

Banana Accompanying Measures

Feeder Roads

EuropeAid/137645/IH/WKS/DM

Clarifications

Question 1

Given that you require under Section 17.1 of the Instructions for Tender (ITT) that an electronic copy be submitted of the tender, we would be pleased if you could make available to us at your earliest convenience the BOQ in excel format and any forms to be filled in word format.

Answer 1

The templates forming part of the tender are available at <http://nao.dm> and <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=137645>.

The Bills of Quantities in excel format are posted to the same websites also. Please note the following however:

"Any alteration made to the original BoQ provided in excel format will lead to an automatic rejection of the tenderer's offer and the pdf BoQ documents forming part of the originally published TDs take precedence where there are differences".

Question 2

We refer to ITT Clause 12.2 which specifies the economic and financial capacity of tenders.

- a) Given that there has not been significant volumes of work over the last three (3) years, and in particular the last two (2) years, the requirement to demonstrate average turnover over the last three (3) years is likely to be beyond the reach of most economic operators in Dominica. *We suggest that you review this requirement, particularly for LOT 1, by increasing the period to 5 years and/ or reducing the quantum requirement. We would be grateful if this request is given consideration.*
- b) Access to credit and other facilities is required to cover the cash flow for the duration of the contract. We find this requirement appropriate, however the further requirement of access to over EUR 4,000,000.00 appears to be excessive, possibly being close to the total sum of all lots. This requirements, even more that the first, is likely to bar most, if not all the local economic entities. *We strongly suggest that you review this requirement to delete the last bulleted paragraph under "Economic and financial capacity".*

Answer 2

See Corrigendum 1 and 2.

The economic and financial capacity of the candidates in the Contract Notice (Section 16) and Instructions to Tenderers (Section 12.2) shall now be:

Economic and financial capacity of candidate:

- a) The average annual turnover of the tenderer in the past three (3) years must be at least
- Lot 1: EUR 2,000,000.00**
 - Lot 2: EUR 1,000,000.00**
 - Lot 3: EUR 1,000,000.00**

A tenderer for the works of more than one lot is required to fill the above specified requirements on “aggregate basis”.

- b) If it is the sole tenderer, it must have access to sufficient credit and other financial facilities to cover the required cash-flow for the duration of the contract. In any case the amount of credit available must exceed:
- Lot 1: EUR 500,000.00**
 - Lot 2: EUR 300,000.00**
 - Lot 3: EUR 300,000.00**

A tenderer for the works of more than one lot is required to fill the above specified requirements on “aggregate basis”.

Question 3

Schedule of Dayworks: The schedules do not include any nominal or estimated quantities for dayworks items. Dayworks is to be entered under General Items 1.13 to 1.14. However, unless each tenderer enters the same quantities in the daywork schedules, the bid process can be skewed. *Please indicate the quantities against which we are to price daywork rates.*

Answer 3

Tenderers are to insert rates only in the dayworks schedules in the event that dayworks are instructed to be carried out. The quantities in those items are zero.

Questions from the site visits (4-9)

Question 4

Colihaut – Would it be required to scarify the surface dressing prior to paving or can the existing surface be used as the base.

Answer 4

Scarifying of the existing surface dressing layer will be required where additional base material is necessary for establishing the vertical alignment. No scarifying will be necessary where the new surface layer corresponds with the vertical finished profile.

Question 5

Middle Ridge – Would the irrigation pipelines be encountered during excavation?

Answer 5

No. It is not expected that the irrigation pipelines will be encountered during excavation in the roadway.

Question 6

Freyal - Would volume batching or hand mixing be acceptable?

Answer 6

Due to the difficulty of access, a portable concrete mixer will be acceptable for use. However the concrete strength as specified remains.

Question 7

Melville Hall – Would the existing bridge abutments be used to support the proposed bridge?

Answer 7

The actual clear span between the existing abutments is approximately 103ft. The extra ten feet catered for is to allow foundation support for the bailey bridge to be set back from the existing abutments. The abutments have some level of damage and we would recommend that the foundation of the new bridge be independent of them.

Question 8

Could clearer versions of the drawings be made available online? The scans provided are hard to read.

Answer 8

Pdf copies of the drawings are available from <http://nao.dm> and <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=137645>. It will be the tenderer's responsibility to print the drawings to an appropriate scale for clarity.

Question 9

Could Bills of Quantities be provided in Excel, version?

Answer 9

See response to Question 1.

Question 10

The Timetable under Section 1.2 of the Instructions for Tender (ITT) provides for the deadline for submission of Tenders as 28th March 2016 at 12:00 noon. Given that the 28th March 2016 is a national holiday, and so is the 25th March 2016, the default deadline for the submission of Tenders is therefore 4:00 pm on the 24th March 2016. *Please therefore confirm this default deadline for submission of Tenders, or in the alternative, provide us with a working day that is the deadline for the submission of Tenders.*

Answer 10

Deadline for submitting tenders: March 30th, 2016. Refer to the new timetable in Corrigendum 1 and 2.

Question 11

The Special Conditions provides at Clause 68.4 provides for disputes to be finally settled by referring to *“the exclusive jurisdiction of the St Lucia in accordance with national legislation of the Contracting Authority.”* The Appendix to Tender at GCC69 provides a reference to “Dominica” as Applicable Law. *Please Clarify.*

Answer 11

Article 68.4 should read: "Any dispute arising out of or relating to this Contract which cannot be settled otherwise shall be referred to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Dominica in accordance with the national legislation of the state of the contracting authority." Refer to Corrigendum 2.

Question 12

BOQ item number 1.1 of Part 1 – provides for ‘Preparation of ‘As constructed’ drawings’. Specifications at 106.4 and 128.3 give very little details of the requirements except that it “shall be produced to a standard similar to that of the Contract Drawings”. *Please clarify (1.) that the Contract Drawings shall be similar in standard to the Tender Drawings, (2.) whether survey work will be required in preparation of the as-built information, and (3.) whether, in addition to the two (2) copies provided for in Article 8 of the Special Conditions, editable electronic versions of the drawings will be made available.*

Answer 12

- 1) The contract drawings shall be similar in standard to the tender drawings.
- 2) Some level of survey work will be required to verify specific road features however provision is already made for verification of the centreline and elevations in item 1.9.
- 3) Electronic (CAD) versions of the drawings will be provided to the successful tenderer.

Question 13

Under 116.1 of the Specifications, at paragraph 2 after the 4 bulleted points on page S116-1, it is provided as follows, *“Where a public road is used by the Contractor for construction operations in connection with the Works, the Contractor will be required to undertake sufficient maintenance work as may be*

*required to keep the roadway safe and fully operational.” All the sections of the roads in each of the lots not carded for rehabilitation and through which access must be obtained to undertake the works, will be used by the Contractor. Also, in the cases of “ring roads” such as Mero- Cuba-Salisbury, Colihaut, Freyal-Bois and Middle Ridge, alternative entrances these will be used as access for the public while the Contractor works one entrance. There is no doubt the present conditions of these roads will deteriorate, some of which are presently in a condition not considered safe and operational. However, we did not find in the BOQ any Prime Cost or Provisional Sum Items to cover this requirement. *We would be grateful if you would point us to the items in the BOQ which provides for these costs, otherwise please provide for these additionally.**

Answer 13

Tenderers are aware of the condition of the public roads which are directly linked to the sites of the proposed works. Contractors will be required to provide a traffic management plan prior to commencement of works indicating proposed diversions, temporary widening, proposed closures and time and length of those closures. The traffic management plan must be approved by the Supervisor (Ministry of Public Works) and appropriate public awareness measures taken prior to those interventions.

Tenderers are directed to Price No 1.5 under the General Items in the Bill of Quantities to make provision for costs related to diversions, maintenance and general traffic management and temporary works necessary to keep the public roads safe and fully operational.

Question 14

Under 125.4 of the Specifications, at paragraph 3 on page S125-3, it is provided as follows, *“In accordance with a conventional ‘routine maintenance’ intervention approach this work will involve regular cleaning of roadway and shoulder surfaces and related drainage paths, the replacement of damaged signage etc. It may also include the structural repair of deficient sections of the route including replacement of base course, surface patches etc..”* This is clearly a specification that ought to be separately priced if required. However, we did not find in the BOQ any Prime Cost or Provisional Sum Items to cover this requirement. *We would be grateful if you would point us to the items in the BOQ which provides for these costs.*

Answer 14

Paragraph 3 of item 125.4 of the Specifications refers to the maintenance of the works after the certificate of provisional acceptance has been issued. Specifically it refers to the defects liability period during which period the Contractor will be required to carry out routine maintenance and repair structural and other defects.

Question 15

Under 125.2 of the Specifications, at paragraph 1 on page S125-2, it is provided as follows, *“Whenever the construction works are to be undertaken on an existing road surface and no suitable diversion routes are available, the Contractor shall work in ‘half widths’ allowing public traffic to use the half of the road not under construction at the time. The length of half width construction shall be kept to a minimum, with provision for traffic travelling in opposite directions to pass at frequent intervals.”*

There are many roads for which this half-width requirement is unsafe or impractical, including during

preparation works, sub-base, base and concrete works. This is more so as note #6 under Traffic Control on the drawing # MS-C0-01 requires all lanes to be minimum 5 ft from open excavation and 2 ft clearance for vertical obstruction. Given that the wearing course of these roads is a 100 mm Portland cement Grade 20 strength concrete slab, protecting the work from the public use for 28 days may be beyond the control of the Contractor unless the Contracting Authority makes provisions to have these roads legally closed during certain periods of the work. *Please clarify how it is expected that the Contractor will meet these conditions under the Contract without being able to close some sections of these roads until the curing time for concrete is achieved.*

Answer 15

Where it is impossible or unsafe to carry out construction by use of diversions or “half widths” construction, the Contractor will be required to indicate such sections of road in his traffic management plan. All road closures are to be approved by the Supervisor (Ministry of Public Works) and appropriate public awareness measures take to advise of the time and length of such closures.

Question 16

- a) Under 128.1 of the Specifications, at paragraph 2 on page S128.1, it does not provide for the Supervisor to indicate monuments but rather provides for the Contractor to re-establish ‘secondary’ system. Note #13 on the drawing # MS-C0-01 provide that a licensed surveyor is to setup benchmarks. Under note #15, it provides for the government to do. *Please clarify.*
- b) Under 128.2 it appears to provide for extensive re-survey of existing roads. *Please confirm and clarify.*

Answer 16

- a) A surveyor appointed by the Contracting Authority will establish or identify surveying control points. However, should these control point benchmarks be damaged or lost during construction, the contractor shall be responsible for their re-establishment.
- b) Item 1.9 in the BOQ addresses the verification of the alignment and elevations.

Question 17

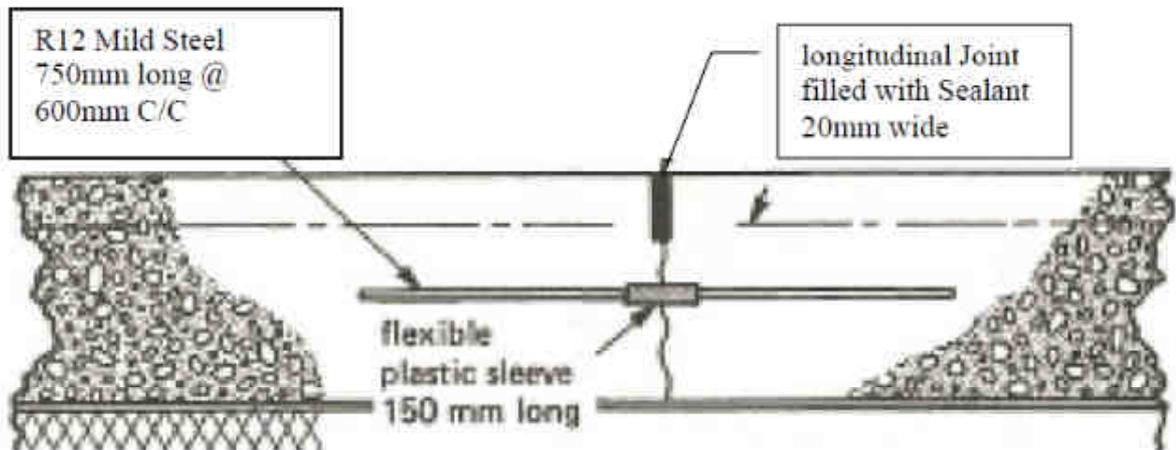
The requirements for construction joints under page S501-1 is not clear enough. *Please provide the joint spacing, detailing, material specifications and structural details necessary for pricing and execution of construction joints in roadways.*

Answer 17

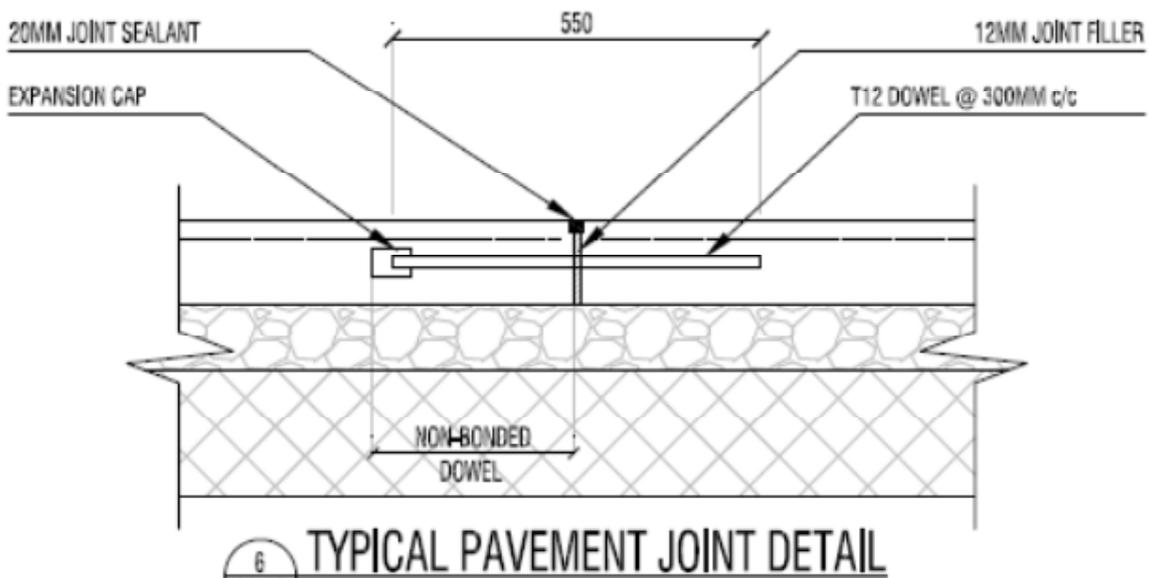
See the details below for Construction Joints:

- a) Longitudinal joints

For road pavements less than 4.2m in width, longitudinal joints are not necessary. For wider pavements the following detail can be used.



b) Transverse joints:



Question 18

Our company was not able to attend the site visit, but we intend to do a site visit, section 12.1.14 of the document speaks to the site visit certificate, when we make our site visit, will this certificate be issued to us for submission with the document as stated.

Answer 18

A site visit certificate will not be issued to you for the visit planned however you may still submit a tender because the site visit is not mandatory.

Question 19

We refer to page # S500-2, Technical specifications, Section 500 : PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE-GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The specification says: *“Cement may be Portland cement to ASTM C. 150; air-entraining Portland cement to ASTM C. 175; Portland-Pozzolin cement to ASTM C. 340 or C 91 and shall be as specified on the drawings or by the Engineer”.*

In general in the Caribbean and also particularly in Dominica, the only available type of cement is "performance based Cement" conforming to ASTM C1157 which is also more environmental friendly, compared with Ordinary Portland Cement.

Please let us know if this cement (ASTM C1157) will be permitted to use on the project in addition to the cement specified in the technical specifications.

Answer 19

Locally available performance based cement conforming to ASTM C1157 shall also be accepted in addition to the cement specified in the specifications as per section 500.