

## CONTRACTING AUTHORITY'S CLARIFICATION

Contract title: **Supply of laboratory equipment for sample preparation and sample analysis and laboratory accessories**

Publication Ref: **RORS00063 - IRM/04**

No.	Question / Answer
1. Q:	<p>LOT 2: Referring to your requirement: "The tenderer must possess manufacturer's certificate/authorization by which the manufacturer confirms that the tenderer is authorized to sell, install and provide training on operating the device and maintenance of items 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8 from this lot," our question is as follows:</p> <p>1) Is it necessary to provide the requested certificates issued by the equipment manufacturer for items 3, 4, 7, and 8 from lot 2, or can we submit a written statement stating that we will install the required equipment, ensure it operates safely, and provide user training for proper usage, considering that these devices are simple and easy to use?</p>
1. A:	<p>Considering that the devices listed under numbers 3, 4, 7 and 8 are simple and easy for use, it is enough to submit a written statement stating that you will install the required equipment, ensure it operates safely and provide user training for proper usage.</p>
2. Q:	<p>LOT 2: 2) Is it necessary for the documentation that is publicly available on the Agency for Business Registers website to be translated into English?</p>
2. A:	<p>Yes, it is necessary. Tenders must be submitted in English, see c2_contractnotice_simp_neg_en, point 20 and 22.</p>
3. Q:	<p>LOT 2: 3) Should the financial offer include VAT, considering Article 12: "There is no agreement between the European Commission and the Republic of Serbia allowing partial or full exemption from taxes for operations under 5 million euros under the Interreg IPA Romania – Serbia Programme. Costs are eligible in gross amount, meaning with VAT included."</p>
3. A:	<p>Yes, the financial offer should include VAT.</p>

4. <b>Q:</b>	<p>LOT 2:</p> <p>4) Is it necessary to attach the completed <b><i>B.DRAFT CONTRACT AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS, INCLUDING ANNEXES?</i></b></p>
4. <b>A:</b>	<p>No, it is not necessary. Mandatory documents are listed in c4b_itt_en, point 11. Content of tenders.</p>
5. <b>Q:</b>	<p>LOT 2 – Item 1 – Ion chromatograph instrument – Technical specifications: 5) Flow Rate (Your Specifications required: „High pressure pump for eluents: -Flow: 0.001-20mL/min“): Typical flow rates used in ion chromatography (IC) are below 2 mL/min, and flow rates above 3 mL/min are rarely used in practice. Would it be acceptable to offer a system that allows flow rates up to 10 mL/min, as this range is sufficient for IC applications?</p>
5. <b>A:</b>	<p>Yes, a system that allows flow rates up to 10 mL/min is acceptable. The specified range is sufficient for our applications.</p>
6. <b>Q:</b>	<p>LOT 2 – Item 1 – Ion chromatograph instrument – Technical specifications: 6) Inline Sample Preparation (Your Specifications required: „Autosampler: - Possibility of upgrading with different inline sample preparation techniques: ultrafiltration, dialysis, matrix elimination, preconcentration, neutralization, cation removal, extraction, partial injection“):</p> <p>Could you clarify which inline sample preparation techniques are required for this tender? You asked for possibility of upgrade, and we would like to know if it is mandatory or not? This would help ensure that more suppliers can meet the specifications. Based on our experience, the following options are commonly used in practice, and it is written what we can offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Inline Ultrafiltration: Available.</li> <li>* Dialysis: Not available (rarely used, typically for fat samples or emulsions).</li> <li>* Matrix Elimination: Available.</li> <li>* Preconcentration: Available.</li> <li>* Neutralization: Available.</li> <li>* Cation Removal: Not available in our system, but could sample cartridges be considered as an alternative?</li> <li>* Extraction: Not available.</li> <li>* Partial Injection: Available.</li> </ul> <p>Would you consider adjusting the specifications to allow a broader range of suppliers to participate, ensuring greater competition and potentially better pricing? As far as we know only one manufacturer can fulfill this specifications.</p>

<p>6. A:</p>	<p>Considering that we often receive requests for the analysis of certain parameters from environmental waste samples, which are in the form of emulsions, we considered the possibility of an upgrade for the dialysis technique. But it doesn't have to be an upgrade option, you can offer alternative options that you have for the future, and we will consider them.</p>
<p>7. Q:</p>	<p>LOT 2 – Item 1 – Ion chromatograph instrument – Technical specifications: 7) Temperature Range (Your Specifications required: „Column thermostat: - Temperature range: from 0-80 °C; - Cooling: up to 20 °C below ambient temperature“):</p> <p>The typical column thermostat temperature in ion chromatography is between 25°C and 40°C, with the optimal temperature depending on the specific analysis. Would it be acceptable to offer a system with a temperature range of 10-70°C, minimum temperature ambient -15 °C to allow more suppliers to meet the requirements? As far as we know only one manufacturer can fulfill this specifications.</p>
<p>7. A:</p>	<p>Yes, a system with a temperature range of 10-70°C is acceptable. Regarding the specified temperature range of the column thermostat, there are manufacturers that offer temperatures up to 85°C.</p>