



*Embassy of the United States of America*  
**Muscat, Oman**

GSO/Procurement  
*February 15, 2016*

**Q&A for VPN INTERNET SERVICES**  
**Solicitation # SMU-300-16-Q-0002**  
**Pre-Bid Conference held February 04, 2016**

Q-1. Where should we handover the fiber optic cable to the Embassy?

A-1. The demarcation room in the basement of the Chancery building.

Q-2. How many routers are required, single or dual?

A-2. Single Router

Q-3. How many entries will be required, single or dual?

A-3. Single Entry

Q-4. At the time of submission of proposal should we sign RFQ (Solicitation) documents as well?

A-4. Yes, proposal must be signed.

Q-5. On page 8 of solicitation, under Network Identification point #1 it is mentioned that "Internet Service Provider (ISP) must provide a block of sixteen (32) public internet IP addresses on a single subnet for Internet Services, please clarify?"

A-5 It should read, "ISP must provide a block of sixteen (16) public internet IP addresses". See Amendment 0001 which reflects this change.

Q-6. On page 6 it is mentioned that, Contractor to provide pricing for future increase/decrease in circuit bandwidth. These prices are subject to re-evaluation at the time of request by the Department of State for a change in the service provided under this contract. We can accept the increase but, not decrease. Please clarify?

A-6. Please see paragraph 6 on page 13 of solicitation regarding technological refreshments and changes.

Q-7. What is the general process of evaluating a proposal?

A-7. See section four for evaluation factors. Proposal evaluation will be done by panel of technical experts based on these factors compared to documentation in proposal.

Q-8. Can you consider any minor omissions in RFQ/Solicitation after submission of the proposal?

A-8. U.S. Government intends to award a contract/purchase order to the responsible company submitting an acceptable offer at the lowest price. We intend to award a contract/purchase order based on initial quotations, without holding discussions, although we may hold discussions with companies in the competitive range if there is a need to do so.

Q-9. On page 9, II. General section under point A. 2<sup>nd</sup> para it is mentioned that, The availability of this circuit shall not be less than 99.5% per month over the period of the contract however, on page 10, under point "K" it reads "Acceptable Level of Performance, The Standard of Performance (SP) for this contract is 99.7% availability per month (100 percent less 0.3 % each month for corrective and preventive maintenance), please clarify?

A-9. Refer to Amendment 0001

Q-10. What will be the start date of the new contract?

A-10. Estimated start date is around April –July time frame.

Q-11 Are installation charges billed separately?

A.-11. Per Section 1 Section I The price listed below shall include all labor, materials, overhead, and profit.

Q-12. Shall we quote for a higher bandwidth due to cost effectiveness in addition to the requested bandwidth.

A.12 See bottom of page six of solicitation: "The Department requests the Contractor to provide pricing for future increases/decreases in circuit bandwidth. These prices are subject to re-evaluation at the time of request by the Department of State for a change in the service provided under this contract".

Q13. Is HSRP protocol required?

A.13 No, HSRP protocol is not required. Refer to Amendment 0001.

Sincerely,



**John R. Jutte**  
Contracting Officer