



STANDARD BIDDING DOCUMENTS

Request For Proposals (RFP) Goods & Services

These Bidding Documents for Request for Proposals (RFP) have been prepared by RIMES to be used for the procurement of Goods and Services with International Competitive Bidding.



Request for Proposal (RFP) Goods & Services

Date: **17 September 2026**

<u>Request for Proposal for:</u>	<u>Procurement, Installation, Commissioning, Training, and Support Services for Upper-Air Sounding System, Spare Sensors, Radiosondes, Balloons, Hydrogen Generation System, and Associated Data Communication Services under SOFF Maldives</u>
<u>Tracking Number:</u>	<u>RIMES-RFP-038-2026</u>

Dear Sir/Madam,

1. You are kindly requested to submit a proposal in accordance with this document and Annexes attached.
2. This Request For Proposal (RFP) consists of this document and the following annexes:

Annex I	– Instructions to Bidders
Annex II	– Background Information
Annex III	– Terms of Reference (TOR)
Annex IV	– Evaluation Criteria
Annex V	– Proposal Submission Form
Annex VI	– Acknowledgement Letter
Annex VII	– General Conditions of Contract
Annex VIII	– Global Compact

3. Please note that this document is an RFP and not an Invitation to Bid (ITB.) This document and its Annexes constitute the RFP and will be the basis for RIMES to determine the qualifying Contractor(s.) All responses will be used solely for the purpose of identifying the best qualified Contractor(s) and will be kept confidential. All proposals received shall be considered property of RIMES and not returned.

4. Your firm is kindly requested to return the attached acknowledgement letter (Annex VI) by email to rimesprocurement@rimes.int no later than the date indicated at point 6.2 below to indicate whether or not your firm intends to submit a proposal.

5. Your proposal must be submitted **both in hard copy and soft copy**.

- The **hard copy must physically reach the mailbox/address indicated in point 7 by the submission deadline**.
- The **soft copy (PDF)** must be emailed to rimesprocurement@rimes.int, with the password provided separately.
- **Please note:** *The soft copy alone is **not** sufficient for bid opening; the hard copy must arrive by the deadline for your proposal to be considered responsive.*

The submission should be marked as per the provisions made in Annex (I) at section C.2.1

6. Important dates:

6.1	Issuance of solicitation documents	– 17 Sep 2026	
6.2	Deadline for acknowledgement	– 21 Sep 2026	On or before 17:00. hours local time
6.3	Deadline for bidders clarifications	– 24 Sep 2026	On or before 17:00. hours local time
6.4	Submission Deadline	– 8 Oct 2026	On or before 17:00. hours local time “RIMES reserves the right to extend the submission deadline through a formal amendment”
6.5	Bid Opening	– 8 Oct 2026	At 17:30. hours local time

7. Important addresses:

Bid Delivery Address: Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System Head Office: AIT Campus, Khlong Luang, Pathumthani 12120, Thailand	Bid Opening Location: Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System Head Office: AIT Campus, Khlong Luang, Pathumthani 12120, Thailand
<u>All bidders should drop their proposals in RIMES Bid Box situated at Head Office: AIT Campus, Khlong Luang, Pathumthani 12120, Thailand</u>	

Thank you.

Pre-cleared by:



Mitesh Sawant
Project Manager

Approved by:



Dusadee Padungkul
Head of Operations and Programs

Annex I – Instructions to Bidders

A. General

A.1. Your proposal could form the basis for a contract between your firm and the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES).

A.2. Currency of the proposal. All amounts quoted in the proposal shall be in United States Dollars (USD) unless otherwise specified.

A.3. Definitions

A.3.1. Firm; in the context of this RFP the word “firm” refers to any organization’s legal status, whether it is a sole proprietorship, a company, non-profit, a partnership, a joint venture, or any other form of legal association.

A.3.2. Contractor(s); means the party or parties with which RIMES may eventually enter into a contract(s) for the works and/or services as per the attached TOR at Annex (iii.)

A.4. Costs incurred. This RFP does not commit RIMES to award a contract or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation or submission of proposals, or in making necessary studies for the preparation thereof, or to procure or contract for services or supplies.

A.5. Right to reject. RIMES reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received in response to this RFP and to negotiate with any of the proposers or other firms in any manner deemed to be in the best interest of RIMES.

A.6. No contractual offer. This RFP contains no contractual offer of any kind. Any proposals submitted will be regarded as an offer by the proposer and not as an acceptance by the proposer of any offer by RIMES.

A.7. Advance payments. While the Financial Regulations and Rules of RIMES generally preclude advance payments or payments by Letters of Credit, exceptions may be considered. Such payments are subject to the provision of acceptable advance payment guarantees and performance securities, and require formal approval in accordance with RIMES financial procedures.

A.8. Communication. Other than this official means of communication, excluding all provisions made herein, RIMES staff are prohibited from communicating about this procurement with any respondent or external party during the course of this procurement. Respondents are

not to call or attempt to communicate in any other way with RIMES staff regarding this procurement. **Any violation of this instruction may adversely affect a Contractor's prospect of selection.**

A.9. Fraud and Corruption. It is RIMES policy to require that Bidders, suppliers, and contractors and their subcontractors under RIMES contracts, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of such contracts. In pursuance of this policy, RIMES:

A.9.1. defines as "corrupt practices", for the purposes of this provision, as being, but not limited to, any that can be interpreted, at the sole discretion of RIMES, in terms of the definitions below:

A.9.1.1. *bribery* is the act of unduly offering, giving, receiving or soliciting anything of value to influence the process of procuring goods or services, or executing contracts

A.9.1.2. *extortion* or coercion is the act of attempting to influence the process of procuring goods or services, or executing contracts by means of threat of injury to person, property or reputation

A.9.1.3. *fraud* is the misrepresentation of information or facts for the purpose of influencing the process of procuring goods or services, or executing the contracts, to the detriment of RIMES or other participants

A.9.1.4. *collusion* is the agreement between Bidders designed to result in bids at artificial prices that are not competitive. "Collusive bidding", "other anti-competitive conduct", or "any other similar conduct" may include, *inter alia*, any attempt to alter the results of a solicitation exercise in such a way that would lead to an outcome other than that which would have been obtained through an open and transparent competitive process.

A.9.1.5. *improper assistance* is the practice compiling proposals that, in the sole opinion of RIMES , are prepared with the assistance of current or former employees or contractors of RIMES, in violation of confidentiality obligations, or by using information not otherwise available to the general public or which would provide a non-competitive benefit shall also be excluded from further consideration

- A.9.2. will reject a proposal to award a contract if it determines that a vendor recommended for award has engaged in corrupt practices in competing for the contract in question
- A.9.3. will declare a vendor ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, to become RIMES registered vendor if it at any time determines that the vendor has engaged in corrupt practices in competing for or in executing RIMES contract
- A.9.4. will cancel or terminate a contract if it determines that a vendor has engaged in corrupt practices in competing for or in executing RIMES contract
- A.9.5. will normally require a vendor to allow RIMES, or any person that RIMES may designate, to inspect or carry out audits of the vendor's accounting records and financial statements in connection with the contract.
- A.10. Investigations.** Any vendor participating in RIMES's procurement activities, shall facilitate to RIMES personnel upon first request, all documents, records and other elements needed by RIMES to investigate the allegations of misconduct by either vendors or any other party to the procurement activities. The absence of such cooperation may be sufficient grounds for the debarment of the vendor from RIMES vendor roster and may lead to suspension following review by RIMES Vendor Review Committee.
- A.11. Audits.** Suppliers, their subsidiaries, agents, intermediaries and principals must cooperate with the Office of Operational Support of RIMES as well as with other investigations authorized by the Director General as and when required in accordance with all the terms and conditions outlined in the standard clauses for contracts attached at Annex VII of the solicitation documents.
- A.12. Confidentiality.** This RFP is communicated to and received by each addressee thereof on the understanding and condition that it is confidential and proprietary to RIMES, and contains privileged information. No information contained in the RFP may be copied, exhibited or furnished to others without the prior written consent of RIMES. Proposers will be bound by the contents of this paragraph whether or not they submit a proposal or respond in any other way to this RFP. RIMES will not return proposals received. These proposals shall be kept confidential for the sole and internal consideration of RIMES.
- A.13. Modification of request for proposal.** RIMES reserves the right to modify or exclude any consideration, information or requirement contained in this RFP and to add new

considerations, information or requirements at any stage of the procurement process, including negotiations with proposers, at any time before any contract is awarded for the services detailed in this RFP.

A.13.1. To give proposers reasonable time in which to take a modification into account in preparing their proposals, RIMES may, at its sole discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of proposals. The new deadline will be communicated through the appropriate media.

A.14. Eligible Bidders. Without abandoning the provisions made in this document for determining the technical eligibility of the bidders, RIMES asserts that:

A.14.1. A Bidder, and all parties constituting the Bidder, may have the nationality of any member state of RIMESs.

A.14.2. A Bidder shall not have a conflict of interest. All Bidders found to have a conflict of interest shall be disqualified. Bidders are considered to have a conflict if they:

- Are or have been associated in the past with a firm (or its affiliates) engaged by RIMES to provide consulting services for the preparation of the design, specifications, or other procurement documents for these Services.
- Have a relationship with one or more parties in this bidding process that puts them in a position to have access to information about or influence over the bid of another Bidder.

A.14.3 Bidders shall not be eligible to submit a bid, and shall be disqualified at the time of bid submission or contract award, if they:

- Are under a declaration of ineligibility by RIMES in accordance with **ITB Clause A.9**;
- Are currently suspended by **RIMES, UNEP, or the UN Procurement Division (UNPD)**;
- Are listed on the **UN 1267 Terrorist List** (Security Council resolution 1267) regarding individuals and entities associated with Al-Qaida and/or the Taliban;
- Have been declared ineligible by the **World Bank** (see worldbank.org/debarr).

A.14.4 Bidders are required to disclose their ultimate beneficial ownership. By submitting a bid, the Bidder certifies the absence of prohibited practices, conflicts of interest, or sanctions exposure for both the entity and its beneficial owners.

A.15. Joint Venture. Bids may be submitted by a Joint Venture (JV). In the case of a JV:

A.15.1. The duly filled “Joint Venture Partner Information Form” of Annex (v) must be included with the Bid; and

A.15.2. All parties to the JV shall be jointly and severally liable; and

A.15.3. The JV shall nominate a Representative who shall have the authority to conduct all businesses:

A.15.3.1. - for and on behalf of any and all the parties of the JV during the bidding process; and

A.15.3.2. - in the event the JV is awarded the Contract, during contract execution.

Preparation and Contents of Proposals

A.16. Language of the proposal. The proposals and all correspondence and documents relating to this RFP shall be written in English. language. Any printed literature furnished by the Bidder may be written in another language so long as accompanied by an English. translation of its pertinent passages in which case, for purposes of interpretation of the Proposal, the English translation shall govern.

A.17. Contents of the proposal.

A.17.1. This sub-section refers exclusively to the assessable contents of the proposal, for instructions on collation, marking and sealing of the proposal components please refer to sub-section “C.1 Format of the Proposal” and sub-section “C.2 Sealing and marking of the Proposals.”

A.17.2. Bidders may submit proposals for one (1), several, or all Lots. For each Lot offered, the proposal must fully and comprehensively address all applicable requirements of that Lot. RIMES reserves the right to award Lots separately or to award multiple Lots to the same Bidder in accordance with the evaluation criteria. The Bidder is expected to examine all corresponding instructions, forms, terms, and specifications contained in the Solicitation Documents. Failure to comply with these documents will be at the Bidder’s risk and may affect the evaluation of the Proposal.

The proposal shall include, but is not limited to, the following information:

A.17.3. Proposal submission form Annex (v)

A.17.4. Qualification document. A brief description of your firm and an outline of recent experience on projects of a similar nature, including experience in the country and

language concerned. You should also provide information that will facilitate our evaluation of your firm's substantive reliability and financial and managerial capacity to provide the services.

The following documents are to be submitted:

1. Company Registration Documents
2. Annual balance sheets and profit & loss statements for the last 3 (three) financial years
3. The firm shall provide verifiable references proving the successful completion of at least **three to five (3–5) upper-air sounding station projects within the last ten (10) years**, with at least one (1) such upper-air project successfully completed in a SIDS (Small Island Developing States) or tropical maritime environment within the last seven (10) years.
4. Provide the proven WIS 2.0 and GBON compliance implementation (including successful WIS 2.0 node implementation using MQTT-based data publication)
5. Experience in SIDS/tropical environments
6. ISO 9001 and relevant safety certifications (including ATEX for hydrogen systems)
7. Proof on e xpertise in radiosonde systems, hydrogen generation systems, and meteorological ICT integration
8. Regional/local support capability for logistics and after-sales service. The Bidder shall submit details and documentary evidence of its regional/local support arrangement, including the service provider/partner, scope of support, contact details, and applicable agreement or authorization.
9. List of relevant completed projects, including project value, and list of corresponding contact persons within the clients.
10. List of countries and NMHS users , Contactable references , and Performance reports or acceptance certificates
11. The proposed system shall comply with WMO-No. 8 Guide to Instruments and Methods of Observation, WIGOS standards, and support BUFR messaging and WIS 2.0 compliant data dissemination.

A.17.5. Technical proposal:

A.17.5.1. The proposal should describe the approach and methodology that will be applied by the firm to meet the objectives and scope of the services required by RIMES. This section should demonstrate the proposal's responsiveness to the specification by identifying the specific components proposed, addressing the requirements, as specified, point by point; and demonstrating how the proposed methodology meets or exceeds the specification. You should include the number of person-months in each specialization that you consider necessary to carry out all the work.

A.17.5.2. Assumptions. Include any assumptions as well as comments on the data, support services and facilities to be provided by RIMES as indicated in the TOR, or as you may otherwise believe to be necessary.

A.17.5.3. Team structure. Provide the composition and work tasks (including supervisory) which would be assigned to each member. Include team organogram and curriculum vitae of senior professional members of the team.

A.17.5.4. The technical proposal must not provide financial information.

A.17.6. Financial proposal. This must contain the financial information about the services that will be provided by the Contractor. The firm must state its contract price, discounts, if any, and payment terms. The currency used in the financial proposal shall be in accordance with clause (A.2.) The financial component shall have a cover letter wherein your firm's authorized representative affirms a summary of the price and the period of validity.

A.17.6.1. In addition to this component must cover all the services to be provided and must itemize the following:

A.17.6.1.1. An all-inclusive rate per person-day (including honorarium and living expenses) for each team member to be assigned to the project and a rate for the person's work at home, if applicable

A.17.6.1.2. An all-inclusive amount for international travel and related expenses. Please indicate the number of round trips per team member

- A.17.6.1.3. An all-inclusive amount for local travel
- A.17.6.1.4. All other costs, if any, indicating nature and breakdown
- A.17.6.1.5. Summary of total costs for the services proposed
- A.17.6.1.6. A proposed schedule of payments

A.18. Period of validity of proposals. Proposals shall remain valid for a period of at least one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date fixed for opening of technical proposals. A proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by RIMES on the grounds that it is non-responsive.

A.19. Comprehensive and concise proposals. Proposers must provide all requisite information under this RFP and clearly and concisely respond to all points set out in this RFP. Any proposal which does not fully and comprehensively address this RFP may be rejected. Proposers should also limit their proposals to the requirements of this RFP. Unnecessarily elaborate brochures and other presentations beyond that sufficient to constitute a complete and effective proposal are discouraged.

B. Submission of Proposals

B.1. Format of proposals. The technical and financial proposals in response to the present request must be delivered in 2 (two) hard copies each, clearly marked “Original Proposal” and “Copy” as appropriate. In the event of any discrepancy between different copies of the proposals, the one stamped “Original Proposal” shall govern. The soft copy is required only for administrative and evaluation convenience; however, the hard copy (“Original Proposal”) shall be considered the official and legally binding submission.

B.2. Sealing and marking of proposals. The proposer shall seal the hard copies proposal in one outer and two inner envelopes, as detailed below:

B.2.1. The outer envelope shall show the address as stated in the RFP Request Document at point 7, and marked “**Procurement of Equipment and data purchase under SOFF Maldives (Procurement and Installation of Upper-air sounding system and Spare sensors including balloons, radiosondes)**” – REF: RIMES-RFP-038-2026

B.2.2. Both inner envelopes shall indicate the name and address of the proposer, and clearly marked:

B.2.2.1. **“Technical Proposal”** and shall contain the documents with the information stipulated in paragraphs B.2.3/4/5 above. The technical proposal shall not contain any pricing information.

B.2.2.2. **“Financial Proposal”** and shall contain the total price quotation with the information stipulated in clause B.2.6 above.

B.3. If the two inner envelopes are not sealed and marked as per the instructions in this clause, RIMES will not assume responsibility for the proposal’s misplacement, premature opening and/or consequent disqualification of your proposal.

B.4. Signing of the proposals. All copies of the Proposal shall be typed or written in indelible ink and shall be signed by the proposer or a person or persons duly authorized to bind the firm to the contract. The latter authorization shall be indicated by written power-of-attorney accompanying the Proposal. A Proposal shall contain no interlineations, erasures, or overwriting except, as necessary to correct errors made by the proposer, in which case such corrections shall be initialed by the person or persons signing the Proposal.

B.5. Deadline for submission of proposals. Proposals should reach the delivery address supplied in point 7 of the RFP Request Document no later than the date and time clearly defined in point 6.4 of the RFP Request Document.

B.6. It is the exclusive responsibility of the proposers to ensure that their proposal reaches the delivery address before the stipulated deadline. Proposals received after the deadline will be rejected.

B.7. Modifications and withdrawals. Proposals may be modified or withdrawn in writing prior to the bid opening. Bids may not be modified or withdrawn after this time.

B.8. Pricing Errors. In case of error in the total prices, unit prices will govern. In case of discrepancies between the amounts in figures and the amounts in words the amounts in words will govern.

B.9. Clarifications of request for proposal. Questions on any part of this RFP should be submitted, in writing, to RIMES within the date stipulated at point 6.3 of the RFP Request Document. Responses may be copied to all other firms invited to submit a proposal. Questions may be sent via email at rimesprocurement@rimes.int.

B.9.1. In responding to the requests for clarifications RIMES may, at its sole discretion, apply the provisions made in Annex (i) Clause A.13 Modification of request for proposal.

C. Opening and Evaluation of Proposals

C.1. Opening of proposals. A public opening of proposals will take place on the date and time stipulated at point 6.5 of the RFP Request Document. The bid opening will be held at the address stipulated at point 7 of the RFP Request Document. The purpose of the public opening is to record the proposals submitted by the due date and time. No price will be announced at the time of the public opening. Firms submitting offers are welcome to send one (1) representative with proper authorization to observe the recording of proposals received.

C.2. Clarification of proposals. To assist in the examination, evaluation, and comparison of Proposals, RIMES may, at its discretion, request clarification from the Bidder. Clarifications shall primarily be conducted in writing by email to rimesprocurement@rimes.int. Where necessary, RIMES may convene a clarification meeting, provided that all clarifications are formally recorded in writing. No change in the price or substance of the Proposal shall be sought, offered, or permitted. **Preliminary Examination.** RIMES will examine the Proposals to determine whether they are complete, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the Proposals are generally in order. Prior to the detailed evaluation, RIMES will determine the substantial responsiveness of each Proposal to the RFP. For purposes of these Clauses, a substantially responsive Proposal is one which conforms to all the terms and conditions of the RFP without material deviations. RIMES's determination of a Proposal's responsiveness is based on the contents of the Proposal itself without recourse to extrinsic evidence.

A Proposal determined as not substantially responsive will be rejected by RIMES and may not subsequently be made responsive by the Bidder by correction of the non-conformity.

C.3. Evaluation of the proposals. Proposals will be evaluated in accordance with RIMES Financial Regulations and Rules, established procedures of RIMES and:

C.3.1. A two-stage procedure is utilized in evaluating the proposals, with evaluation of the technical proposal being completed prior to any price proposal being opened and compared. The price Schedules of the Proposals will be opened only for submissions that passed minimum technical score of 70% (490 points) of the maximum obtainable 700 points. Please see the details in Annex (IV).

C.3.2. The evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the cumulative analysis method, according to which the technical and financial proposals have pre-assigned weights and pre-assigned maximum number of scores: technical proposal (70%), 700 points maximum, financial proposal (30%), 300 points maximum.

C.3.3. The winning proposal will be the one with the highest sum of points obtained both for financial and technical evaluation.

C.4. Technical Evaluation.

D.5.1 Eligibility / Pass-Fail Criteria

- Only proposals that fully comply with all mandatory technical requirements specified in the Terms of Reference (TOR) and Technical Specifications (Annex A) shall be considered technically qualified.
- Proposals that do not meet all mandatory requirements shall be rejected and not scored.

D.5.2 Technical Scoring

- Only technically qualified proposals will be evaluated and scored, with a maximum of 700 points.
- The scoring will reflect the responsiveness of the proposal to the TOR, in accordance with the criteria and weightings below.

SUMMARY OF SECTIONS		WEIGHT	POINTS OBTAINABLE
1	Expertise of Firm submitting the proposal	20 %	140
2	Proposed Work Plan, Methodology & Risk Management	25 %	175
3	Personnel (Qualifications & Experience)	15 %	105
4	Compliance with Technical Specifications	40 %	280
TOTAL 100%			700

The detailed breakdown of obtainable points is provided in Annex (iv).

D.5.3. Scoring Guidelines

To ensure fairness and transparency, the technical evaluation shall be conducted based on the criteria and qualitative scoring definitions outlined below. The evaluation committee shall award points according to the extent to which each proposal meets the requirements.

Evaluation Criteria and Maximum Scores:

- Expertise of Firm submitting the proposal (140 points): Assessed based on relevant experience, past performance, and capability to deliver the scope of work.
- Proposed Work Plan, Methodology & Risk Management (175 points): Assessed based on quality, clarity, feasibility, and methodology.
- Personnel (Qualifications & Experience)(105 points): Assessed based on qualifications, experience, and suitability for the proposed roles.
- Compliance with Technical Specifications (280 points): Assessed based on compliance, quality, and any enhancements proposed beyond the minimum requirements.

Qualitative Scoring Definitions:

- Excellent (100% of points):
All requirements are fully met and supported by excellent and verifiable evidence. The proposal includes enhancements or innovative features that exceed the minimum requirements (e.g., improved performance, durability, or sustainability).
- Good (90% of points):
All requirements are fully met and supported by strong evidence. The proposal demonstrates a high level of reliability and technical competence.
- Satisfactory (70% of points):
All requirements are met and supported by adequate evidence. The proposal complies exactly with the specifications without additional value-added features.
- Poor (40% or less):
Requirements are only partially met or supported by weak or insufficient evidence. The proposal presents a potential risk to successful project implementation.

D.5.4. Minimum Technical Score (Passing Threshold)

A proposal must score at least 70% of the total technical points (490/700) to be considered technically compliant and proceed to the financial evaluation stage.

D.6 Financial Evaluation. In the second stage the price proposals of all contractors who attained minimum 70% of the maximum score (490 points and more) for the technical evaluation will be reviewed. Arithmetical errors will be rectified according to clause C.8 Pricing Errors. If the Bidder does not accept the correction of errors, its Proposal will be rejected.

The lowest amount, technically qualified financial proposal will be awarded maximum 300 points and other financial proposals will be awarded points in accordance with the following formula: Financial Proposal score = (Lowest Price / Price under consideration) x 300.

The lowest evaluated Financial Proposal (Fm) is given the maximum financial score (Sf) of 300. The formula for determining the financial scores (Sf) of all other Proposals is calculated as following:

$$Sf = 300 \times Fm / F$$

where:

- Sf = Financial score of the proposal under consideration
- Fm = Lowest price among all technically qualified proposals
- F = Price of the proposal under consideration

The financial score is added to the technical score (maximum 700) to determine the **total score out of 1,000 points**.

D. Contracting Arrangements

D.1. Award of contract.

D.1.1. RIMES reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal received in response to this RFP and to negotiate with any of the proposers or other firms in any manner deemed to be in the best interest of RIMES.

D.1.2. Before the expiration date of the proposal's validity, RIMES will make its best efforts to select and award the contract to the qualified proposer whose proposal, after being evaluated, is considered to be the most responsive to the needs of the organization.

D.2. Contract currency shall be United States Dollars (USD) and payments will be executed in USD unless otherwise specified.

D.3. Signing of the contract. The implementation and operational acceptance period shall conclude upon RIMES's satisfactory acceptance of the required deliverables. However, all post-commissioning obligations, including warranty, AMC, technical support, spare-parts availability, and other applicable support commitments, shall remain in force for their respective periods as specified in the Contract.

D.4. Payment provisions. RIMES's general policy is to pay for the performance of contractual services rendered, or to effect payment, upon the achievement of specific milestones described in the contract.

D.4.1. RIMES's policy is not to grant advance payments except in unusual circumstances where the potential contractor specifies in the proposal that there are special circumstances warranting and advance payment. RIMES, at its sole discretion, may however determine that such payment is not warranted or determine the conditions under which such payment would be made.

D.4.2. Any request for advance payment is to be justified and documented and must be submitted with the financial proposal. This justification shall explain the need for the advance payment, itemize the amount requested and provide a time schedule for the utilization of said amount. A bank guarantee equivalent to 10% of the contract value may be required to support the advance payment until the acceptance of the deliverables.

D.4.3. Performance Security: Within 15 days of receipt of the Contract/PO from RIMES, the successful bidder shall furnish a Performance Security in the amount of 10% of the total Contract/PO Price. Performance Security shall be valid until the completion of the delivery, installation, and final acceptance of the goods/services. This security shall be in the form of a Bank Guarantee issued by a reputable bank and shall be in a format acceptable to RIMES. The Performance Security shall be released by RIMES and returned to the Contractor within 30 days after the date of final acceptance of all goods and services, and upon issuance of the Final Acceptance Certificate, provided that there are no outstanding claims or disputes.

D.5. Adjustable Price. Prices quoted by the Bidder shall be fixed during the Bidder's performance of the Contract and not subject to variation on any account.

D.6. Ownership of work papers. The work papers and related documentation shall be the property of RIMES and shall be kept in the custody of the selected firm. The eventual

transfer, disposal or destruction of the work papers will be subject to the instructions of RIMES. The work papers and related documentation shall be subject to submission and review by RIMES solely and at its discretion.

D.7. General conditions of contract. The contract for the provision of the services shall be subject to the RIMES General Conditions of Contract for Goods and Services that are provided in Annex (vii.) Please note that the terms set forth in this RFP and other terms of your proposal shall be included in any contract entered into between your firm and RIMES and, should RIMES accept your proposal, that the contract will require compliance with all statements and representations made in your proposal as to the performance of the services and supply of goods.

D.8. Vendor Protest. Vendor protest procedures are intended to afford an opportunity to appeal to persons or firms not awarded a purchase order or contract in a competitive procurement process. **It is not available to non-responsive or non-timely proposers/bidders or when all proposals/bids are rejected.** In the event that you believe you have not been fairly treated, you can send an email to rimesprocurement@rimes.int.

Annex II – Background Information on SOFF-funded UNEP Investment Phase in Maldives

The Maldives, as a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), is highly vulnerable to climate variability and extreme weather events. Strengthening upper-air observational capacity is critical for improving Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP), Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF), and Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS).

Current operational constraints include:

- Aging upper-air systems with limited reliability (often <2 launches/day)
- Data latency and incomplete vertical profiles
- Limited ICT integration and real-time WIS 2.0 data exchange
- Capacity constraints in operations, maintenance, and quality control

This assignment supports compliance with:

- WMO Global Basic Observing Network (GBON)
- WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS)
- WMO Information System (WIS 2.0)
- Early Warnings for All (EW4All)

This upgrade aligns with the Maldives' GBON National Contribution Plan, which identifies the need for reliable upper-air observations from island locations at Gan Station to support global Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP). Upper-air observations from such isolated island sites provide high-value data for global NWP systems, making reliability and data quality critical.

Terms of Reference

Procurement, Installation, Commissioning, Training, and Support Services for Upper-Air Sounding System, Spare Sensors, Radiosondes, Balloons, Hydrogen Generation System, and Associated Data Communication Services under SOFF Maldives

1. Background and Rationale

The Maldives, as a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), is highly vulnerable to climate variability and extreme weather events. Strengthening upper-air observational capacity is critical for improving Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP), Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF), and Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS).

Current operational constraints include:

- Aging upper-air systems with limited reliability (often <2 launches/day)
- Data latency and incomplete vertical profiles
- Limited ICT integration and real-time WIS 2.0 data exchange
- Capacity constraints in operations, maintenance, and quality control

This assignment supports compliance with:

- WMO Global Basic Observing Network (GBON)
- WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS)
- WMO Information System (WIS 2.0)
- Early Warnings for All (EW4All)

This upgrade aligns with the Maldives' GBON National Contribution Plan, which identifies the need for reliable upper-air observations from island locations to support global Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP). Upper-air observations from such isolated island sites provide high-value data for global NWP systems, making reliability and data quality critical.

2. Objective

Overall Objective To strengthen MMS upper-air observation capability through:

1. Upgrading upper-air station systems (equipment, ICT, data systems, SOPs)
2. Building sustainable operational capacity through training and knowledge transfer

Specific Objectives

- Ensure ≥ 2 radiosonde launches per day aligned with 0000 and 1200 UTC
- Achieve vertical resolution of ≤ 100 m throughout the profile and reliable ascent to at least 30 hPa (with higher burst heights encouraged where possible)
- Ensure $\geq 95\%$ successful ascents meeting GBON standards
- Enable real-time WIS 2.0 compliant data exchange (low latency)
- Establish standardized SOPs and quality control procedures
- Minimize long-term dependency on external support through local capacity and spare parts strategy
- Support integration with global NWP and regional forecasting systems through high-quality, timely, and WMO-compliant data

3. Scope of Work

3.1 Lot-Specific Documentation Requirements

Lot 1: Radiosonde System and Sensors

This lot focuses on the supply and technical integration of the core measurement instruments.

Objective: To provide high-precision, GPS-based radiosondes for vertical atmospheric profiling.

Description	Requirements
Radiosonde System and sensors	Mandatory Technical Specifications: ● Quantity: The Contractor shall supply a minimum of 730 radiosondes for one year of operations, plus 20% additional units as spares (minimum total: 876 radiosondes). Availability of compatible radiosondes for subsequent operational requirements shall be guaranteed for at least five (5) years. ● Resolution: Vertical resolution ≤ 100 m. throughout the entire profile. ● Performance: Reliable ascent to at least 30 hPa. ● Data Standards: High-resolution BUFR encoding and WIS 2.0 compliance using MQTT-based data publication. ● Measurement Accuracy: Traceable to WMO No. 8 standards, including individual calibration certificates per batch. ○ Ground Check Interoperability: Bidders must note that the Maldives Meteorological Service (MMS) operates an active

	Automatic Weather Station (AWS) at the Gan Station installation site. ○ Ground Check and Surface Observation Integration: The proposed system shall include a dedicated pre-launch ground-check capability for validation of temperature, relative humidity, and pressure using traceable reference measurements. The ground receiving software shall also be capable of ingesting surface observations from the existing Gan Station AWS for comparison, baseline verification, and operational quality control. Site Location & Infrastructure Requirements: ● Installation Site Location: The entire upper-air sounding system and the hydrogen generation infrastructure shall be installed at the Maldives Meteorological Service (MMS) Gan Meteorological Station. ● Turnkey Contractor Scope: Bidders must note that while MMS provides primary site access, raw water, and mains power utilities, the contractor bears full turnkey responsibility for all civil, mechanical, electrical distribution, and plumbing works required for complete system functionality. ● Mandatory Technical Drawings Submission: Bidders are required to submit detailed, site-specific preliminary technical drawings with their technical proposal. These drawings must explicitly illustrate the proposed physical layout, concrete foundation pads, architectural shelter integration, gas pipeline routing, gas storage configuration, electrical wiring diagrams, and ventilation schemas tailored to the site. ● Existing Infrastructure Constraints: The existing housing facility at Gan Station does not currently possess a fully pre-certified ATEX containment shelter. Therefore, the contractor's engineering design and drawings must include any necessary structural upgrades, specialized spark-proof electrical fixtures, blow-out walls, and gas extraction fans required to establish full ISO 22734-1 and ATEX compliance for hazardous hydrogen gas environments. Suitability: All radiosondes, sensors, and structural flight accessories must be specifically designed and certified for continuous, reliable operation in a tropical marine environment characterized by high relative humidity up to 95%–100%, high ambient salinity, heavy rainfall, and high surface temperatures reaching up to 45°C.
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	Documentation and Knowledge Transfer: ● Calibration Certificates: Batch-level minimum or individual certificates traceable to WMO No. 8 standards. ● Data Integration Manuals: Detailed documentation on WIS 2.0 MQTT topic hierarchy and BUFR encoding workflows. ● Operational SOPs: Step-by-step guides for pre-launch ground checks and sensor validation. System Modality Baseline: ● The core requirement and financial baseline of this procurement are for a manual upper-air sounding system. Bidders may propose an automatic sounding system (autosonde) as an optional Technical Value Addition, provided that the entire proposal remains fully compliant with the allocated lot budget. Any proposed automatic system must feature full remote monitoring capability, automated safety protocols, and a standalone capacity of at least thirty (30) days based on two (2) daily launches.
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Lot 2: Meteorological Balloons and Accessories

This lot covers the consumables required to loft the sensors provided in Lot 1.

Objective: Supply of high-durability balloons and flight accessories capable of reaching stratospheric altitudes in tropical conditions.

Description	Requirements
Meteorological Balloons and Accessories	Requirements: ● Balloon Type: Rated for tropical conditions (e.g.350g) with stable performance for a targeted ascent rate of 5-6 m/s. ● Accessories: Includes parachutes and, where applicable, batteries required for radiosonde operation. Any batteries supplied under Lot 2 shall be fully compatible with the radiosonde system supplied under Lot 1, and the Bidder shall provide documentary evidence of compatibility. ● Storage: Packaging must be climate-controlled or designated to withstand high humidity.

	● Environmental Responsibility: - The Contractor shall comply with all applicable international environmental standards and Maldives national regulations related to the handling, transport, storage, and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste generated under this contract, including spent batteries, balloon materials, and associated consumables. Documentation and Knowledge Transfer: ● Storage & Handling Manuals: Specific instructions for maintaining balloon integrity in high-humidity tropical environments. ● Environmental Disposal Plan: Procedures for the eco-friendly disposal of spent batteries and balloon fragments. ● Technical Data Sheets: Performance specifications regarding ascent rates and burst heights.
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Lot 3: Hydrogen Generation System

This lot involves the infrastructure for on-site lifting gas production.

Objective: Installation of a safe, non-corrosive hydrogen generation system to support at least two launches per day

Description	Requirements
Hydrogen Generation Systems	Key Specifications: ● Technology: Non-corrosive electrolyte electrolyzer (PEM). ● Purity: ≥99.99% hydrogen purity at rated operating conditions, with automatic purity monitoring. . ● Safety Features: Integrated leak detection, automatic shutdown protocols, and ATEX/ISO safety certifications. ● Capacity: output capacity of at least 1.0 Nm³/h (1,000 L/h), with a preferred operating range of up to 1.5 Nm³/h, sufficient to support a minimum of two radiosonde launches per day. ● Infrastructure: Includes a suitable water purification/conditioning system, such as RO + DI or equivalent, capable of meeting the electrolyzer manufacturer's required water-quality specifications, with continuous conductivity monitoring Site Location & Infrastructure Requirements: ● Installation Site Location: The entire upper-air sounding system and the hydrogen generation infrastructure shall be installed at the Maldives

	Meteorological Service (MMS) Gan Meteorological Station. ● Turnkey Contractor Scope: Bidders must note that while MMS provides primary site access, raw water, and mains power utilities, the contractor bears full turnkey responsibility for all civil, mechanical, electrical distribution, and plumbing works required for complete system functionality. ● Mandatory Technical Drawings Submission: Bidders are required to submit detailed, site-specific preliminary technical drawings with their technical proposal. These drawings must explicitly illustrate the proposed physical layout, concrete foundation pads, architectural shelter integration, gas pipeline routing, gas storage configuration, electrical wiring diagrams, and ventilation schemas tailored to the site. ● Existing Infrastructure Constraints: The existing housing facility at Gan Station does not currently possess a fully pre-certified ATEX containment shelter. Therefore, the contractor's engineering design and drawings must include any necessary structural upgrades, specialized spark-proof electrical fixtures, blow-out walls, and gas extraction fans required to establish full ISO 22734-1 and ATEX compliance for hazardous hydrogen gas environments. Documentation and Knowledge Transfer: ● Safety & Emergency Manuals: Critical documentation on leak detection, automated shutdown protocols, and ATEX/ISO safety compliance. ● Technical Drawings: As-built drawings of the gas pipeline systems, electrical layouts, and plumbing. ● Maintenance Logs: Preventive and corrective maintenance schedules specifically for electrolyzers and water purification units.
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Lot 4: Capacity Building and Technical Support

This lot focuses on the human and operational sustainability of the project.

Objective: To train Maldives Meteorological Service (MMS) staff and provide long-term maintenance support.

Description	Requirements
Capacity Building and	Deliverables: ● On-site Training: 5–7 days of initial training for 8–12 MMS staff, including:

Technical Support	● radiosonde operations, ● WIS 2.0/BUFR data handling, ● GBON operational reporting, ● hydrogen safety procedures, ● basic troubleshooting, ● and follow-up refresher sessions at 3 and 6 months post-installation. ● Refresher Sessions: Follow-up training at 3-month and 6-month intervals. Documentation: Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) aligned with WMO No. 8 and GBON for maintenance and QC. ● Long-term Support: Provision of refresher training, remote technical advisory support, SOP updates where required, and continued knowledge-transfer support during the operational stabilization period. ● Spare Parts: Training shall include guidance on identification, routine inspection, replacement procedures, and inventory management of critical spare parts applicable to the supplied systems. Documentation and Knowledge Transfer: ● Training Materials: Digital, editable formats of training modules (in English) including hands-on exercises and failure simulations. ● Competency Assessments: Standardized forms to evaluate and certify MMS staff on system operation and troubleshooting. Knowledge ● Transfer Plan: A strategic document outlining how technical expertise will be sustained within MMS during the approximately twenty-eight (28) week implementation period and subsequent operational support period.
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3.2 Standardized Documentation Deliverables (For all Lots)

To ensure high quality across the entire project, the following standards must be applied to all documentation provided by the contractors:

- **Language:** All manuals, reports, and drawings must be provided in English.
- **Format:** Digital documentation must be provided in editable formats (e.g., Word, CAD) to allow for future local updates.
- **Spare Parts Strategy:** Every lot must include a 3-year spare parts inventory list with regional sourcing options.
- **As-Built Drawings:** Final versions of all technical layouts must be submitted upon completion of installation.
- **Knowledge Transfer Plan:** Each Lot shall include a clear plan describing how technical knowledge will be transferred to MMS personnel during the approximately twenty-eight (28)

week implementation period and, where applicable, continued during the post-installation support period.

3.3 Documentation & Knowledge Transfer Requirements (Per Lot)

The Contractor shall provide the following documentation as a condition for milestone payments. All documents must be in English, provided in digital editable formats, and tailored to the specific equipment in this Lot.

Lot-Specific Deliverables Table

Deliverable ID	Document Type	Description of Requirement	Due Date
D-01	Technical Manuals	Comprehensive Installation, Operation, and Maintenance (I&M) manuals specific to the Lot equipment.	Upon Delivery
D-02	Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)	Step-by-step guides for daily operations, data quality control (where applicable), and emergency safety protocols.	Post-Installation
D-03	As-Built Drawings	Detailed final site layouts, electrical diagrams, and system architecture specific to the Maldives installation.	Commissioning
D-04	Spare Parts Strategy	A 3-year recommended spare parts inventory list, including part numbers, MTBF data, and regional sourcing options.	Inception Phase
D-05	Training Materials	Full set of training modules, digital	Prior to Training

		presentations, and competency assessment forms used during capacity building.	
D-06	Handover & Support Plan	A transition plan outlining technical support access, warranty claim procedures, and the Knowledge Transfer timeline.	Final Acceptance

4. Key Deliverables and Timeline

The Contractor is requested to propose detailed activities and an indicative timeframe that will most effectively achieve the objectives and deliverables under this assignment. The proposed plan should demonstrate a logical sequence of tasks, allocation of resources, and milestones for delivery.

No.	Deliverable	Timeline
1	Inception Report & Work Plan: Includes confirmation of the delivery schedule.	Week 1
2	Site Survey & Detailed Design Report	Week 2–4
3	Equipment Delivery + FAT Report: Includes successful Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) at the manufacturer's facility and transit to the Maldives	Week 4–20 (approx. 4–5 months manufacturing & shipping buffer)
4	Installation & Integration Report: Includes successful Site Acceptance Test (SAT)	Week 20-24
5	Testing & Commissioning Report: Validates WMO No. 8 compliance and WIS 2.0 data transmission	Week 24-26
6	Training Completion Report: Aggregates staff assessments and certification recommendations	Week 26-27
7	Final Report + SOPs + Documentation + Support Plan Final handover package including all approved technical documentation, SOPs, as-built drawings, training records, and post-installation support arrangements. : Handover package.	Week 28
8	Post-Installation Performance Report Summary of system performance, operational issues, corrective actions, refresher training, and lessons	Six (6) months after commissioning

	learned during the first six (6) months following commissioning.	
9	Final Retention Release: Subject to stable system performance.	Month 11–12 (Stability period shifts accordingly)

4.1 Master Deliverables Schedule (Per Lot)

Phase	Lot 1: Radiosondes	Lot 2: Balloons	Lot 3: H2 Generators	Lot 4: Capacity Building	Timeline
Inception	Data integration plan.	Storage/handling plan.	Detailed design/layouts & initial structural drawing.	Training needs assessment.	Week 1
Delivery	Radiosonde batch manufacturing, Factory Acceptance Testing (FAT), and international transit.	Initial consumable stock delivery (with tropical packaging protection).	Hydrogen Generator custom manufacturing, factory safety interlock FAT, and international transit.	Draft training modules, manuals, and competency assessment forms.	Weeks 2–20 (Provides the necessary 4-5 month manufacturing & shipping buffer)
Setup	Physical station installation, software integration, and Site Acceptance Test (SAT).	Verification of onsite climate-controlled storage conditions.	Physical installation at Gan Station, mechanical plumbing, electrical layout connections, and H2 Safety/Leak containment testing.	SOP finalization (Launch, Gas Safety, ICT routing, and Emergency response).	Weeks 20-24
Validation	7-day continuous operational data demonstration $\geq$ 95% success rate to 30 hPa).	High-altitude balloon burst performance validation.	Hydrogen gas purity ($\geq$ 99.99%) validation and automated	Delivery of core on-site staff training and simulation of	Weeks 24-27

			shutdown verification	system failures.	
Handover	Final Report + WIS 2.0 Docs.	Environmental Lifecycle Disposal Plan + Final Consumable Specs.	As-built drawings (electrical/civil /piping) + ATEX Safety Certificates.	Training Completion Report & initial staff operational certifications	Week 28 (Formal conclusion of Phase 1)
Stability	Performance monitoring & data availability validation.	Consumable usage and shelf-life monitoring.	Stability, uptime (≥ 98%), and purity crossover monitoring.	3 & 6-month hands-on refresher courses and remote technical helpdesk support.	Months 8-12 (Shifts cleanly to reflect the expanded Phase 1)

4.2 Critical Timeline Milestones

- **Implementation (Weeks 1–28):** This phase focuses on getting the hardware on-site, installed, and the staff trained. The contractor is responsible for all logistics, including customs clearance in the Maldives.
- **Stability Period (30 Days Post-Commissioning):**
 - This is a mandatory "stress test" where the system must achieve a ≥ 95% success rate for launches (minimum 2 launches/day) before the final completion report is accepted.
 - Performance validation during the stability period shall be jointly conducted and certified by MMS and RIMES. If the minimum operational KPIs are not achieved during the validation period, the Contractor shall implement corrective actions and repeat the validation process at no additional cost to the Purchaser until compliance is demonstrated.

Monitoring Phase (Months 8-12): This phase ensures long-term operational reliability and includes the delivery of the 3-month and 6-month hands-on refresher training sessions. The final payment (release of the 10% retention) is strictly contingent upon the system proving stable performance throughout this monitoring footprint.

4.3 Key Requirements for Deliverables:

- **Language:** All reports and documentation must be written in English.
- **Testing Standards:** Deliverables are contingent on achieving a ≥ 95% success rate for ascents and ≥ 98% system uptime.

- **Stability Period:** A mandatory thirty (30)-day post-commissioning stability period shall commence after successful commissioning and shall be completed before formal operational acceptance of the system. Performance during this period shall be jointly validated by RIMES and MMS.
- **SOPs:** Final documentation must include site-specific, WMO-aligned Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for hydrogen handling/safety, radiosonde launch validation, ICT data routing, and emergency shutdown protocols.
- **Spare Parts:** A recommended spare parts inventory list based on Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF) data must be documented for at least a 3-year operational window.

5. Contract Duration

The total duration of the contract is estimated to be **11-12 months**. This period includes:

- **Phase 1: Implementation (Approx. 28 weeks):** Covering inception, site survey, factory manufacturing lead times, Factory Acceptance Testing (FAT), international shipping, customs clearance in the Maldives, physical installation at Gan Station, testing, and training..
- **Phase 2: Monitoring & Stability (Approx. 4-5 months):** Including a mandatory 30-day stability period and subsequent performance monitoring to ensure system reliability before the final release of retention."

The above 11–12-month period relates to implementation and operational acceptance only. The Contractor’s 2-year warranty and 3-year Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) obligations shall continue beyond this period in accordance with the applicable warranty and support provisions of the Contract.

The scheduled refresher training sessions at three (3) and six (6) months post-installation shall be treated as post-installation support obligations and shall continue beyond the implementation and monitoring period where necessary.

6. Implementation Modality

6.1 General Implementation Modality (Global)

These rules apply to all four lots and should be stated once in the main body of the RFP:

- **End-to-End Responsibility:** The Contractor is responsible for all logistics, including international shipping, insurance, and local customs clearance in the Maldives.
- **Site Access:** MMS and RIMES will provide necessary site access, utilities (power/water), and technical oversight.
- **Language & Standards:** All operations, reporting, and labels must be in English and comply with WMO No. 8 and GBON regulations.
- **Integrated System Responsibility:** Where multiple lots are awarded to different contractors, each contractor shall cooperate fully to ensure interoperability and successful integration of all system components. RIMES reserves the right to require joint coordination among contractors to ensure end-to-end operational functionality, including compatibility between

radiosonde systems, balloons, hydrogen generation systems, ICT infrastructure, and WIS 2.0 data exchange workflows, at no additional cost to the Purchaser.

- All ICT infrastructure and communication systems implemented under this contract shall follow recognized cybersecurity and secure data transmission practices appropriate for operational meteorological systems.

6.2. Lot-Specific Implementation Modalities

RIMES reserves the right to award multiple lots to a single bidder if it is determined that such award offers the best value for money, ensures operational integration, and minimizes implementation risk.

Lot 1: Radiosonde Systems and Sensors	● Data Flow Modality: The Contractor shall fully implement, configure, and operationalize the complete end-to-end data pathway from the physical radiosonde sensors to the active operational WIS 2.0 node. This implementation requires the contractor to establish live, real-time transmission using the mandatory MQTT publish-subscribe architecture and high-resolution BUFR encoding. A passive simulation or generic factory demonstration is not sufficient; the data path must be fully verified as active and functional from Gan Station to the WMO network during site acceptance testing. ● Validation Modality: A mandatory 7-day continuous operational demonstration with $\geq 95\%$ success rate for valid data up to 30 hPa. Acceptance Testing Modality: ● FAT shall be completed prior to shipment to verify compliance with the applicable technical specifications, including sensor and system performance, telemetry, ground-check functionality, data processing, BUFR generation, and WIS 2.0/MQTT data transmission capability. ● Site Acceptance Testing (SAT) shall be conducted after installation and commissioning to verify operational performance, WIS 2.0 data transmission, GBON compliance, and successful sounding operations prior to final handover.
Lot 2: Meteorological Balloons and Accessories	● Supply Chain Modality: The Contractor shall guarantee the availability and supply of meteorological balloons and associated Lot 2 consumables/accessories for at least five (5) years. Storage Modality: The contractor is responsible for verifying that the provided storage solutions maintain the shelf-life of latex balloons in tropical heat.

Lot 3: Hydrogen Generators Systems	● Civil & Electrical Works: The bidder is responsible for all civil, mechanical, and electrical works required for installation. ● Safety Commissioning: Modality includes a mandatory safety audit, leak detection testing, and automated shutdown verification before handover. ● Consideration: The Contractor shall submit a site-specific Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) Management Plan, including emergency response procedures, prior to installation works.
Lot 4: Capacity Building and Support	● Training Modality: Must include "Train-the-Trainer" components and on-site simulations of system failures. ● Post-Installation Support: - Includes a 2-year warranty and a 3-year Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) with quarterly maintenance visits. - Includes refresher training sessions, remote technical advisory support, SOP updates where necessary, and knowledge transfer support during the operational stabilization period.

6.3. Performance Indicators (The "Success" Modality)

- Launch Frequency: ≥2 launches/day at 0000 and 1200 UTC.
- Data Availability: ≥95% (GBON compliance).
- System Uptime: ≥98% (excluding scheduled maintenance).
- Response Time: Remote support within 4 hours; on-site support within 72 hours.

7. Warranty and Support

The Warranty and Support requirements for this procurement are designed to ensure long-term operational sustainability and high data availability for the Maldives' upper-air stations.

7.1 Core Warranty Requirements

- **Duration:** A comprehensive **2-year warranty** covering parts, labor, and software is mandatory.
- **On-site Support:** Warranty services must be provided **on-site** at the station locations.
- **Response Times:**
 - **Remote Support:** Maximum response time of **4 hours**.
 - **On-site Support:** Maximum response time of **72 hours** (potentially facilitated via regional support).
- **Spare Parts Logistics:** Critical spare parts must be delivered within 30–45 days.

- **Additional:** The supplier shall guarantee availability of spare parts, consumables, firmware updates, software support, and technical support services for a minimum period of ten (10) years after commissioning. (for consideration)
- **Software Licensing and Lifecycle Costs:** All core operating software, data visualization suites, BUFR encoding engines, and WIS 2.0 MQTT messaging interfaces supplied under this procurement must be fully operational **without any recurring software license fees, subscription costs, or mandatory user fees after the initial purchase.** Any firmware updates, security patches, or software maintenance updates issued during the lifecycle of the system shall be provided to the Purchaser at no additional cost.

7.2 Long-Term Operational Support

- **Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC):** Bidders must include a **3-year AMC plan** in their technical proposal. The AMC period shall commence upon expiry of the two (2)-year warranty period.
- **Maintenance Visits:** The AMC must include **quarterly on-site maintenance visits.**
- **Supply Guarantees:**
 - **Radiosondes:** Guaranteed supply of radiosondes must be ensured for at least 5 years.
 - **Technical Support & Spares:** Technical support and spare parts availability must be guaranteed for **10 years.**

For each equipment Lot awarded separately, the Contractor responsible for that Lot shall provide the applicable warranty, Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC), technical support, and spare-parts support for the equipment supplied under that Lot. These obligations shall remain with the respective equipment supplier and shall not be transferred to the Contractor responsible solely for Lot 4: Capacity Building and Support.

7.3 Support Modality per Lot

Based on the project structure, these requirements should be applied across the four lots as follows:

Lot	Specific Support Focus
Lot 1: Radiosonde Systems and Sensors	Focus on sensor calibration accuracy and software updates for WIS 2.0/BUFR compliance.
Lot 2: Meteorological Balloons and Accessories	Ensuring consistent quality of consumables and environmental disposal compliance.
Lot 3: Hydrogen Generation Systems	Focus on hydrogen purity monitoring, leak detection system calibration, and ATEX safety compliance.
Lot 4: Capacity	Includes refresher training sessions at 3 and 6 months post-installation

Building and Support	and ongoing maintenance task training for MMS staff.
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Performance Indicators (Warranty Period)

During the warranty and monitoring phase, the system must maintain the following performance levels to satisfy contract conditions:

- **System Uptime:** ≥98% (excluding scheduled maintenance).
- **Successful Ascents:** ≥95% reaching at least **30 hPa**.
- **Data Availability:** ≥95% to ensure GBON compliance.
- **Reporting:** Monthly performance reports are required during the warranty period.

8. Qualification Requirements

The Qualification Requirements ensure that the selected bidder possesses the technical expertise, operational history, and financial stability required to manage a complex installation in a Small Island Developing State (SIDS).

8.1 General Organizational Requirements (All Lots)

- **Legal Status:** The bidder must be a legally registered firm (sole proprietorship, company, partnership, or joint venture).
- **Financial Stability:** Submission of annual balance sheets and profit & loss statements for the last three (3) financial years is mandatory.
- **Quality Standards:** The firm must hold ISO 9001 certification.
- **Ethics:** Bidders must not be on the UN 1267 Terrorist list, suspended by RIMES/UNPD, or declared ineligible by the World Bank.

8.2 Technical Experience & Track Record

Bidders must demonstrate a proven history of successful project delivery, specifically in tropical environments:

- **Project History:** Verifiable completion of 3–5 upper-air sounding station projects within the last 10 years.
- **SIDS/Tropical Experience:** At least one (1) similar project successfully completed in a **SIDS or tropical maritime environment within the last 10 years**.
- **Operational Maturity:** The proposed radiosonde system must be in operational use by **at least five (5) National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) with at least two (2) years** of continuous operation.

8.3 Specialized Expertise (Lot-Specific)

The technical qualifications are further broken down to ensure compliance with global standards:

Lot / Area	Mandatory Qualification Requirements
Lot 1: Radiosonde Systems and Sensors	Proven implementation of WIS 2.0 and GBON standards, including MQTT-based data publication and high-resolution BUFR encoding.
Lot 2: Meteorological Balloons and Accessories	Proven performance of consumables in tropical/marine environments ; and a demonstrated capability to execute a Manufacturer Take-Back or Controlled Lifecycle Management Plan for operational consumables. Bidders must explicitly document their logistics framework for collecting, containing, and safely exporting spent lithium-based radiosonde batteries out of the Maldives to certified international recycling facilities, preventing hazardous chemical waste from entering local SIDS landfills.
Lot 3: Hydrogen Generation Systems	Proven experience in the supply, installation, commissioning, and maintenance of hydrogen generation systems for meteorological/NMHS applications, including compliance with applicable ISO/ATEX safety requirements and operation in tropical or marine environments.
Lot 4: Capacity Building and Support	Training specialists must demonstrate at least five (5) relevant experiences in meteorological training with a clear understanding of regional needs.

9. Implementation Modality

The **Implementation Modality** for this project follows an end-to-end delivery model where the Contractor bears full responsibility for the technical and logistical success of the installation.

Below is the breakdown of the implementation modality organized by general project rules and lot-specific requirements.

9.1 General Implementation Framework

- **Turnkey Responsibility:** The Contractor is responsible for the entire delivery chain, including international importation, logistics, insurance, packaging, handling, delivery to the final installation site, and all customs clearance procedures within the Maldives.
- **Site Support:** The Maldives Meteorological Service (MMS) and RIMES will provide necessary site access, utilities (power/water), and technical oversight during the implementation phase.

- **Duration:** The project implementation and commissioning phase shall last approximately twenty-eight (28) weeks, followed by a monitoring and stability period of approximately four to five (4–5) months.

9.2 Lot-Specific Implementation Requirements

Lot 1: Radiosonde Systems and Sensors	• Operational Standards: Implementation must ensure at least two (2) launches per day aligned with synoptic times (0000 and 1200 UTC) synoptic times, and this capability shall be demonstrated during commissioning and acceptance testing • Data Performance: The system must achieve a ≥95% success rate for ascents reaching at least 30 hPa with a Vertical Resolution of ≤100 m. • ICT Compliance: Implementation includes full integration with MMS infrastructure using WIS 2.0 publish-subscribe architecture (MQTT) for real-time data exchange. • Radiosonde Supply and Delivery: The Contractor shall supply a minimum of 730 radiosondes for one year of operations, plus 20% additional units as spares (minimum total: 876 radiosondes). Availability of compatible radiosondes for subsequent operational requirements shall be guaranteed for at least five (5) years.
Lot 2: Meteorological Balloons and Accessories	• Supply Security: The Contractor shall guarantee the availability and supply of meteorological balloons and associated Lot 2 consumables/accessories for at least five (5) years. • Environmental Stewardship: Implementation includes established protocols for the environmentally responsible disposal of balloons, parachutes, and spent batteries. • Storage: Consumables must be stored in systems suitable for high humidity and salt-corrosion conditions.
Lot 3: Hydrogen Generation Systems	• Technical Scope: The bidder is responsible for all civil, mechanical, and electrical works required for the installation of the hydrogen electrolyzer. • Safety Integration: Implementation requires the setup of automated safety systems, including leak detection, fire suppression, and automatic shutdown protocols, and operational safety procedures for hydrogen handling and emergency response. • Water Quality: Installation shall include a suitable water purification/conditioning system, such as RO + DI or equivalent, capable of meeting the electrolyzer manufacturer's required water-quality specifications.
Lot 4: Capacity	• Training Modality: The contractor must deliver 5–7 days of on-

Building and Support	site training for 8–12 MMS staff, followed by refresher sessions at the 3 and 6-month marks. ● Maintenance Structure: Includes a 3-year Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) with mandatory quarterly maintenance visits. ● SOP Operationalization: Development and field-testing of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for hydrogen handling, data quality control, and emergency response.
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3. Operational Performance Targets

To satisfy the implementation modality, the following targets must be met during the 30-day post-commissioning stability period:

- System Uptime: ≥98% (excluding scheduled maintenance).
- Data Availability: ≥95% (GBON compliance).
- Support Response: Remote support within 4 hours; on-site or regional support within 72 hours.

10. The composition of contractor's team

The contractor's team must be composed of experts capable of delivering a high-tech, safety-critical system in a remote marine environment. The following personnel roles and qualifications are mandatory for the technical evaluation:

10.1 Key Personnel Requirements

No.	Position	Qualifications	Role
1	Project Manager	Relevant experience ≥10 years)	Overall project management, coordination, and ensuring delivery according to the work plan and schedule.
2	Technical experts	Specialized in Radiosonde and ICT integration ; ideally with 10 years of experience for maximum scoring.	Managing the installation, commissioning, and integration of the upper-air sounding system with Maldives Meteorological Service (MMS)

			infrastructure, including WIS 2.0 and GBON compliance.
3	Training specialists	Preferred 5 relevant experiences in meteorological training demonstrating clear understanding of the region and user needs.	Designing and delivering 5–7 days of on-site training plus follow-up sessions for 8–12 MMS staff on system operation, maintenance, and data quality management.
4	Safety/hydrogen system expertise	10 years of experience; must hold relevant ATEX/Safety certifications.	Oversight of the hydrogen generation system installation, ensuring compliance with ISO/ATEX safety standards, leak detection, and automated shutdown protocols.

10.2 Implementation Across Lots

While the Project Manager oversees the entire contract, specialized expertise must be assigned to specific technical areas:

- **Lot 1 & 2 (Radiosondes and Sensors & Meteorological Balloons and Accessories):** Technical Experts shall focus on radiosonde system installation, telemetry, high-resolution BUFR encoding, and integration of sounding data into the WIS 2.0 publish-subscribe architecture.
- **Lot 2 (Meteorological Balloons and Accessories):** Technical Experts shall focus on balloon performance, compatibility with the radiosonde system, tropical storage and handling requirements, and safe management of associated consumables.
- **Lot 3 (Hydrogen Generation Systems):** The Safety/Hydrogen Expert is responsible for the commissioning of the non-corrosive electrolyzer, ensuring the automatic purity monitoring and shutdown protocols are fully functional.
- **Lot 4 (Capacity Building & Support):** The Training Specialist is tasked with the development of SOPs and the certification of MMS staff in system maintenance and emergency response.

10.3 Team Documentation for Submission

Bidders are required to include the following in their technical proposal for all proposed team members:

- A team organogram showing reporting lines and task assignments.
- Comprehensive Curriculum Vitae (CV) for all senior professional members.
- Copies of relevant professional certifications, particularly **ATEX** for the hydrogen expert.

11. Delivery, Reporting and Payment

The Delivery, Reporting, and Payment schedule is structured to align with specific project milestones and ensure high-quality standards are met before funds are released. Payments are strictly contingent upon the completion of deliverables and formal approval by RIMES.

11.1 Master Payment and Delivery Schedule

Delivery / Payment Schedule	Delivery / Payment Schedule	Delivery / Payment Schedule
1st Payment: 20 percent of the Contract Price upon Contract signing, confirmation of the delivery schedule, and submission of the Inception Report	20%	Week 1
2nd Payment: 20 percent of the Contract Price upon successful completion and approval of the Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) prior to shipment.	20%	By approx. Week 20
3rd Payment: 25 percent of the Contract Price upon successful Installation & Site Acceptance Test (SAT)	25%	Weeks 20–24
4th Payment: 25 percent of the Contract Price upon completion of the Final Delivery & Training	25%	Weeks 26-28
Final Payment: 10 percent of the Contract Price upon completion of the approximately four to five (4–5) month monitoring and stability period and confirmation of satisfactory system performance.	10%	Release of retention after 3–6 months of stable performance.

Noted:

- **Conditions for Payment Release:** Each payment is contingent upon the completion of specific project milestones, deliverables, and formal approvals. Payment will only be made upon the successful fulfilment of these conditions.
- **Final Payment:** The retention period (3-6 months) will formally commence only after the successful completion of the 30-day post-commissioning stability period and the formal acceptance of the Final Completion Report by RIMES.

11.2 Reporting Requirements per Lot

The Contractor is responsible for the following reports, which must be submitted in English and provided in digital editable formats:

- **Inception Report & Work Plan:** Detailed Gantt chart with milestones, site survey findings, and a comprehensive risk register.
- **FAT/SAT Reports:** Documented evidence of equipment performance against **WMO No. 8** and **GBON** standards prior to and after installation.
- **Installation & Integration Report:** Details on the setup of **Lot 1 (Sensors) and Lot 3 (Hydrogen Generators)**, including ICT compliance for WIS 2.0.
- **Training Completion Report:** Aggregated assessments of staff competency, attendance logs, and certification recommendations.
- **Final Completion Report:** Comprehensive project summary including **SOPs**, as-built drawings, and a 6-month post-installation support plan.

11.3 Important Payment Conditions

- **Fixed Price:** Payments are made on a Fixed Price basis (unless Option A is specified) and are not subject to adjustment due to currency or price fluctuations. The contract price must be all-inclusive of all permanent software configurations and operational licenses, guaranteeing zero ongoing software licensing or subscription liabilities for RIMES or MMS post-purchase.
- **Invoice Submission:** Original invoices must be submitted physically; invoices sent via fax will not be accepted.
- **Payment Terms:** Accepted invoices are typically paid within thirty (30) days of acceptance.
- **Retention Period:** The monitoring and retention period of approximately four to five (4–5) months shall commence following successful completion of the mandatory 30-day post-commissioning stability period and formal operational acceptance of the system.
- **Advance Payments:** RIMES generally does not grant advance payments. Any request for an advance must be documented in the financial proposal, and a bank guarantee equivalent to 10% of the contract value may be required.
- **Performance Security:** Within **15 days** of receipt of the Contract/PO from RIMES, the successful bidder shall furnish a Performance Security in the amount of **10% of the total Contract/PO Price**. Performance Security shall be valid until the completion of the delivery, installation, and final acceptance of the goods/services. This security shall be in the form of a Bank Guarantee issued by a reputable bank and shall be in a format acceptable to RIMES. The Performance Security shall be released by RIMES and returned to the Contractor within

30 days after the date of final acceptance of all goods and services, and upon issuance of the Final Acceptance Certificate, provided that there are no outstanding claims or disputes.

12. Contracting Authority

The **Contracting Authority** for this procurement is the **Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES)**.

The project is funded through "**The SOFF-funded UNEP Investment Phase in Maldives**". Key administrative details regarding this authority include:

- **Governing Law:** The eventual contract will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the **Kingdom of Thailand**.
- **Settlement of Disputes:** Any disputes between the Purchaser and a Supplier shall be referred to adjudication or arbitration in accordance with the laws of the **Purchaser's Country**.
- **Tax Exemptions:** While the Contractor is solely responsible for all taxation on income derived from the assignment, RIMES is exempt from liabilities regarding such taxation. Additionally, for the purchase of goods, if tax exemptions are available, RIMES will use its best efforts to enable the Supplier to benefit from such savings to the maximum extent allowable.
- **Communication Restrictions:** During the procurement process, RIMES staff are prohibited from communicating about this procurement with external parties outside of official channels. Attempting to communicate with staff regarding the procurement may adversely affect a bidder's prospect of selection.

13. Tax Obligation

Contractor Responsibility

- The **Contractor is solely responsible** for all taxation or other assessments on any income derived from this assignment.
- This includes personal or corporate income tax, social security contributions, or any other levies required by the laws of the Contractor's home country or the country of operation.

RIMES Exemption and Assistance

- **Liability Exemption:** RIMES is exempt from any liabilities regarding such taxation and will not withhold or pay taxes on behalf of the Contractor.
- **Tax Savings:** If any tax exemptions, reductions, or allowances are available to the Supplier, RIMES will use its best efforts to enable the Supplier to benefit from such savings to the maximum allowable extent.
- **Standard Rates:** Prices quoted by the Bidder shall be fixed and not subject to variation on any account during the Bidder's performance of the Contract.

Lot-Specific Considerations

While the general tax obligation remains the same for all lots, bidders should consider the following in their financial proposals:

- **Lot 1, 2, & 3 (Goods):** Bidders must factor in all duties and license fees incurred until the delivery of the contracted goods to the Purchaser.
- **Lot 4 (Services):** The "all-inclusive" rate per person-day for team members must account for any individual tax burdens.

ANNEX A

This section is the Technical Proposal Specifications for Upper-Air Station Upgrade and Capacity Building Services Project (including SIDS/tropical experience, technical compliance with GBON/WIS 2.0 specifications, and risk management plan).

Finalized Technical Proposal Structure

1. Executive Summary

A high-level overview of the proposed solution, emphasizing reliability and its contribution to the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON).

2. Technical Compliance Matrix

- Mandatory Specifications: Item-by-item response to all technical requirements.
- WMO/GBON Standards: Detailed alignment with WMO No. 8 (CIMO Guide) and GBON regulatory requirements.

3. System Description & Technical Specifications Detailed breakdown of the hardware and software ecosystem:

- Radiosonde System (Lot 1): Sensors, GPS-based wind finding, accuracy, and individual batch calibration certificates traceable to WMO standards.
- Ground Receiving System: Antenna type (auto-tracking or omnidirectional), receiver sensitivity, and multi-channel capability.
- Telemetry: Frequency management (400.15–406 MHz) and data link robustness with a minimum 200 km range.
- Software Suite: Data visualization, processing (real-time PTU + wind), and automated QC per WMO No. 8.
- Hydrogen Generation System (Lot 3): Non-corrosive electrolyte electrolyzer (PEM/SPE type), storage, and ≥99.99% purity levels

4. WIS 2.0 & GBON Integration Requirements

- BUFR Capability & Sequence Compliance
 - The system's data processing software must natively generate high-resolution Binary Universal Form for the Representation (BUFR) messages directly from the raw sounding telemetry without requiring external conversion tools.
 - BUFR encoding must strictly adhere to the mandatory WMO World Weather Watch (WWW) data designs, specifically complying with the standard high-resolution radiosonde sequence template 3 09 052 (or the latest WMO-approved sequence for operational GBON upper-air reporting)
 - The generated BUFR files must capture and compile high-resolution vertical atmospheric profiles (at intervals ≤ 100 throughout the entire ascent profile).

- Messages must include complete, mandatory WIGOS metadata, including the unique WIGOS Station Identifier (WSI) for Gan Station, sensor serial numbers, batch calibration factors, and precise launch event time stamps.
- Data Transmission & WIS 2.0 Connectivity Protocols
 - The ground station software suite must feature a fully integrated, native client interface for real-time data dissemination via the modern WMO Information System (WIS 2.0) framework.
 - Data transmission must rely on the lightweight Message Queuing Telemetry Transport (MQTT) publish-subscribe messaging protocol.
 - The software must possess the capability to automatically format, sign, and publish real-time notifications to the designated regional WIS 2.0 Global Broker.
 - The system must publish messages using the strictly defined WMO WIS 2.0 environmental topic hierarchy schema (e.g., matching the geographical, data type, and center specific sub-topics designated for the Maldives Meteorological Service).
 - To resolve temporary network dropouts or local subsea cable interruptions common to remote SIDS environments, the system must include an automated data buffering and local cache mechanism. This cache must store all generated BUFR reports locally and automatically re-try and publish them upon network restoration to fulfill GBON latency criteria.
- Interoperability & Local Infrastructure Integration
 - The proposed upper-air sounding infrastructure must deliver open, non-proprietary data access interfaces (such as automated flat-file exports, secure FTP pipelines, or standard APIs) to prevent vendor lock-in.
 - The system must support smooth, native data exchange and full interoperability with the existing national meteorological network maintained by the Maldives Meteorological Service (MMS).
 - As established in the technical specs, the software must natively interface with and ingest ambient baseline surface readings from the active Gan Station Automatic Weather Station (AWS) for immediate pre-launch validation and drift alignment.
 - The processing software must mirror and feed its local archive databases simultaneously into the main MMS forecasting office systems in Malé via secure TCP/IP workflows
- Data Transmission: Connectivity protocols for the WMO Information System (WIS 2.0).
- Interoperability: Integration with existing national meteorological infrastructure.
- 5. Project Implementation Methodology
 - Delivery & Logistics: Shipping and onsite handling.
 - Installation & Commissioning: Site preparation and physical setup.
 - Testing Protocol: Detailed Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) and Site Acceptance Test (SAT) procedures.

- Implementation Schedule: Comprehensive Gantt chart or timeline from contract signing to handover.
6. Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE)
- Hydrogen Management: Safety protocols for gas generation, balloon inflation, and storage.
 - Operational Safety: Risk assessments and emergency shutdown procedures.
7. Support, Training, & Warranty
- **Training Program:** Operational and maintenance training for local staff.
 - **After-Sales Support:** Helpdesk availability and response times.
 - **Warranty:** Duration and coverage for hardware/software.
 - **Maintenance:** Preventive and corrective maintenance schedules.
8. Corporate Experience & Past Performance
- Note: This is the best placement for your project list. It validates your technical claims with real-world evidence.
 - List of Similar Completed Projects: Focused on upper-air sounding systems.
9. Certifications & Authorizations
- OEM Authorization: Formal letters from the original equipment manufacturer.
 - Quality Certifications: ISO standards or specific meteorological certifications.
 - Client References: Contact details for verification of performance and reliability.
10. Key Recommendations for Finalization:
- Formatting: Use a table for the Technical Compliance Matrix (Column A: Requirement, Column B: Comply/Partial/No, Column C: Evidence/Reference).
 - HSE Focus: Since you mentioned Hydrogen, ensure the HSE section specifically highlights compliance with international gas safety standards; this is often a "make-or-break" section for auditors.
 - WIS 2.0: Ensure your "Data Transmission" section explicitly mentions the MQTT protocol, as this is a core shift in the WIS 2.0 framework compared to GTS.

1.1 General Mandatory Requirements (Applicable to ALL Lots)

No.	Description	Mandatory Specifications
1. Technical Proposal Specification		
1.1	Compliance with GBON & WMO No. 8	● Full compliance with GBON requirements (launch frequency, resolution, vertical coverage, timeliness) ● Compliance with WMO No. 8 measurement accuracy & QA/QC ● High-resolution BUFR + WIS 2.0 integration ● Ground check system + radiation & humidity correction

1.2	System Performance & Reliability	● Demonstrated ≥95% data availability (evidence required) ● Proven performance in tropical/marine environments ● System uptime ≥98% with redundancy features ● Multi-GNSS + robust telemetry
1.3	ICT & Data Systems	● WIS 2.0 MQTT integration ● Automated QC and workflows ● Cybersecurity and data integrity
1.4	SIDS / Tropical Experience	● Experience in SIDS or island environments ● Proven installations in tropical/marine climate
1.5	Technical Value Additions	● Automatic launch system (autosonde) ● Remote monitoring & diagnostics ● Innovative features (AI QC, energy efficiency, etc.)
2. EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS		
2.1	Organizational Experience	● ≥5 NMHS installations globally ● ≥3 similar projects in last 10 years ● At least 1 SIDS/tropical project ● Proven GBON/WIS 2.0 implementation
2.2	Key Personnel	● Project Manager (relevant experience ≥10 years) ● Technical experts (radiosonde + ICT integration) ● Training specialists ● Safety/hydrogen system expertise
3. METHODOLOGY & RISK MANAGEMENT		
3.1	Implementation Methodology	● Clarity of work plan and schedule ● Installation & commissioning approach ● Testing & validation plan (FAT/SAT) ● SOP development approach
3.2	Risk Management	● Comprehensive risk register covering: ❖ logistics, ❖ supply chain,

		❖ weather, ❖ operational, ❖ technical, ❖ safety, ❖ cybersecurity, ❖ and communication risks. ● Mitigation strategies (logistics, safety, technical) ❖ delayed shipments, ❖ equipment failure, ❖ communication interruptions, ❖ hydrogen safety incidents, ❖ severe weather conditions, ❖ and operational continuity. ● Contingency planning
3.3	Sustainability & Capacity Building	● Training program quality ● Spare parts strategy (≥3 years) ● Local capacity development

1.2 Detailed Technical Specifications

Upper-Air Sounding System Performance Requirements (Aligned with WMO No. 8 – Guide to Instruments and Methods of Observation (2023 provisional edition) and GBON Regulations)

The Contractor shall supply a GPS-based rawinsonde system capable of measuring and transmitting the following variables with the specified minimum performance. All measurements must be traceable to WMO standards with individual calibration certificates provided for each radiosonde batch.

1.2.1 GBON Upper-Air Compliance Requirements (Mandatory)

- **Launch Frequency:** ≥2 launches per day, aligned with synoptic hours (0000 UTC and 1200 UTC).
- **Vertical Resolution:** ≤100 m throughout the profile.
- **Ascent Performance:** Reliable ascent to at least 30 hPa (recommended subset to 10 hPa or higher where possible).
- **Data Availability & Quality:** ≥95% successful ascents reaching ≥30 hPa with valid data.
- **Timeliness:** Real-time or near-real-time dissemination via WIS 2.0 (latency compliant with GBON criteria, typically <5% late reports).

- **Reporting:** High-resolution BUFR encoding (preferred) and traditional TEMP format.

Additional Section

1.2.1.1 Additional Mandatory Operational Performance Requirements

The proposed upper-air sounding system shall meet the following minimum operational performance requirements:

Parameter	Minimum Requirement
Sounding Height / Burst Altitude	Reliable sounding performance to at least 30 hPa, with preferred capability to reach 10 hPa or higher under tropical operating conditions
Vertical Resolution	Configurable vertical data resolution from ≤ 10 m to 100 m intervals
GPS Wind Accuracy	Wind speed accuracy of ± 1 m/s or 5% (whichever is greater) and wind direction accuracy of $\pm 5^\circ$
Temperature Measurement Performance	Reliable temperature measurements with radiation correction for tropical daytime conditions and high solar loading
Humidity Measurement Performance	Stable humidity measurements in high-humidity tropical maritime environments with minimized dry bias in upper troposphere
Telemetry Reliability	Continuous telemetry transmission with minimum 95% successful data transmission rate throughout ascent profile
Tropical Environmental Performance	System components shall operate reliably under tropical maritime conditions with relative humidity up to 95–100%, high salinity, and ambient temperatures up to 45°C
Balloon Ascent Stability	Stable ascent rate of approximately 5–6 m/s under operational wind conditions
Data Continuity	Automatic buffering, temporary local storage, and retransmission capability during communication interruptions or network outages
Operational Availability	System designed for continuous operational use with minimum 95% operational uptime excluding scheduled maintenance
ICT & Integration Capability	Support for WIS 2.0 compliant data exchange, BUFR data generation, MQTT/TCP-IP communications, remote diagnostics, and interoperability with operational meteorological systems

1.2.2 Measurement Accuracy and Uncertainty (per WMO No. 8 guidelines for operational upper-air observations)

The system must meet or exceed the following target accuracies (standard uncertainty, $k=1$, or as specified in WMO No. 8 Chapter 12 – Measurement of upper-air pressure, temperature and humidity, and Chapter 13 – Measurement of upper wind):

Variable	Required Accuracy / Uncertainty	Notes / Conditions
Pressure	± 1 hPa (near surface) to ± 2 hPa (upper levels)	GPS-derived geopotential height as alternative where applicable
Temperature	± 0.5 °C (troposphere) to ± 1.0 °C (stratosphere)	Radiation correction applied; daytime/nighttime performance
Relative Humidity (RH)	$\pm 5\%$ RH (0–100% range)	Improved performance in upper troposphere; low bias in dry conditions
Horizontal Wind Speed	± 1 m/s or 5% (whichever is greater)	GPS tracking; vector accuracy
Wind Direction	$\pm 5^\circ$	GPS-derived
Geopotential Height	± 10 – 20 m (depending on level)	Derived from pressure or GPS

- **Vertical Sampling:** High-resolution data (≤ 10 – 100 m intervals) with smooth profiles.
- **Ascent Rate:** Target 5–6 m/s (stable balloon performance in tropical conditions).
- **Data Output Formats:** High-resolution BUFR, traditional TEMP, CSV (with metadata).
- **Radiosonde Specifications:** WMO-traceable, GPS wind finding, compatible with regional frequencies (400.15- 406 MH), individual calibration certificates.
- **Environmental Suitability**
- Additionally: The proposed radiosonde system shall meet the following operational requirements:
 - Reliable telemetry performance throughout the ascent profile.
 - Stable sensor performance under tropical high-humidity conditions.
 - GPS/GNSS-based wind finding capability throughout the sounding profile.
 - Reliable operational sounding height to at least 30 hPa.
 - Compatibility with WMO-standard upper-air observation practices and regional operational frequency requirements.

- Continuous real-time data transmission during ascent with automatic recovery from temporary signal interruptions where feasible.

The system shall demonstrate proven operation in:

- Tropical marine environments
- High humidity ($\geq 95\%$)
- Heavy rainfall
- Strong winds
- High temperature ($20-50^{\circ}\text{C}$)
- Corrosion-prone (salt-laden) conditions
- The Contractor must demonstrate compliance through Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) and Site Acceptance Tests, including independent validation against WMO No. 8 accuracy targets.

1.3 Lot-Specific Technical Specifications

Lot 1: Radiosonde Systems and Sensors: *Focus on the electronic sensing, tracking, and data transmission components.*

No.	Feature	Mandatory Specification
1.1	Experience	System in operational use in ≥ 5 WMO countries for ≥ 2 years.
1.2	GBON Compliance	Support ≥ 2 launches/day at 0000/1200 UTC; vertical resolution ≤ 100 m; coverage to ≥ 30 hPa .
1.3	Data Output	Mandatory WIS 2.0 MQTT integration and BUFR format.
1.4	Accuracy	Temp $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$; Pressure $\pm 1-2$ hPa; Humidity $\pm 5\%$ RH; Wind ± 1 m/s.
1.5	Pre-Launch	Mandatory automated ground check system for T, RH, and Pressure validation.

Specification: (Lot 1)

No.	Specification / Description		Minimum Requirement
1	General	Make	Should be an internationally reputed brand manufacturing Radiosondes for the last 10 years.
2		Model	(Please specify)
3		Country of Origin	(Please specify)

4		Country of Manufacturing	(Please specify)
5		Standards Compliance	System shall comply with WMO No. 8 (latest edition) and GBON Regulations
6		System Type	GPS-based radiosonde (rawinsonde) ground station
7		Operating Voltage	220V 50 Hz Single Phase
8		Manufacturer Experience & Operational Maturity	The proposed radiosonde system must be a proven model currently in active operational use by at least five (5) National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) globally, with a minimum of two (2) years of continuous operational history. Bidders must provide a list of countries, user contact references, and performance certificates to verify this track record.
9	Measurement Capabilities	Pressure	Range: 1050–5 hPa; Accuracy: $\pm 1-2$ hPa
10		Temperature	Range: +50 to -90°C ; Accuracy: $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ (troposphere)
11		Humidity	Range: 0–100% RH; Accuracy: $\pm 5\%$ RH
12		Wind Speed	Accuracy: ± 1 m/s or 5%
13		Wind Direction	Accuracy: $\pm 5^{\circ}$
14		Vertical Resolution	≤ 100 m (GBON requirement)
15		Vertical Coverage	≥ 30 hPa (preferred up to 10 hPa)
16	Radiosonde & Tracking	GNSS	Multi-GNSS (GPS + GLONASS + Galileo preferred)
17		Wind Finding	GNSS-based tracking
18		Telemetry Frequency	400.15- 406 MHz
19		Transmission Range	≥ 200 km line-of-sight
20		Radiation Correction	Automatic (day/night)
21		Humidity Bias Correction	Required for upper troposphere
22		Ground Check System	Mandatory pre-launch validation (T, RH, Pressure)
23	Data Processing & Output	Data Format	BUFR (mandatory), TEMP (optional), CSV
24		BUFR Content	High-resolution vertical profiles + full metadata
25		Data Processing	Real-time computation of PTU + wind
26		Quality Control	Automatic QC per WMO No. 8
27		Data Storage	Local + backup storage
28		API/Export	Open interface, no proprietary lock-in

29	GBON Compliance	Launch Frequency	Launch Frequency
30		≥2 per day (00 & 12 UTC)	≥2 per day (00 & 12 UTC)
32		Data Availability	Data Availability
33		≥95% successful soundings	≥95% successful soundings
34	Ground Receiving System	Antenna	Antenna
35		Auto-tracking or omnidirectional	Auto-tracking or omnidirectional
36		Receiver	Receiver
37		High sensitivity, multi-channel capability	High sensitivity, multi-channel capability
38	Calibration & Quality Assurance	Launch Type	Launch Type
39		Manual/Automatic	• Manual (Baseline Requirement) • Automatic systems are acceptable only if offered as a comprehensive Technical Value Addition that completely satisfies the standalone and budgetary constraints of this RFP
40		Calibration	Calibration
41		Traceable to SI standards	Traceable to SI standards
42		WMO Compliance	WMO-No. 8, GBON, WIS 2.0, OSCAR/Surface metadata requirements
43		Alignment with WMO No. 8 QA/QC procedures	Alignment with WMO No. 8 QA/QC procedures
44		Ground Check & Kit Sensors	Mandatory physical pre-launch ground check chamber/kit. The kit must feature integrated, certified reference meteorological sensors (measuring temperature, relative humidity, and pressure) traceable to SI standards. The system software must automatically use these built-in sensor readings to perform baseline synchronization, sensor drift validation, and error correction before launch authorization is granted.
45		Temperature	Temperature
46		20–50°C operation	20–50°C operation

47		Humidity	Humidity
48		Up to ≥95% RH	Up to ≥95% RH
49	Other	Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and testing	Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and testing
50		responsibility of bidder including all civil, mechanical and electrical works	responsibility of bidder including all civil, mechanical and electrical works
51		Documentation	Documentation
52		(1) User manual in English	(1) User manual in English
53		(2) Maintenance and repair manual in English	(2) Maintenance and repair manual in English
54		Spare parts	Spare parts

Lot 2: Meteorological Balloons and Accessories: *Focus on the flight consumables required to loft sensors.*

No.	Feature	Mandatory Specification
2.1	Performance	Balloons rated for tropical conditions (e.g., 350 g); target ascent rate 5–6 m/s.
2.2	Supply	Guaranteed radiosonde and balloon supply for ≥ 5 years.
2.3	Sustainability	Documentation of environmentally responsible disposal for balloons, parachutes, and batteries.
2.4	Storage	Packaging suitable for high humidity and tropical shelf-life.

Lot 3: Hydrogen Generation Systems: *Focus on-site gas production infrastructure.*

No.	Feature	Mandatory Specification
3.1	Type	Non-corrosive electrolyte Electrolyser with purity > 99.9%.
3.2	Experience	Manufacturer must have ≥ 20 years of experience for meteorological NMHS purposes.
3.3	Safety	Integrated leak detection, automatic purity monitoring, and auto-shutdown; compliance

		with ISO 22734-1.
3.4	Capacity	1.0 Nm ³ /h (or 1,000 L/h) water capacity (Shall be included with the system)
3.5	Auxiliaries	Includes water purification (RO+DI) and automatic restart after power failure.

Specifications: (Lot 3)

No.	Specification / Description	Minimum Requirement
1	Make	Should be an internationally reputed brand manufacturing hydrogen generators for the last 10 years.
2	Model	(please specify)
3	Country of Origin	(please specify)
4	Country of Manufacturing	(please specify)
5	Type	Non corrosive electrolyte Electrolyser
6	Output volume / Hydrogen flow rate at atmospheric pressure	≥ 1,000 liters/hour
7	Hydrogen storage tank volume	1.0 Nm ³ /h (or 1,000 L/h) water capacity (Shall included with the system)
8	Required quality of water	Raw/ Tap water (with purification system if needed)
9	Cooling system	Natural air
10	H ₂ purity	> 99.9% at 20°C ambient temperature
11	Service Pressure / Hydrogen storage pressure	≥ 7 bar
12	Power	220V 50 Hz Single Phase or 400V 50 Hz Three Phase
13	Operating environment - Temperature	20~50 °C
14	Operating environment - Ambient relative Humidity	0 ~ 95%
15	Control/automation	Fully automatic
16	Water reserve tank with an automatic filling function	Shall included
17	Restart automatically after power failure	Shall included
18	Accessories	Fire extinguishers
19	International standards	Shall comply with ISO 22734-1, ISO 9001-2015
20	Safety	Leak detection, auto shutdown
21	Experience	The Manufacturer must have a minimum of twenty (20) years of continuous experience in manufacturing of Hydrogen Generators for Meteorological Purposes in NMHS.

22	Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and testing	Responsibility of bidder including all civil, mechanical and electrical works
23	Documentation	User manual in English
24	Documentation	Maintenance and repair manual in English
25	Spare parts	Spare parts for five years of maintenance should be provided based on the MTBF
26	Warranty	Two years on site
27	Training	Onsite training for operation and maintenance
28	Availability of spares and technical support	10 years

Lot 4: Capacity Building and Support: *Focus on knowledge transfer and long-term support.*

No.	Feature	Mandatory Specification
4.1	Training	On-site training (5–7 days) for 8–12 staff plus follow-up sessions at 3/6 months.
4.2	Staffing	Training specialists must have 5 years' relevant meteorological training experiences.
4.3	SOPs	Development of SOPs for launch, H2 safety, data QC, and emergency procedures.
4.4	Warranty	2-year on-site warranty (parts, labor, software) and 3-year AMC plan.
4.5	Support	Availability of spares and technical support for 10 years.

- Minimum Technical Score: ≥70% (i.e., 490/700 before financial weighting)
- Financial Evaluation: Only technically qualified bidders considered

1.4 Final Ranking Combined score (Technical + Financial)

The following requirements are mandatory. Bidders shall provide clear documentary evidence for each requirement. Failure to comply with any one of the following criteria shall result in rejection of the bid without further technical evaluation.

No.	Requirement	Minimum Criteria	Evidence Required
1	Proven Operational System	Radiosonde system in operational use in ≥5 WMO Member countries	List of countries, client references, completion certificates
2	Operational Experience	Minimum 2 years continuous operational use of the proposed system	Project references, operational reports
3	GBON Compliance	System shall meet GBON requirements: • ≥2 launches/day (00 & 12 UTC) • Vertical resolution ≤100 m • Vertical coverage ≥30 hPa	Technical specifications, compliance statement
4	Data Standards	Support for BUFR format and WIS 2.0 compliant data exchange	System architecture, sample data output
5	Calibration & Standards	Measurements traceable to WMO No. 8 compliant calibration standards	Calibration certificates, methodology
6	Hydrogen Safety Compliance	Hydrogen generation system shall be non-corrosive type , with safety features (leak detection, auto shutdown)	Technical datasheets, safety certifications

Note: Bidders shall include a detailed 3-year AMC plan in their technical proposal.

1.5 Risk Management and Sustainability

The Contractor shall submit a detailed risk register (covering logistics, weather, technical, safety, and supply chain risks) and mitigation plan.

Emphasis on:

- Energy-efficient systems compatible with solar/UPS backup where power reliability is a concern
- Minimal maintenance requirements
- Environmentally responsible disposal (including balloons, parachutes, and spent batteries)
- Environmentally sound practices overall

1.6 Key Standards and References

- WMO No. 8 – Guide to Instruments and Methods of Observation (latest edition)
- WMO GBON Regulations
- WMO WIGOS Framework
- WIS 2.0 Technical Specifications and Topic Hierarchy
- Relevant ISO/ATEX hydrogen safety standards

ANNEX B

Sample Formats for Reports, Risk Register, and Training Assessment

1. Sample Structure – Inception Report & Work Plan

- Executive Summary
- Detailed Work Plan (Gantt chart or table with milestones, responsibilities, dependencies)
- Site Survey Findings (if applicable)
- Risk Register (see below)
- Resource Allocation
- Quality Assurance Plan
- Appendices (detailed design, preliminary SOP outlines)

2. Sample Risk Register Format

Risk ID	Risk Description	Category (Logistics / Technical / Safety / Weather / Supply Chain)	Likelihood (Low/Med/ /High)	Impact (Low/Med/ /High)	Risk Level	Mitigation Measures	Responsible Party	Status / Residual Risk
R-01	Shipping delays due to customs in Maldives	Logistics	High	High	High	Contractor handles all clearances; early procurement; buffer stock	Contractor	Open / Medium
R-02	Hydrogen leak during operation	Safety	Medium	High	High	ATEX-compliant systems, leak detectors, auto-shutdown, staff training	Contractor + MMS	Mitigated
R-03	Failure to achieve ≥95% data availability	Technical	Medium	High	High	Extended 7-day testing, redundant components, remote diagnostics	Contractor	Monitored

Note: Include columns for Owner, Due Date for Mitigation, and Review Date.

3. Sample Training Assessment Form

(Used during and at end of training sessions)

Training Module: [e.g., System Operation / Hydrogen Safety / Data QC]

Trainee Name: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

Trainer: _____

Competency Assessment (Score 1–5, with comments):

1. Understanding of theoretical concepts: _____ / 5
2. Hands-on operation skills: _____ / 5
3. Troubleshooting and maintenance: _____ / 5
4. Safety procedures adherence: _____ / 5
5. Data quality management: _____ / 5

Practical Exercises Completed (Yes/No + Comments):

- Simulated launch and data transmission
- Hydrogen generator startup/shutdown
- Emergency response (leak/power failure)
- Failure simulation and recovery

Overall Competency: Competent / Needs Improvement / Not Yet Competent Certification Recommendation:

Yes / No **Trainee Feedback: Trainer Comments / Recommendations:**

Signature: Trainee _____ Trainer _____ Date _____

Training Completion Report shall aggregate individual assessments and include overall attendance, pass rate, and recommendations for refresher training.

Annex 3: Glossary of Terms

- **AMC:** Annual Maintenance Contract
- **ATEX:** Atmosphères Explosibles (EU directive for equipment in explosive atmospheres – relevant for hydrogen systems)
- **BUFR:** Binary Universal Form for the Representation of meteorological data (WMO standard format)
- **FAT:** Factory Acceptance Test – testing at manufacturer’s facility before shipment
- **GBON:** WMO Global Basic Observing Network – defines mandatory minimum observing requirements for international data exchange to support global NWP and climate services
- **GPS Rawinsonde:** Radiosonde system using GPS for wind finding (pressure, temperature, humidity + wind)

- **MMS:** Maldives Meteorological Service
- **MQTT:** Message Queuing Telemetry Transport – lightweight publish-subscribe protocol used in WIS 2.0 for real-time data notifications
- **NMHS:** National Meteorological and Hydrological Service
- **PEM/SPE:** Proton Exchange Membrane / Solid Polymer Electrolyte – type of hydrogen generator (safer, no caustic chemicals)
- **PSAT / FSAT / FPAT:** Provisional / Factory / Final Site Acceptance Test (or similar variants – to be confirmed during detailed design)
- **RO + DI:** Reverse Osmosis + De-Ionization (water purification for hydrogen electrolyzers)
- **SAT:** Site Acceptance Test – testing after installation at MMS site
- **SIDS:** Small Island Developing States
- **SOP:** Standard Operating Procedure
- **TEMP:** Traditional alphanumeric code for upper-air sounding reports
- **UNEP:** United Nations Environment Programme
- **WIS 2.0:** WMO Information System 2.0 – modern, internet-based data exchange system using publish-subscribe (MQTT) architecture for real-time meteorological data sharing
- **WIGOS:** WMO Integrated Global Observing System
- **WMO No. 8:** Guide to Instruments and Methods of Observation – primary international reference for meteorological measurement standards and best practices

Annex IV – Evaluation Criteria

The technical component, which has a total possible value of 700 points, will be evaluated using the following criteria.

1. Eligibility / Pass-Fail Criteria

- Only proposals that fully comply with all mandatory technical requirements specified in the Terms of Reference (TOR) and Technical Specifications (Annex A) shall be considered technically qualified.
- Proposals that do not meet all mandatory requirements shall be rejected and not scored.

2. Technical Scoring

- Only technically qualified proposals will be evaluated and scored, with a maximum of 700 points.
- The scoring will reflect the responsiveness of the proposal to the TOR, in accordance with the criteria and weightings below.
- Based on proposals received, RIMES keeps the right to award lots separately, or more than One (1) Lot to the same service-provider.

A – Summary (Lot 1 - 4)

SUMMARY OF SECTIONS		WEIGHT	POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
				A	B	C	D	E
1	Expertise of Firm submitting the proposal	20%	140					
2	Proposed Work Plan, Methodology & Risk Management	25%	175					
3	Personnel (Qualifications & Experience)	15%	105					
4	Compliance with Technical Specifications	40%	280					
TOTAL 100%			700					

3. Scoring Guidelines

To ensure fairness and transparency, the technical evaluation shall be conducted based on the criteria and qualitative scoring definitions outlined below. The evaluation committee shall award points according to the extent to which each proposal meets the requirements.

Evaluation Criteria and Maximum Scores:

- Expertise of Firm (140 points): Assessed on relevant experience, past performance, and capability to deliver the scope of work.
- Proposed Work Plan and Approach (175 points): Assessed on quality, clarity, feasibility, and methodology.
- Personnel (105 points): Assessed on qualifications, experience, and suitability for the proposed roles.
- Compliance with Technical Specifications (280 points): Assessed on compliance, quality, and any enhancements proposed beyond the minimum requirements.

Qualitative Scoring Definitions:

- Excellent (100% of points):
All requirements are fully met and supported by excellent and verifiable evidence. The proposal includes enhancements or innovative features that exceed the minimum requirements (e.g., improved performance, durability, or sustainability).
- Good (90% of points):
All requirements are fully met and supported by strong evidence. The proposal demonstrates a high level of reliability and technical competence.
- Satisfactory (70% of points):
All requirements are met and supported by adequate evidence. The proposal complies exactly with the specifications without additional value-added features.
- Poor (40% or less):
Requirements are only partially met or supported by weak or insufficient evidence. The proposal presents a potential risk to successful project implementation.

4. Minimum Technical Score (Passing Threshold)

A proposal must score at least 70% of the total technical points (490/700) to be considered technically compliant and proceed to the financial evaluation stage.

Lot 1: Radiosonde Systems and Sensors

B – Expertise of firm submitting the proposal (140)

Item	POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
		A	B	C	D	E
1 Organizational Experience & Technical Capability: 1.1 Global Presence: (15 points) • ≥ 5 NMHS installations of radiosonde systems globally: 15 points • 1-4 NMHS installations of radiosonde systems globally: 5 points • No NMHS installations of radiosonde systems globally: 0 points 1.2 Track Record: (15 points) • ≥3 similar projects (Upper-Air stations) in last 10 years: 15 points • 1-2 similar projects (Upper-Air stations) in last 10 years: 5 points • No similar projects: 0 points 1.3 SIDS Experience: (15 points) • At least 1 SIDS/tropical project completed: 15 points • No SIDS/tropical project completed: 0 points 1.4 Technical Readiness: (15 points) • Proven GBON/WIS 2.0 implementation experience: 15 points • No Proven GBON/WIS 2.0 implementation experience: 0 point	60					
2 General organizational capacity, management controls, and financial turnover:	20					

	2.1 Financial stability and annual turnover (10 points) • Financial stability and annual turnover consistent with project scale: 10 points • No Financial stability and annual turnover consistent with project scale: 0 points 2.2 Quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls (10 points) • Have quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls for electronic equipment and data systems: 10 points • No quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls for electronic equipment and data systems: 0 points						
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3	Successful Project Completion (Proven Operational Performance): 3.1 BUFR/ICT Deployment: Proven success in deploying high-resolution BUFR data systems and MQTT-based WIS 2.0 publication: (20 points) - Proven success in deploying high-resolution BUFR data systems: 20 points - No proven success in deploying high-resolution BUFR data systems: 0 points 3.2 Successful FAT/SAT and formal handover of GBON-standard stations in past projects: (20 points) - Successful FAT/SAT and handover of GBON-standard stations: 20 points - No successful FAT/SAT and handover of GBON-standard stations: 0 points 3.3 Demonstrated system reliability (≥95% data availability in past projects) (20 points) - Demonstrated system reliability (≥95% data availability in past projects): 20 points - Demonstrated system reliability 45-94% data availability in past projects: 10 points - No Demonstrated system reliability data availability in past projects: 0 points.	60					
TOTAL		140					

C – Proposed Work Plan, Methodology & Risk Management (175)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Understanding of the task, context, and SIDS-specific logistics risks. <i>Demonstrates clear and thorough understanding of upgrading an operational upper-air station;</i>	30					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	<i>articulates SIDS-specific logistical constraints (customs for sensitive electronics, salt-air protection); fully aware of GBON/WIS 2.0 synoptic requirements; requires no further clarification: 30 points</i> ● <i>Shows adequate understanding with minor gaps; acknowledges the Maldives environment but lacks specific detail on synoptic scheduling or local infrastructure integration: 20 points</i> ● <i>Understanding is unclear or insufficient; major gaps in comprehension of the task, context, or risks: 0 points</i>						
2	Methodology: Detailed approach for installation, commissioning, and SOP development. ● <i>All key components are addressed in depth; provides detailed approach for system setup, sensor calibration, and ICT integration (MQTT publication, BUFR encoding); provides a thorough plan for developing WMO-aligned SOPs for launch operations and data monitoring.: 60 points</i> ● <i>Most key components addressed; methodology is sound but lacks granular detail on the automated QC workflows or the specific WIS 2.0 topic hierarchy implementation: 40 points</i> ● <i>Several key components missing, analysis is superficial or fails to address technical requirements for data dissemination: 0 points</i>	60					
3	Risk Management: Quality of the risk register and mitigation (H2 safety, technical, supply chain)	45					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	- The proposal provides a highly detailed Risk Register with specific, proactive mitigation for Data Latency, Corrosion/Equipment Failure, and Synoptic Interruptions; demonstrates exceptional understanding of maritime technical risks: 45 points - The proposal provides a general detail of Risk Register acknowledges basic technical risks but lacks specific mitigation for high-humidity electronic failure or data transmission gaps: 20 points - The proposal is unrealistic; Risk register is unclear or generic; fails to align mitigation strategies with the specific technical demands of a radiosonde station: 0 point						
4	Sustainability: Plan for capacity building, local training, and 3-year spare parts strategy. - Scope is clearly defined and fully aligned with the TOR; includes a comprehensive 3-year spare parts strategy, detailed local training modules, and capacity building plans; requires no further clarification: 40 points - Scope is mostly aligned with the TOR; minor gaps in the spare parts list or limited detail in the training curriculum; requires additional context or clarification.: 25 points - Scope is poorly defined; significant elements are missing or include unrelated tasks: 0 point	40					
TOTAL		175					

D – Personnel (Qualifications & Experience) (105)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Professional experience of the proposed Key Expert / Team Leader / Project Manage: Focused on large-scale meteorological infrastructure and sensor network upgrades: (32 points) • <i>≥ 10 years’ experience: 32 points</i> • <i>5-9 years’ experience: 20 points</i> • <i>1-4 years’ experience: 7 points</i> • <i>No experience: 0 points</i>	32					
2	Technical Experts (Upper-Air Systems & Ground Stations) -- Specialized in the installation of GPS radiosonde ground stations and telemetry calibration: (38 points) • <i>≥ 10 years’ experience: 38 points</i> • <i>5-9 years’ experience: 20 points</i> • <i>1-4 years’ experience: 10 points</i> • <i>No experience: 0 points</i>	38					
3	Training Specialist (Operational Meteorology) Experience in delivering training on synoptic observation standards and radiosonde launch procedures: (25 points) • <i>≥ 5 relevant training experience in meteorological training demonstrates clear understanding of the region and user needs.: 25 points</i> • <i>3 relevant training experience in meteorological training demonstrates clear understanding of the region and user needs.: 10 points</i> • <i>No regional knowledge/training experience: 0 points</i>	25					
4	ICT & Data Integration Specialist: Expertise in WIS 2.0, MQTT protocols,	10					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	and high-resolution BUFR encoding (10 points) • <i>≥ 10 years' experience: 10 points</i> • <i>5–9 years' experience: 7 points</i> • <i>1–4 years' experience: 2 points</i>						
TOTAL		105					

E – Compliance with Technical Specifications (280)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Compliance with Technical Specifications & Site Integration: Adherence to Annex A / Technical Standards, Regulations, and Local Station Interoperability. Full compliance with the technical specifications outlined in the TOR, specifically: ● WMO No. 8 & No. 1160 Compliance: Verified sensor measurement accuracy targets and mandatory vertical resolution of ≤ 100 throughout the entire atmospheric profile..(80 points) ● GBON & WIS 2.0 Regulations: Native high-resolution BUFR encoding sequence compliance and active MQTT-based data publication workflows. (60 points) ● Gan Station AWS Interoperability: Ground receiving software must feature documented data interfaces to ingest, process, and apply local surface observations from the existing active Gan Station Automatic Weather Station (AWS) for mandatory pre-launch	280					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	baseline synchronization and drift correction (50 points). ● Hardware Durability & Environmental Suitability: Minimum IP65/IP66 ingress protection ratings for all antennas and external components, explicitly treated to resist intense tropical saline corrosion, high humidity (95–100%), and ambient temperatures up to 45°C.(40 points) ● Operational Telemetry Range: Proven RF link robustness achieving a minimum 200 km line-of-sight telemetry range for consistent stratospheric data reception up to 30 hPa under tropical maritime storm conditions (50 points)						
TOTAL		280					

Lot 2: Meteorological Balloons and Accessories

B – Expertise of firm submitting the proposal (140)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Organizational Experience & Technical Capability: 1.1 Global Presence: (10 points) • ≥ 5 NMHS balloon supply contracts globally installations: 10 points • 1-4 NMHS balloon supply contracts globally installations: 7 points • No NMHS installations globally: 0 points 1.2 Track Record: (10 points)	40					

	• ≥3 similar projects in last 10 years: 10 points • 1-2 similar projects in last 10 years: 7 points • No similar projects: 0 points 1.3 SIDS Experience: (10 points) • At least 1 SIDS/tropical project completed: 10 points • No SIDS/tropical project completed: 0 points 1.4 Technical Readiness: (10 points) • Proven experience in supplying specialized balloons (350g – 800g) for GBON-compliant vertical sounding: 10 points • No Proven experience in supplying specialized balloons (350g – 800g) for GBON-compliant vertical sounding: 0 point						
2	General organizational capacity, management controls, and financial turnover: 2.1 Financial stability and annual turnover (10 points) • Financial stability and annual turnover consistent with project scale:10 points • No Financial stability and annual turnover consistent with project scale:0 points 2.2 Quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls (10 points) • Have quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls: 10 points • No quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls: 0 points	20					
3	Regional & Tropical Specialized Experience: 3.1 Experience in Similar Programmes /Projects in supplying upper-air	20					

	consumables in the Last 5 Years (10 points): • <i>≥ 5 years 10 points</i> • <i>3-4 years 5 points</i> • <i>1-2 years 2 points</i> • <i>No experience: 0 points</i> 3.2 Regional Experience managing logistics in high-humidity/marine contexts (10 points) • <i>3 years or more: 10 points</i> • <i>1-2 years: 5 points</i> • <i>Less than 1 year or no experience: 0 point</i>					
4	Successful Project Completion (Consumable Performance & Environment) 4.1 Tropical Supply Chain Management: (20 points) • Proven success in managing high-volume balloon supply chains in SIDS or tropical environments: 20 points • No proven success in managing high-volume balloon supply chains in SIDS or tropical environments: 0 points 4.2 Performance Validation & Operational Reliability (20 points) • Demonstrated evidence of balloons reaching ≥ 30 hPa with $\geq 95\%$ burst success rate in tropical conditions: 20 points • No evidence of high-altitude performance validation: 0 points 4.3 Environmental Demonstrated Environmental Compliance & Disposal (20 points) • Proven success in implementing environmentally responsible disposal programs for balloons and batteries in past projects: 20 points	60				

	- Partial success or basic disposal plan without past project evidence: 10 points - No evidence of environmental disposal programs: 0 points.						
TOTAL		140					

C – Proposed Work Plan, Methodology & Risk Management (175)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Understanding of the task, context, and SIDS-specific logistics risks. ● Demonstrates clear and thorough understanding of the task; articulates problems well; fully aware of context, risks, and constraints, requires no further clarification: 30 points ● Shows adequate understanding with minor gaps; some aspects of the task, required additional context or clarification: 20 points ● Understanding is unclear or insufficient; major gaps in comprehension of the task, context, or risks: 0 points	30					
2	Methodology: Detailed approach for installation, commissioning, and SOP development. ● All key components are addressed in depth; provides a detailed approach for batch testing, climate-controlled storage protocols, and SOPs for pre-launch balloon conditioning to ensure maximum burst altitude: 60 points ● Most key components are addressed: Sound methodology but lacks specific protocols for preventing "shelf-rot" or	60					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	premature balloon failure in heat: 30 points Several key components, Superficial analysis are missing SOPs for consumable handling.: 0 points						
3	Risk Management: Material Degradation & Supply Chain - The proposal provides a highly detailed Risk Register for Latex Aging, Battery Passivation, and Marine Pollution; proactive mitigation for shipping delays to remote stations.:45 points - The proposal provides a general detail of Risk Register but may lack some detail, required additional context or clarification: 20 points - The proposal is unrealistic; the risk register and mitigation are unclear; estimates are inconsistent or not aligned with the task: 0 point	45					
4	Sustainability: Plan for capacity building, local training, and 3-year spare parts strategy: (40 points) <i>Scope is clearly defined and fully aligned with the TOR; includes a comprehensive 3-year spare parts strategy, for flight accessories, detailed local training modules on balloon handling, and a clear environmental disposal plan for spent material; requires no further clarification: 40 points</i> <i>Scope is mostly aligned with the TOR; minor gaps in the spare parts list or limited detail in the training curriculum regarding tropical storage or disposal protocols; requires additional context or clarification: 25 points</i>	40					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	Scope is poorly defined; significant elements are missing (e.g., no mention of long-term supply guarantees or environmental stewardship) or include unrelated tasks: 0 point						
TOTAL		175					

D – Personnel (Qualifications & Experience) (105)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Professional experience of the proposed Key Expert / Team Leader / Project Manager in the area of specialization (32 points): • <i>≥ 10 years’ experience: 32 points</i> • <i>5-9 years’ experience: 22 points</i> • <i>1-4 years’ experience: 7 points</i> • <i>No experience: 0 points</i>	32					
2	Technical Experts (Materials & Tropical Logistics): 38 points • <i>≥ 10 years’ experience: 38 points</i> • <i>5-9 years’ experience: 20 points</i> • <i>1-4 years’ experience: 10 points</i> • <i>No experience: 0 points</i>	38					
3	Training Specialist: Training & SOP Specialist (Consumables Management) Experience in training staff on proper storage, handling, and pre-launch preparation of balloons to prevent mid-ascent failure: (25 points) • <i>5 relevant training experience in SIDS/Tropical focus: 25 points</i> • <i>3 relevant training experience in SIDS/Tropical focus: 10 points</i> • <i>No regional knowledge/training experience: 0 points</i>	25					
4	Materials & Environmental Specialist:	10					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	Expertise in Environmentally Responsible Disposal of latex, parachutes, and lithium-based batteries in marine contexts. (10 points) • ≥ 10 years' experience: 10 points • 5–9 years' experience: 7 points • 1–4 years' experience: 2 points						
TOTAL		105					

E – Compliance with Technical Specifications (280)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Compliance with Technical Specifications Adherence to Annex A: Technical Standards & Consumable Specs. ● WMO & GBON Regulations: Full adherence to WMO No. 8 and GBON standards regarding balloon performance and vertical sounding requirements.: 50 points ● Tropical Performance: Balloons must be specifically rated for tropical marine conditions (e.g., 350g or 500g as required) with a target ascent rate of 5 - 6 m/s. : 50 points ● Burst Altitude: Proven capability of balloons to reach at least 30 hPa (with higher burst heights preferred) under high-humidity conditions.: 70 points ● Environmental Stewardship: Mandatory documentation of an environmentally responsible disposal plan for balloon fragments, parachutes, and spent batteries. :30 points	280					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	- Supply Security: A guaranteed commitment to supply compatible radiosondes and balloons for at least five (5) years to ensure operational continuity. 40 points - Tropical Packaging: Consumables must be provided in desiccated or climate-controlled packaging suitable for high-humidity and salt-corrosive environments to prevent material degradation.: 40 points						
TOTAL		280					

Lot 3: Hydrogen Generation Systems

B – Expertise of firm submitting the proposal (140)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Organizational Experience & Technical Capability: 1.1 Global Presence: (10 points) ≥ 5 NMHS installations hydrogen system installations globally: 10 points 1-4 NMHS installations globally: 5 points - No NMHS installations globally: 0 points 1.2 Track Record: (8 points) ≥3 similar hydrogen projects in last 10 years: 8 points 1-2 similar hydrogen projects in last 10 years: 4 points	30					

	- No similar hydrogen projects: 0 points 1.3 SIDS Experience: (6 points) - At least 1 SIDS/tropical project completed: 6 points - No SIDS/tropical project completed: 0 points 1.4 Technical Readiness: Proven experience in installing automated, non-corrosive electrolyzers (6 points) - Proven GBON/WIS 2.0 implementation experience: 6 points - No Proven GBON/WIS 2.0 implementation experience: 0 point						
2	General organizational capacity, management controls, and financial turnover: 2.1 Financial stability and annual turnover (15 points) - Financial stability and annual turnover consistent with project scale: 15 points - No Financial stability and annual turnover consistent with project scale: 0 points 2.2 Quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls (15 points) - Have quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls: 15 points - No quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls: 0 points	30					

	•						
3	Technical System Design, Safety, & Factory Compliance (Consolidated Subtotal): 3.1 Gas Purity & Quality Assurance Performance (30 points) • Proposes a system design with verifiable test certificates proving the ability to maintain continuous gas purity of $\geq 99.99\%$ and automatic moisture purging in past operational deployments:: 30 points • Proposes a system design maintaining gas purity between 99.5% and 99.98%: 20 points • No Proposal lacks verifiable gas purity certificates or drops below 99.5% or : 0 points 3.2 Safety Compliance: Successful FAT/SAT of systems with ATEX/ISO safety interlocks (30 points) • Successful providing verified ATEX, CE, or ISO certifications for automatic safety interlocks, leak detection sensors, and emergency shutdown valves: 30 points • Provides incomplete design blueprints or safety interlocks are manual: 15 points • No safety interlocks, ATEX certificates, or leak detection architecture: 0 points 3.3 Environmental Footprint & Resource Efficiency (20 points)	80					

	- Proposes an eco-friendly configuration requiring no caustic chemical additives (such as pure PEM cell tech) with a documented low power-to-gas ratio.: 20 points - Proposes a standard alkaline system requiring chemical handling (KOH/NaOH) but provides a complete safety disposal and neutralizer plan: 10 points - Fails to address the management or neutralizer plan for chemical waste : 0 points.						
TOTAL		140					

C – Proposed Work Plan, Methodology & Risk Management (175)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Understanding of the task, context, and SIDS-specific logistics risks. - Demonstrates clear and thorough understanding of the task; articulates problems well; fully aware of SIDS-specific constraints (salinity, power stability); requires no further clarification.: 30 points - Shows adequate understanding with minor gaps; analysis of SIDS-specific risks or logistics is present but lacks site-specific detail for the Maldives.: 20 points - Understanding is unclear; major gaps in comprehension of hydrogen-specific logistics or the marine context: 0 points	30					
2	Methodology: Detailed approach for installation, commissioning, site-specific	60					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	civil engineering layouts, and SOP development. • All key components addressed in-depth: civil/electrical site prep, electrolyzer assembly, water purification (RO+DI) integration, gas storage testing, and development of WMO-aligned SOPs; provides a thorough technical analysis: 60 points • Most key components are addressed; methodology is technically sound but lacks granular detail on system integration or commissioning validation (FAT/SAT): 40 points • Several key components are missing; analysis is superficial or fails to address technical requirements of the electrolyzer.: 0 points						
3	Risk Management: Quality of the risk register and mitigation (H2 safety, technical, supply chain) • The proposal provides a highly detailed Risk Register with specific, proactive mitigation for Hydrogen Safety (leakage, explosion, purity crossover), Technical risks (corrosion), and Supply Chain; demonstrates exceptional understanding of ATEX compliance: 40 points • The proposal provides a general detail of Risk Register but may lack some detail, required additional context or clarification: 20 points • The proposal is unrealistic; the risk register and mitigation are unclear;	40					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	estimates are inconsistent or not aligned with the task: 0 point						
4	Sustainability: Plan for capacity building, training, and 3-year spare parts strategy. - Scope is fully aligned with TOR; includes a comprehensive 3-year spare parts strategy (based on MTBF), detailed local training modules for safe H2 handling, and a clear maintenance support plan: 45 points - Scope is mostly aligned with the TOR; minor gaps in the spare parts list or limited detail in the training curriculum; requires additional context or clarification.: 25 points - Scope is poorly defined; significant elements are missing or include unrelated tasks: 0 point	45					
TOTAL		175					

D – Personnel (Qualifications & Experience) (105)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Professional experience of the proposed Key Expert / Team Leader / Project Manager in industrial gas or meteorological infrastructure management (32 points): ≥ 10 years' experience: 32 points 5-9 years' experience: 22 points 1-4 years' experience: 7 points - No experience: 0 points	32					
2	Technical Experts Specialized in hydrogen electrolyzer commissioning	38					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	and mechanical/electrical integration: 56 points • ≥ 10 years' experience: 38 points • 5-9 years' experience: 20 points • 1-4 years' experience: 10 points • No experience: 0 points						
3	Training Specialist: Minimum 5 relevant experiences in high-pressure gas safety and system maintenance training: (25points) • ≥ 5 relevant training experience in high-pressure gas safety and system maintenance training: 25 points • 3 relevant training experience in high-pressure gas safety and system maintenance training: 10 points • No regional knowledge/training experience: 0 points	25					
4	Safety/Hydrogen Expert: Mandatory ATEX/Safety certification and 10+ years in explosive atmosphere safety. (10 points) • ≥ 10 years' experience: 10 points • 5–9 years' experience: 7 points • 1–4 years' experience: 2 points	10					
TOTAL		105					

E – Compliance with Technical Specifications (280)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Adherence to Annex A: Full compliance with specifications for non-corrosive electrolyzers, flow rates (≥ 500 L/h), and ISO 22734-1 standards.	280					
TOTAL		280					

Lot 4: Capacity Building and Support

B – Expertise of firm submitting the proposal (140)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Organizational Experience & Technical Capability: 1.1 Global Presence: (15 points) • ≥ 5 technical training programs delivered to National Meteorological Services (NMHS) globally: 15 points • 1-4 technical training programs delivered to National Meteorological Services (NMHS) globally: 5 points • No technical training programs delivered to National Meteorological Services (NMHS) globally: 0 points 1.2 Track Record: (15 points) • ≥ 3 similar capacity-building projects (Upper-Air/ICT) in last 10 years: 15 points • 1-2 similar capacity-building projects (Upper-Air/ICT) in last 10 years: 5 points	60					

	- No similar capacity-building projects (Upper-Air/ICT) projects: 0 points 1.3 SIDS Experience: (15 points) - At least 1 training project successfully completed in a SIDS or tropical remote context: 15 points - No training project successfully completed in a SIDS or tropical remote context: 0 points 1.4 Technical Readiness: Proven experience in developing training modules for GBON/WIS 2.0 and high-resolution data systems (15 points) - Proven experience in developing training modules for GBON/WIS 2.0 and high-resolution data systems: 15 points - No proven experience in developing training modules for GBON/WIS 2.0 and high-resolution data systems: 0 point						
2	General organizational capacity, management controls, and financial turnover: 2.1 Financial stability and annual turnover (10 points) - Financial stability and annual turnover consistent with project scale:10 points - No Financial stability and annual turnover consistent with project scale:0 points 2.2 Quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls (10 points) - Have quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls: 10 points	20					

	No quality management system (e.g., ISO 9001) and project controls: 0 points						
-	-	-					
3	Successful Completion & Institutional Sustainability 3.1 SOP & Technical Manual Development Capability : (20 points) - Proven success in authoring comprehensive, WMO-compliant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Hydrogen Safety and Sounding Operations: 20 points - No Proven success in authoring comprehensive, WMO-compliant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Hydrogen Safety and Sounding Operations: 0 points 3.2 Pedagogical Methodology & Simulation Infrastructure (20 points) - Proposes a clear blending of classroom learning, hands-on launch drills, and high-fidelity remote simulation tools (allowing staff to simulate system failures, gas leaks, and data routing drops safely inside software): 20 points - Proposes a generic, classroom-only lecture curriculum with no simulator or interactive learning elements: 10 points - Proposal lacks a detailed training delivery plan or clear methodology : 0 points 3.3 Post-Project Support & Maintenance Planning (20 points) - Proven success in implementing a 3-year support strategy including	60					

	remote troubleshooting and a verified local capacity-building plan: 20 points - Submits implementing a 3-year support strategy including remote troubleshooting and a verified local capacity-building plan but provides limited or no evidence of having executed such a program in past projects: 10 points - The proposal lacks a specific disposal plan or fails to address the requirement: 0 points.						
TOTAL		140					

C – Proposed Work Plan, Methodology & Risk Management (175)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Understanding of the task, context, and SIDS-specific logistics risks. ● Demonstrates clear and thorough understanding of training needs in a SIDS context; articulates challenges of remote island operations; fully aware of the technical baseline required for GBON/WIS 2.0 and Hydrogen safety; requires no further clarification: 30 points ● Shows adequate understanding with minor gaps; training context is relevant but lacks specific tailoring to the Maldives Meteorological Service (MMS) operational environment.: 20 points ● Understanding is unclear; major gaps in comprehension of the specialized technical training required for Upper-Air stations: 0 points	30					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
2	Methodology: Training Delivery, Curriculum, and SOP Development. (60 points) • All Detailed approach for on-site training (5–7 days) and follow-up sessions; inclusive of SOP development (Launch, Safety, ICT, Maintenance); provides a thorough pedagogical analysis and clear learning objectives for 8–12 staff: 60 points • Most key components addressed; methodology is sound but lacks granular detail on the "Train-the-Trainer" approach or specific SOP documentation structure: 40 points • Several key components missing; analysis is superficial; fails to provide a clear curriculum or timeline for knowledge transfer.: 0 points	60					
3	Risk Management: Knowledge Retention and Operational Continuity: (45 points) • The proposal provides a highly Risk Register addressing Knowledge Loss (staff turnover), Safety Risks (improper H2 handling), and Technical Barriers; provides proactive mitigation strategies like digital refresher modules and remote help-desk protocols: 45 points • Provides a general Risk Register; acknowledges basic logistical risks but lacks specific strategies for long-term staff competency and safety retention: 20 points • Risk register is unclear or generic; fails to address the specific risks associated with training for hazardous operations (Hydrogen): 0 point	45					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
4	Sustainability: Long-term Support and 3-Year Maintenance Strategy: (40 points) Scope fully aligned with TOR; includes a comprehensive 3-year support strategy (Annual Maintenance Contract), a clear 10-year spares availability plan, and established protocols for remote technical diagnostics: 40 points ● Scope mostly aligned; minor gaps in the long-term support structure or limited detail on how technical support will be accessed by MMS staff: 25 points ● Scope poorly defined; lacks a clear strategy for post-training sustainability or maintenance support: 0 point	40					
TOTAL		175					

D – Personnel (Qualifications & Experience) (105)

2. Personnel (Qualifications & Experience) (200)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Professional experience of the proposed Key Expert / Team Leader / Project Manager: Specialized in managing technical capacity building or NMHS modernization projects. (32 points): ● ≥ 10 years’ experience: 32 points ● 5-9 years’ experience: 22 points ● 1-4 years’ experience: 7 points ● No experience: 0 points	32					
2	Technical Experts (WMO Standards & Operational Systems): Expertise in Upper-Air station operations, GBON/WIS 2.0 requirements, and data quality assurance.: (38 points) ● ≥ 10 years’ experience: 38 points ● 5-9 years’ experience: 20 points ● 1-4 years’ experience: 10 points	38					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	No experience: 0 points						
3	Senior Training Specialist (Pedagogy & Curriculum): Demonstrated experience in delivering "Train-the-Trainer" programs and designing technical curricula for meteorological staff: (25 points) ≥ 5 relevant training experience delivering "Train-the-Trainer" programs and designing technical curricula for meteorological staff: 25 points 3 relevant training experience in high-pressure gas safety and system maintenance training: 10 points - No regional knowledge/training experience: 0 points	25					
4	Documentation & SOP Specialist: Expertise in authoring technical manuals, safety protocols (Hydrogen), and WMO-compliant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs): (10 points) ≥ 10 years’ experience: 10 points 5–9 years’ experience: 7 points 1–4 years’ experience: 2 points	10					
TOTAL		105					

E – Compliance with Technical Specifications (280)

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
1	Adherence to Annex A: Instructional & Sustainability Deliverables: (280 points) Full compliance with the technical training and support requirements, including:	280					

Item		POINTS OBTAINABLE	FIRM				
			A	B	C	D	E
	• On-site Training Program: 5–7 days for 8–12 staff plus follow-up sessions.(90 points) • SOP Development: Provision of detailed manuals for sounding, H2 safety, and ICT.(60 points) • Warranty & AMC: 2-year on-site warranty and a detailed 3-year Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC).(70) • Long-term Support: Documented 10-year availability of spares and technical help-desk support.(60 points)						
TOTAL		280					

Annex V – PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

[Please insert company letter-head]

[INSERT DATE]

Dear Sir / Madam,

Having examined your Request for Proposal dated dd/mm/yyyy, we, the undersigned, offer to provide services to RIMES office in Thailand according to the TOR provided by RIMES for the sum as quoted in the financial proposal.

We undertake, if our proposal is accepted, to commence and complete delivery of all services specified in the contract within the time frame stipulated.

We hereby declare that all the information and statements made in this Proposal are true and we accept that any misinterpretation contained in it may lead to our disqualification.

We confirm that we have read, understood and hereby accept the Terms of Reference describing the duties and responsibilities required of us in this RFP, and the General Terms and Conditions of RIMES's Contract for Services.

The undersigned represents to the UN as follows (check as appropriate)¹

- ☐ Proposer accepts the Terms and Conditions in Annex (i) and agrees to do all acts required in Annex (i).
- ☐ Proposer also acknowledges that Proposals may be partially awarded between different proposers.
- ☐ Proposer shall submit a performance bond if required in the RFP
- ☐ Proposer acknowledges that, if awarded a contract, it may be liable for liquidated damages if provided for in this RFP or the contract.
- ☐ Proposer is aware that RIMES is not committed to award a contract, or to reimburse any costs incurred by the proposer in connection with the RFP process, as stated in Annex (i)
- ☐ Proposer is aware that neither the RFP, nor any of its annexes, including this document, constitutes any agreement or contractual relationship between RIMES, or any of its entities, and the proposer. Proposer acknowledges that the sole purpose of the RFP and its annexes is to enable vendors to submit a proposal; proposer will not regard or seek to rely upon the RFP or any of its annexes as an offer on the part of the UN capable of acceptance by the proposer

¹ Terms used in this declaration shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Terms and Conditions in Annex (i)

- ☐ Proposer acknowledges that Proposals are evaluated according to RIMES Financial Regulations and Rules and the evaluation criteria specified in this RFP
- ☐ Proposer is familiar with and accepts the payment terms in Annex (i).
- ☐ In the event the proposer is a U.S. entity, proposer will indicate in its Proposal whether or not the prices specified therein are currently subject to GSA Federal Supply pricing and state the GSA Contract Number and Expiration Date
- ☐ Proposer's Proposal will be valid for the period of 120 days
- ☐ Proposer is familiar with and accepts RIMES's conditions for the withdrawal and modification of Proposals and RIMES's rules governing errors in Proposals and public opening of Proposals
- ☐ Proposer accepts the Confidentiality terms stated in Annex (i); and is aware that in the event RIMES requires proposers to execute a non-disclosure agreement, as stated in Annex (i), and proposer refuses to sign, proposer will not be invited to participate further in the RFP
- ☐ Proposer accepts the Collusive Bidding and other Anti-competitive Conduct terms stated in Annex (i) and represents that the Proposal has been compiled without the improper assistance of employees or former employees of RIMES, in accordance with Annex (i)
- ☐ Proposer has not, and is not, engaged in any corrupt practices
- ☐ Proposer is not aware of any existing or potential conflict of interest as specified in Annex (i). If during the procurement process a conflict of interest arises, or appears likely to arise, proposer will notify RIMES immediately in accordance with Annex (i)
- ☐ Proposer acknowledges that any costs it may incur in connection with the submission of a Proposal to RIMES are at the sole expense of the proposer
- ☐ Proposer shall promptly inform the RIMES in writing of any proposal submitted, or likely to be submitted, by a holding, parent, subsidiary, or affiliated company of the proposer in response to this RFP of which it is aware, or ought reasonably to be aware
- ☐ Proposer shall submit a bid bond if required in the RFP

REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS OF PROPOSER:	POSTAL ADDRESS:
TELEPHONE NUMBER(S):	FACSIMILE NUMBER(S):

Signature of authorized official of proposer or person otherwise authorized to sign the proposal on behalf of the proposer.

SIGNATURE:	DATE:
NAME (BLOCK LETTERS):	POSITION HELD:

Joint Venture Partner Information Form

[The Bidder shall fill in this Form in accordance with the instructions indicated below].

Date: *[insert date (as day, month and year) of Bid Submission]*

RFP No.: *[insert number of bidding process]*

Page _____ of _____ pages

1. Bidder's Legal Name: <i>[insert Bidder's legal name]</i>
2. JV's Party legal name: <i>[insert JV's Party legal name]</i>
3. JV's Party Country of Registration: <i>[insert JV's Party country of registration]</i>
4. JV's Party Year of Registration: <i>[insert JV's Party year of registration]</i>
5. JV's Party Legal Address in Country of Registration: <i>[insert JV's Party legal address in country of registration]</i>

6. JV's Party Authorized Representative Information Name: <i>[insert name of JV's Party authorized representative]</i> Address: <i>[insert address of JV's Party authorized representative]</i> Telephone/Fax numbers: <i>[insert telephone/fax numbers of JV's Party authorized representative]</i> Email Address: <i>[insert email address of JV's Party authorized representative]</i>
7. Attached are copies of original documents of: <i>[check the box(es) of the attached original documents]</i> € Articles of Incorporation or Registration of firm named in 2 above. € JV Agreement, or letter of intent to enter into such an Agreement, signed by the legally authorized signatories of all the parties

Annex VI – Acknowledgement Letter

Date:

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Request for a Proposal of Services for [INSERT]

We the undersigned, acknowledge receipt of your Request for a Proposal dated dd/mm/yyyy reference [INSERT] and hereby confirm that we:

☐ intend ☐ do not intend

to submit a proposal to the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System by the deadline of [INSERT DATE AND HOURS] and that we:

☐ intend ☐ do not intend

to send one (1) authorized representative to observe the public opening procedure.

We acknowledge that this RFP is confidential and proprietary to RIMES, and contains privileged information. Upon request, we will return this RFP or any part thereof, and all copies thereof, to RIMES.

Name of Authorized
Representative

Title of Authorized
Representative

Signature

Company Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Telephone Nr.

Fax Nr.

IMPORTANT: In order for your company to remain as a registered vendor, you must return this acknowledgement letter even if you do not intend to submit a proposal at this time.

If you do not intend to submit a proposal please indicate the reason:

- We do not have the capacity to submit a proposal at this time ☐
- We cannot meet the technical requirement of this RFP ☐
- We do not think we can make a competitive offer at this time ☐
- Other: (please specify) ☐

Kindly return this acknowledgement by e-mail at rimesprocurement@rimes.int

NOTE: Due to the current security arrangements, your authorized representative must present a completed copy of this letter, together with the appropriate personal identification, in order to observe the public opening procedure.

Annex VII: General Conditions of Contract

Draft Form for Contracts

The following is the draft of the form of contract under which the services would be performed, including the "General Conditions for RIMES Contracts for Services".

Date _____

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ref.:

The Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (hereinafter referred to as "RIMES"), wishes to engage your [company/organization/institution], duly incorporated under the Laws of _____ [name of the country] (hereinafter referred to as the "Contractor") in order to conduct a **Procurement of Equipment and data purchase under SOFF Maldives (Procurement and Installation of Upper-air sounding system and Spare sensors including balloons, radiosondes)** in accordance with the following Contract:

1. Contract / Purchase Order Documents

- 1.1 This Contract / Purchase Order is subject to RIMES General Conditions for Services attached hereto as Part A. The provisions of Part A shall control the interpretation of this Contract and in no way shall be deemed to have been derogated by the contents of this letter and any Annexes, unless otherwise expressly stated under section 4 of this letter, entitled "Special Conditions".
- 1.2 The Contractor and RIMES also agree to be bound by the provisions contained in the following documents, which shall take precedence over one another in case of conflict in the following order:
- a) this letter;
 - b) the Statement of Work [ref.dated.....], attached hereto as Part B;
 - c) the Contractor's technical proposal [ref....., dated], as clarified by the agreed minutes of the negotiation meeting²[dated.....], both documents not attached hereto but known to and in the possession of both parties.

² If there are updates to the technical proposal or correspondence exchanged in clarification of certain aspects, reference them too, provided that they are fully acceptable to RIMES. Otherwise, aspects which resolution is pending should be dealt with in this letter itself or in the Statement of Work, as appropriate.

- 1.3 All the above shall form the Contract between the Contractor and RIMES, superseding the contents of any other negotiations and/or agreements, whether oral or in writing, pertaining to the subject of this Contract.

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

FIRM: _____

ADDRESS: _____

2. Obligations of the Contractor

- 2.1 The Contractor shall perform and complete the Services described in Part B with due diligence and efficiency and in accordance with the Contract.

- 2.2 The Contractor shall provide the services of the following key personnel:

- Name
- Specialization
- Nationality
- Period of Service

- 2.3 Any changes in the above key personnel shall require prior written approval of RIMES.

- 2.4 The Contractor shall also provide all technical and administrative support needed in order to ensure the timely and satisfactory performance of the Services.

- 2.5 The Contractor shall submit to RIMES and to (the executing agency) the deliverables specified hereunder according to the following schedule:

Deliverable

- XXXX
- XXXX

- 2.6 All reports shall be written in the English language (or specify other).

- 2.7 The Contractor represents and warrants the accuracy of any information or data provided to RIMES for the Purpose of entering into this Contract, as well as the quality of the deliverables and reports foreseen under this Contract in accordance with the highest industry and professional standards.

3. Price and Payment

Option A: Time and Materials

- 3.1 The Contractor shall submit invoices for the work done by the individuals names in 2.2.
- 3.2 RIMES shall effect payments to the Contractor after acceptance by RIMES of the invoices submitted by the Contractor and after receipt of related deliverables/goods and services.
- 3.3 Amounts invoiced in excess of those estimated by the Contractor in its proposal must be thoroughly justified. If the justification is not deemed sufficient by RIMES, RIMES may decline to pay the excess amount.

Option B: Fixed Price

- 3.1 In full consideration for the complete and satisfactory performance of the Services under this Contract, RIMES shall pay the Contractor a fixed contract price of US\$XXX.
- 3.2 The price of this Contract is not subject to any adjustment or revision because of price or currency fluctuations or the actual costs incurred by the Contractor in the performance of the Contract.
- 3.3 RIMES shall effect payment for the services upon acceptance of invoices as follows:

Delivery / Payment Schedule	Delivery / Payment Schedule
1st Payment: 20 percent of the Contract Price upon Contract signing, confirmation of the delivery schedule, and submission of the Inception Report	20%
2nd Payment: 20 percent of the Contract Price upon successful delivery Factory Acceptance Test (FAT)	20%
3rd Payment: 25 percent of the Contract Price upon successful Installation & Site Acceptance Test (SAT)	25%
4th Payment: 25 percent of the Contract Price upon completion of the Final Delivery & Training	25%
Final Payment: 10 percent of the Contract Price upon the retention (released after 3–6 months of stable performance)	10%

- 3.4 Payments effected by RIMES to the Contractor shall be deemed neither to relieve the Contractor of its obligations under this Contract nor as acceptance by RIMES of the Contractor's performance of the Services.

4. Submission of invoices

4.1 An original invoice shall be submitted by the Contractor for each payment under the Contract to the address specified in 8.1.

4.2 Invoices submitted by fax shall not be accepted by RIMES.

5. Time and manner of payment

5.1 Invoices shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the date of their acceptance by RIMES. RIMES shall make every effort to accept an invoice or so advise the Contractor of its non-acceptance within a reasonable time from receipt.

5.2 All payments shall be made by RIMES to the following Bank account of the Contractor:

_____ **[NAME OF THE BANK]**

_____ **[ACCOUNT NUMBER]**

_____ **[ADDRESS OF THE BANK]**

6. Entry into force. Time limits.

6.1 The Contract shall enter into force upon its signature by both parties.

6.2 All time limits contained in this Contract shall be deemed to be of the essence in respect of the performance of the Services.

7. Modifications

7.1 Any modification to this Contract shall require an amendment in writing between both parties duly signed by the authorized representative of the Contractor and RIMES.

8. Notifications

8.1 For the purpose of notifications under the Contract, the email address of RIMES and the Contractor are as follows:

For RIMES:

Email: _____

For the Contractor:

_____ [INSERT NAME]

_____ [INSERT ADDRESS]

Email: _____

If the above terms and conditions meet with your agreement as they are typed in this letter and in the Contract Documents, please initial every page of this letter and its attachments and return to this office one original of this Contract, duly signed and dated.

Yours sincerely,

XXXXXX

For [INSERT NAME OF THE COMPANY/ORGANIZATION]

Agreed and Accepted:

Signature _____

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT



General Conditions of Contract for PURCHASE Order

1. Definitions

The following words and expressions shall have the meanings hereby assigned to them:

- 1.1. "GCC" means this General Conditions of Contract.
- 1.2. "Contract" means the Purchase Order placed on the Supplier, together with the Documents referred to therein, including all attachments, appendices, and all documents incorporated by reference therein.
- 1.3. "Documents" means the documents listed in the Purchase Order, including any amendments thereto.
- 1.4. "Contract Price" means the price payable to the Supplier as specified in GCC 6, subject to such additions and adjustments thereto or deductions therefrom, as may be made pursuant to the Contract.
- 1.5. "Day" means calendar day.
- 1.6. "Completion" means the fulfillment of the Related Services, as applicable, by the Supplier in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Contract.
- 1.7. "Goods" means all of the commodities, raw material, machinery and equipment, and/or other materials that the Supplier is required to supply to the Purchaser under the Contract.
- 1.8. "Party" means the Purchaser or the Supplier, as the context requires, and "Parties" means both of them.
- 1.9. "Purchaser" means the entity purchasing the Goods and Related Services as applicable.
- 1.10. "Purchaser's Country" is the country specified in the Purchase Order or if not specified it shall be Kingdom of Thailand.
- 1.11. "Related Services" means the services incidental to the supply of the goods, such as insurance, installation, training and initial maintenance and other such obligations of the Supplier under the Purchase Order, as applicable.
- 1.12. "Supplier" means the person, private or government entity, or a combination of the above, whose Quotation to perform the Contract has been accepted by the Purchaser and is named as such in the Purchase Order.
- 1.13. "The Country Office," where applicable, is the final destination for delivery of goods and performance of services and means the place named in the GCC.

2. Incoterms

The edition of Incoterms that shall apply is Incoterms 2020.

3. Governing Law

The Contract shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of Kingdom of Thailand.

4. Settlement of Disputes

In the case of a dispute between the Purchaser and a Supplier, the dispute shall be referred to adjudication or arbitration in accordance with the laws of the Purchaser's Country.

5. Shipping and other documents to be provided.

The Delivery of the Goods and Completion of the Related Services as applicable shall be in accordance with the Delivery Date specified in the Purchase Order.

Details of Shipping and other Documents to be furnished by the Supplier are delivery note, manufacturer's warranty certificates, applicable technical catalogues and user manuals etc.

The below documents are minimum requirement which shall be received by the Purchaser:

- (i) Delivery notes with information of Goods that match with the Purchase Order.
- (ii) The warranty certificate to be received along with the goods.
- (iii) Any other documents that are usually provided to facilitate shipping of goods.

6. Contract Price

The Contract Price is specified in the Purchase Order.

The unit prices charged by the Supplier for the Goods supplied and the Related Services performed under the Contract shall not vary from the prices quoted by the Supplier and accepted by the Purchaser.

7. Taxes and Duties

- a. The Supplier shall be entirely responsible for all taxes, duties, license fees, etc., incurred until delivery of the contracted Goods to the Purchaser.
- b. If any tax exemptions, reductions, allowances or privileges may be available to the Supplier, the Purchaser shall use its best efforts to enable the Supplier to benefit from any such tax savings to the maximum allowable extent.

8. Specifications and Standards

The Goods and Related Services if applicable supplied under this Contract shall conform to the technical specifications and standards mentioned in the Technical Specifications and, when no applicable standard is mentioned, the standard shall be equivalent or superior to the official standards whose application is appropriate to the goods' country of origin.

9. Insurance cover

The insurance coverage shall be as required by law and covered to final destination as per agreed Incoterms.

10. Transportation

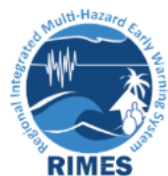
Responsibility for transportation of the Goods shall be as specified in the Incoterms.

11. Payment

Payment for the supplies shall be made after successful completion of delivery. Payment will be made in full within 30 days on completion of satisfactory performance of the contract. The following documentation must be supplied for payments to be made: 1) An original and two copies of the invoice; 2) A delivery note evidencing receipt of the goods; 3) An acceptance certificate signed by a RIMES official and 4) other documents mentioned at GCC 5.

12. Liquidated damages

The liquidated damage shall be 0.10 % of the price of the delayed Goods or unperformed Services for each week or part thereof of delay, from the terminal delivery date given in the PO, until actual delivery or performance.



General Terms and Conditions of PURCHASE Order

The maximum of liquidated damages shall be 10% of the Contract Price. Once the maximum is reached, the Purchaser may terminate the Contract pursuant to GCC 18.

13. Warranty

- 13.1 The Supplier warrants that all the Goods are new, unused, and of the most recent or current models, and that they incorporate all recent improvements in design and materials, unless provided otherwise in the Contract.
- 13.2 The Supplier further warrants that the Goods shall be free from defects arising from any act or omission of the Supplier or arising from design, materials, and workmanship, under normal use in the conditions prevailing in the country of final destination.
- 13.3 The warranty shall remain valid for twelve (12) months or as mutually agreed and incorporated in the Purchase Order, after the Goods, or any portion thereof as the case may be, have been delivered to and accepted at the final destination.
- 13.4 The period for repair or replacement after being notified of the defect by the Purchaser shall be within fifteen (15) days.
- 13.5 If having been notified, the Supplier fails to remedy the defect within the period specified in GCC 13.4, the Purchaser may proceed to take within a reasonable period such remedial action as may be necessary, at the Supplier's risk and expense and without prejudice to any other rights which the Purchaser may have against the Supplier under the Contract.
For purposes of the warranty, the place of final destination shall be as specified in the Shipping Address of PURCHASE Order.

14. Copyright

The copyright in all drawings, documents, and other materials containing data and information furnished to the Purchaser by the Supplier herein shall remain vested in the Supplier, or, if they are furnished to the Purchaser directly or through the Supplier by any third party, including suppliers of materials, the copyright in such materials shall remain vested in such third party.

15. Inspections and Audit

Supplier shall permit Purchaser and/or persons appointed by the Purchaser to inspect the site and/or the accounts, records and other documents relating to the request for quotations process and/or execution of Contract.

16. Limitation of Liability

- Except in cases of negligence or willful misconduct,
- a. the Supplier shall not be liable to the Purchaser, whether in contract, tort, or otherwise, for any indirect or consequential loss or damage, loss of use, loss of production, or loss of profits or interest costs, provided that this exclusion shall not apply to any obligation of the Supplier to pay liquidated damages to the Purchaser and
 - b. the aggregate liability of the Supplier to the Purchaser, whether under the Contract, in tort or otherwise, shall not exceed the total Contract Price, provided that this limitation shall not apply to the cost of repairing or replacing defective equipment, or to any obligation of the supplier to indemnify the Purchaser with respect to patent infringement.

17. Force Majeure

- 17.1. The Supplier shall not be liable for forfeiture of its Performance Security (if required), liquidated damages, or termination for default if and to the extent that its delay in performance or other failure to

perform its obligations under the Contract is the result of an event of Force Majeure.

- 17.2. For purposes of this Clause, "Force Majeure" means an event or situation beyond the control of the Supplier that is not foreseeable, is unavoidable, and its origin is not due to negligence or lack of care on the part of the Supplier. Such events may include, but not be limited to, the acts of the Purchaser in its sovereign capacity, wars or revolutions, fires, floods, and freight embargoes.
- 17.3. If a Force Majeure situation arises, the Supplier shall promptly notify the Purchaser in writing of such condition and the cause thereof. Unless otherwise directed by the Purchaser in writing, the Supplier shall continue to perform its obligations under the Contract as far as is reasonably practical and shall seek all reasonable alternative means for performance not prevented by the Force Majeure event.
- 17.4. If the performance of the Contract is substantially prevented, hindered or delayed for a single period of more than sixty (60) days or an aggregate period of more than one hundred and twenty (120) days on account of one or more events of Force Majeure during the currency of the Contract, the Parties will attempt to develop a mutually satisfactory solution, failing which Purchaser may terminate the Contract by giving a notice to the Supplier.

18. Termination

- 18.1. Termination for Default
The Purchaser, without prejudice to any other remedy for breach of Contract, by written notice of default sent to the Supplier, may terminate the Contract in whole or in part:
 - (i) if the Supplier fails to deliver any or all of the Goods within the period specified in the Contract, or within any extension thereof granted by the Purchaser;
 - (ii) if the Supplier fails to perform any other obligation under the Contract; or
 - (iii) if the Supplier, in the judgment of the Purchaser has engaged in Fraud and Corruption, in competing for or in executing the Contract.

In the event the Purchaser terminates the Contract in whole or in part, the Purchaser may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as it deems appropriate, Goods or Related Services if applicable similar to those undelivered or not performed, and the Supplier shall be liable to the Purchaser for any additional costs for such similar Goods or Related Services if applicable. However, the Supplier shall continue performance of the Contract to the extent not terminated.

- 18.2. Termination for Convenience
 - (a) The Purchaser, by notice sent to the Supplier, may terminate the Contract, in whole or in part, at any time for its convenience. The notice of termination shall specify that termination is for the Purchaser's convenience, the extent to which performance of the Supplier under the Contract is terminated, and the date upon which such termination becomes effective.
 - (b) The Goods that are complete and ready for shipment within Ten (10) days after the Supplier's receipt of notice of termination shall be accepted by the Purchaser at the Contract terms and prices. For the remaining Goods, the Purchaser may elect:
 - (c) to have any portion completed and delivered at the Contract terms and prices; and/or
 - (d) to cancel the remainder and pay to the Supplier an agreed amount for partially completed Goods and Related Services if applicable and for materials and parts previously procured by the Supplier.