at the same time.”**

**ANSWER 11)**

Please see Answer 1.

**QUESTION 12)**

**Item 1.2.2.8. Detector lock shall be heated to at least 450 °C. Detector must be FID type, it must be burned automatically.**

FID detectors are inherently advantageous compared to other types of detectors whereas specifying minimum detection limit and data sampling rates would ensure smallest possible amount of analyte to be detected at highest possible resolution.

We kindly request you to change this specification as below:

**“1.2.2.8 Detector block shall be heated to at least 450 °C. Detector must be FID type, it must be burned automatically. Minimum detectable level (for tridecane) must be < 1.2 pg C/s. Must be able to set data rate up to 500 Hz.”**

**ANSWER 12)**

Please see Answer 1.

**QUESTION 13)**

**Item 1.2.2.10.: “Column oven shall be heated minimum up to 400 °C with 1 °C increments, at least 15 step temperature programs shall be applicable and it shall be capable of applying ramp rates between 1 and 100 °C/min.”**

In Chromatography experiment, maximum 2 or 3 steps temperature programs can be used. Therefore, we kindly request contracting authority to revise the specification as, **“Column oven shall be heated minimum up to 400 °C with 1 °C increments, at least 15 step or 3 ramp 4 plateaus temperature programs shall be applicable and it shall be capable of applying ramp rates between 1 and 100 °C/min.”**

**ANSWER 13)**

Please be informed that this specification is defined in accordance with the needs of the beneficiary. Therefore, no revision is made in this specification.

**QUESTION 14)**

**Item 1.2.2.11.: “Column oven must cool down from 400 °C to 50 °C at least within 5 minutes.”**

Maximum temperature for the forensic experiment is app. 200 °C. In this regard, column oven will never reach up to **400 °C.** Therefore, we kindly request contracting authority to revise the specification as **“Column oven must cool down from 250 °C to 50 °C at least within 5 minutes.”**

**ANSWER 14)**

Please note that the term of “at least” is changed as “maximum”. However no other revision is made in this specification since it is defined in accordance with the needs of the beneficiary.

*Please see Changes No.1 to Tender Dossier.*

**QUESTION 15)**

**Item 1.2.3 Autosampler**

Majority of basic autosampler products offer heating, shaking and barcode reading features. Appropriately shaked samples before analysis yields in better chromatographic results especially ones waiting for some time. Nowadays most of the derivation steps can be achieved automatically by utilizing mentioned basic features. Automatization of the derivation step decreases analysis costs, saves valuable time and increases productivity of the laboratory; consequently, ensures repeatable test results. As an example, morphine and amphetamine analysis requires derivation and it must be carried out accurately and consistently each time, which can be guaranteed by aforementioned autosamplers and additional features. With this features more sensitive, repeatable and reliable results will be obtained especially in morphine and amphetamine analysis.

We kindly request you to add the following specification to “1.2.3. Autosampler” item.

**“Autosampler unit should have heating, mixing and barcode reading features”**

**ANSWER 15)**

Please see Answer 1.

**QUESTION 16)**

**Item 1.2.3.1.: “Autosampler (standard sampler with at least 150 samples) shall be controllable and programmable with computer.”**

Duration of the experiment for one sample will last min. 30 minutes. In this regard, for a single day, maximum 48 samples can be achieved within 24-hour working time. Therefore, 150 samples will never be used and it is not a realistic value.

We kindly request contracting authority to revise the specification as **“Autosampler (standard sampler with at least 100 samples) shall be controllable and programmable with computer.”**

**ANSWER 16)**

Please note that this specification is defined in accordance with the needs of the beneficiary. Therefore, no revision is made in this specification.

**APPENDIX C to ANNEX II + III STATEMENT FOR THE OFFERED PRODUCTS**

**QUESTION 17)**

Origin: All goods purchased under the contract must originate in a Member State of the European Union or in a country or territory of the regions covered and/or authorised by the specific instruments applicable to the programme specified in clause 3.1 of the Instructions to Tenderers. ....

In the Appendix C to Annex II + III Statement For The Offered Products document, it is understood that there is a condition of origin for all sub-items in the systems.

In today’s world production of high-end technology is spread all over the world and every manufacturer’s primary concern is manufacturing costs. In order to supply best possible products for customers, manufacturers outsource peripheral parts to the contractors and concentrate on the core functional capabilities of relevant technology. To give an example, it is not even clear exactly what the origin requirement is for the consumables under the miscellenous title. According to the PRAG, the consumables is out of the country of origin declerations.The manufacturer of the offered systems can provide only one origin document for the whole system.

As stated in PRAG 2.3.7, the country of origin is not necessarily the country from which the goods were shipped and supplied. If two or more countries are involved in the production of goods, the concept of last substantial transformaition is applied.

To be compatible to tender, we kindly request you to delete all of sub-items in this document, let us offer one origin document for each system and change this document content as below:

1.1 GC/MS System

1.2 GC/FID System

**ANSWER 17)**

Please note that “*origin” means the place where the goods are mined, grown, produced or manufactured and/or from which services are provided. The origin of the goods must be determined according to the relevant international agreements (notably WTO agreements), which are reflected in EU legislation on rules of origin for customs purposes: the Customs Code (Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92) in particular its Articles 22 to 246 thereof, and the Code's implementing provisions (Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93*” as stated in Article 4.1 of Instructions to Tenderers.

In this regard, tenderers must provide an undertaking signed by their representative certifying compliance with this requirement for each of the sub-items listed in Appendix C; or if applicable for combination of more than one item; or as a whole item; as far as it complies with the aforementioned custom code.

Accordingly, the tenderers are allowed to arrange “origin” column of the Appendix C by combining rows when necessary. Therefore, the document is remained the same.

Please also note that the tenderers are bound by the declaration of origin they submit.

Please see Article 2.3.8 of PRAG for further details.

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