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| Reference: | ARAA/STOCK II/2026/SCI/015                                                                                     |
| Title:     | Recruitment of a Project Management Unit (PMU) to support the ARAA for the overall coordination of the Project |
| Client:    | ECOWAS Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (ARAA)                                                         |
| Document:  | <b>BULLETIN DE CLARIFICATION N°1</b>                                                                           |
| Date       | July 17, 2026                                                                                                  |

As part of the above-mentioned selection, ARAA received requests for clarification from some candidates. In order to enable all consultants interested in this CEI to obtain the same information, this bulletin n°1 is drawn up and published for this purpose.

| # | Questions from candidates                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | ARAA Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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|   | <p>Section 11 states that:</p> <p><i>"In the case of a Grouping, its representative (regardless of its country of registration) as well as any member having its registered office outside the Client's country, must meet each of these criteria" (of experiences and procedures adapted to the management of the security risks to which this contract will be subject).</i></p> <p><i>"A candidacy that does not meet any of these requirements will be rejected."</i></p> <p>Could the requirement that each of these criteria be met by all members having its registered office outside the Client's country be relaxed insofar as the Consortium undertakes to ensure that the policies and procedures in place at the level of the Lead Partner are applied to all the resources mobilised (by all members of the Consortium) in the context of the exercise of the contract?</p> | <p>Yes. The objective of paragraph 11 is to ensure that all personnel mobilized under the contract benefit from an adequate security risk management system, regardless of the member of the consortium that mobilizes them. Consequently, in the case of a Pool, the requirements of paragraph 11 shall be deemed to be met when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The trustee (lead arranger) shall demonstrate, with supporting documentation, that it meets each of the four criteria set out in paragraph 11;</li><li>• The Expression of Interest includes a formal commitment, signed by the Trustee and by each of the members of the Consortium, attesting that the Agent's security policies and procedures (monitoring, crisis management, preparation for departure, assistance and repatriation) will apply to all the resources mobilized by all the members of the Consortium in the context of the performance of the contract.</li></ul> <p>The members of the Consortium other than the trustee are therefore not required to demonstrate each of these criteria individually. The other provisions of paragraph 11, including the eliminatory nature of these requirements, remain unchanged.</p> |
|   | <p>Do we have to justify our references by means of certificates of good performance (EBAs) or copies of contracts? If so, and given the number of pages required (30), can we attach them as an annex or, failing that, send them to you later if you deem it useful?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>No. At the stage of this Call for Expressions of Interest, the production of certificates of good performance or copies of contracts is not required. In accordance with paragraphs 9 and 14 of the CEI, it is only requested to provide a list of references to similar experiences, including information to assess the similarities mentioned in paragraph 9, as well as, for each experience presented, the active contacts (telephone and/or e-mail address) of clients, beneficiaries or funders. The Client reserves the right to check the references presented directly with these contacts.</p> <p><b>Accordingly, the limit of thirty (30) pages set out in paragraph 14 remains unchanged.</b></p> <p>Candidates who nevertheless wish to attach certificates or supporting documents may do so, provided that the Expression of Interest, including annexes, respects this limit of 30 pages. No additional documents can be sent or taken into account after the deadline for submission of expressions of interest.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                       |