



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje

DATE: 17 April 2008

SUBJECT: Invitation to Bid No. 2008/048LOG – Supply and Delivery of Office Supplies and Stationery

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The OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje has received a request for clarification in respect to ITB No 2008/04/LOG.

In accordance with paragraph 8 “Clarification of Bidding Documents” of Section I, Instructions to Bidders, of the ITB documents, the OSCE would like to provide the following clarifications to all prospective bidders:

Question:

Is it acceptable to offer more than one option for individual items, as potential Bidders may have a range of items that meet the minimum quality standards?

Answer:

The intention of the ITB is to select the cheapest item that passes the minimum technical standard. However the OSCE recognises that if a Bidder offers an item that does not meet the minimum technical standard, the entire bid will be rejected, when the Bidder could have offered a higher-priced but better quality item that would have passed.

To avoid the unnecessary rejection of bids, the OSCE would like to provide the following amendment to the bidding documents:

Bidders may provide up to three (3) alternatives, individually priced, for each item for which a sample is requested. The OSCE shall evaluate each alternative, to establish which items meet the minimum quality requirements. For the purposes of the Financial Evaluation, the cheapest alternative that passed the technical evaluation will be considered.

Bidders are reminded that if all alternatives offered for any one line item in their bid fail the technical evaluation, then the bid shall be rejected in its entirety. To this end, Bidders are encouraged to avoid offering the lowest quality alternatives.