

PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENT

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

100775

Combat Boots

**Procurement pursuant to the Norwegian
Regulations on Security and Defence Procurement
(FOSA Part II)**

Deadline: 20.09.2018

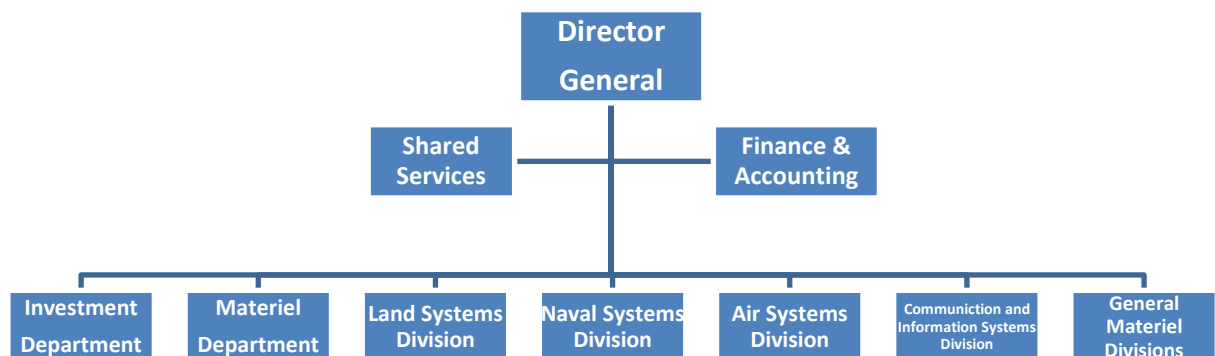
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1 Introduction

1.1 Norwegian Defence Materiel Agency (NDMA)

This procurement is carried out by the Norwegian Defence Materiel Agency (NDMA). NDMA shall ensure that the Norwegian Armed Forces and other undertakings in the defence sector gain access to cost-efficient, safe materiel in accordance with adopted long-term plans. NDMA's main tasks are to plan, procure, manage and sell materiel for the Armed Forces, and other agencies organised under the Ministry of Defence. NDMA is the technical competent authority in certain areas and provides the Ministry of Defence, the Armed Forces and other parts of the sector with advice and expertise within the agency's area of responsibility. NDMA also follows up international materiel cooperation and assists the Ministry in the marketing of Norwegian industry. NDMA has approximately 1,300 employees, 60% of whom are civil employees and the rest military. NDMA is managed by a managing director and organised as one staff unit and five divisions.



This procurement is carried out by the Norwegian Defence Materiel Agency General Materiel Systems Division. The Norwegian Defence Materiel Agency General Materiel Systems Division is responsible for most of the common materiel that is utilised in by all military services.

The Norwegian Defence Materiel Agency General Materiel Systems Division will in the following be referred to as NDMA or 'the Purchaser'.

Further information is available on the following website: www.forsvarsmateriell.com

1.2 About this procurement

The Norwegian Armed Forces are looking to replace a numerous variety of boots with a functional footwear system. From hereinafter the system Combat Boots definition includes the Nordic Boot and the Desert Boot. The system can be used in European climate zones from Norway in the north to warmer climate in southern parts of Europe, and is also to include operations in warm and dry climate zones. The Norwegian Defense Materiel Agency (NDMA) is leading the process and wish to challenge the market on delivering a system that ensure the user the best operating conditions. The initial order on the Framework Agreement Contract is expected to be between 44 000 to 82 500 pairs of Combat Boots, and the following orders is approximately 27 500 pairs a year for the duration of the Contract.

As the initial part of the procurement process, NDMA will under this document invite prospective bidders (hereinafter the "Candidates") to apply for pre-qualification for the delivery. For further information about the evaluation process see section 8.1.

All Candidates that complies with pre-qualification requirements (PQR) 1 – 13 will be pre-qualified. The subsequent Invitation to Tender (ITT) will only be distributed to those Candidates, and give more information regarding requirements. After the ITT evaluation NDMA will invite minimum three (3) and maximum five (5) Candidates to participate in the test period. The test period will in the next phase be described more thoroughly. NDMA can at this point inform that it will be tested by Norwegian platoons for a duration of approximately five months from February until June. It is worth noting at this point that the Candidates will be asked to deliver 75 pair of Combat Boots (50 Nordic and 25 Desert) at a decided location within the 25th of January 2019. There will be no colour requirements on the test boots.

1.3 Uniform similarity

Due to the fact that these boots will be used by the Norwegian Armed Forces, NDMA has to insure that the combat boots models will have the same design for the whole length of the contract period. The Candidate will have to guarantee this at the next stage of the procurement if the Candidate is pre-qualified.

1.4 Objective

The objective of this pre-qualification process is to allocate qualified Candidates that have the potential and ability to handle the relevant scope of delivery within an acceptable time frame.

1.5 Scope of delivery

The scope of delivery for the contract consists of the two 2 following boots:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Nordic Boots: | Initial: 40 000 - 75 000 pairs |
| | Yearly: 25 000 pairs |
| 2. Desert Boot | Initial: 4000 - 7 500 pairs |
| | Yearly: 2 500 pairs |

Included documentation and maintenance products.

1.6 Contract type

This procurement will end up in a Framework Agreement Contract with one (1) Contractor for the whole scope of delivery.

If no Candidate is able to deliver both Combat Boots to a satisfactory level for the Norwegian Armed Forces, the procurement may be split up in two separate procurements ending up in a Framework Agreement Contract for each of the Combat Boots.

1.7 Duration

The duration of this Framework Agreement is set to four (4) + three (3) years, according to FOSA § 6-1 (4).

1.8 Publication of procurement

This procurement has been published in the DOFFIN database (www.doffin.no), and TED -Tender Electronic Daily (www.ted.europa.eu).

1.9 Structure

The invitation to pre-qualification contains the following documents.

Main document	Instruction to contractor (this document)
Appendix 1	Deviations from requirements in the invitation to tender
Appendix 2	Declaration of Commitment
Appendix 3	Norwegian Defence Materiel Agency Ethical Requirements to all Candidates
Appendix 4	Prudence, Non-disclosure and Conflict of Interest
Appendix 5	Statement about Health, Environment and Safety
Appendix 5-1	Statement about Health, Environment and Safety for Norwegian Candidates
Appendix 6	Corporate Responsibility
Appendix 7	Parent Company Guarantee

2 Administrative provisions

2.1 Tendering Procedure

This procurement is carried out in accordance with the Act of 17 June 2016 No 73 relating to public procurements (the Public Procurement Act – LOA), and the Regulations of 6th of April 2018 No 533 relating to security and defence procurements (the Security and Defence Procurements – FOSA).

This procurement is carried out based on the negotiated procurement after previous announcement procedure pursuant to FOSA § 5-1 (1). In this procedure all interested contractors have the opportunity to submit their interest in the pre-qualification, while only a number of contractors will be invited to deliver the final tender.

2.2 Language

All written or oral communication in connection with the tender competition and/or tender shall be in English or Norwegian.

2.3 Mercell Portal

The Purchaser uses the Mercell portal for communication and pre-qualification/tender deliveries during this procurement. For information regarding the Mercell portal please visit www.mercell.com.

2.4 Procurement schedule

As a rough guide to the tentative project schedule, the procurement procedure is currently planned as follow:

Activity	Date
Publication of «Invitation for pre-qualification» in Doffin/TED	23.08.2018
Due date for posing questions regarding the pre-qualification	13.09.2018 [15:00]
Due date delivery of requested pre-qualification documents	20.09.2018 [15:00]
Pre-qualification accomplished, information to all candidates	Week 38/39
Release of ITT documents	Week 39/40
Question's to ITT documents	October 2018
Tender due date	Week 44
Down-selection 1/Invitation to test period	Week 45/46

Test period	Q1 2019-Q2 2019
Down selection 2	Q2/Q3 2019
Negotiations	Q2/Q3 2019
Contract award notification	Q3 2019
Contract award - Signature	Q3 2019
Tender validity date	Q4 2019

The subsequent ITT will contain a more detailed procurement schedule.

2.5 Review procedure

Rejected Candidates will get a reasoned decision. The Candidate may:

1) Send a written complaint within 15 calendar days (counted from the day after the decision is sent) to NDMA if the Candidate thinks a decision is not correct. The complaint must be reasoned. The Purchaser may at his discretion review the decision and the rejected Candidate will be informed hereof,

and/or

2) File a request for interlocutory procedures (midlertidig forføyning) with Norwegian District Court¹ within 15 calendar days (counted from the day after the decision is sent), ref. FOSA § 10-6.

3 Pre-qualification process

The pre-qualification process will be accomplished through:

Initial evaluation of all Candidates for basic compliance with qualification requirements. The evaluation will be based upon information and documentation given in the individual application. The Candidates will have to pass PQR 1 – 13 with no exceptions.

3.1 Purchaser's point of contact

The Purchaser's contact information for this procurement process is:

Commercial contact:	Lars Urstrømmen
Phone:	+47 67 86 34 50
Mobile:	+47 92 86 64 56
E-mail:	lurstrommen@mil.no

There shall be no contact with any other person, in the Purchaser's organisation regarding this procurement process, than the person stated above.

3.2 Corrections, supplements or change to the pre-qualification document

Prior to the pre-qualification due date the Purchaser has the right to make non-substantial corrections, supplements or changes to the pre-qualification document.

Any corrections, supplements or changes to the pre-qualification document will be published through the Merzell portal no later than 6 days prior to the application due date.

¹ Ref. Norwegian Dispute Act (lov av 17.06.05 nr. 90 –tvisteloven) chapter 4

3.3 Questions regarding the pre-qualification document

Any questions the Candidate`s may have regarding the pre-qualification document must be submitted within the deadline set in section 2.4.

Questions shall be in writing and through the Mercell portal to the Purchaser`s commercial contact.

All questions will be made anonymous when answered and subsequently made available through Mercell to all those who have registered interest and received the pre-qualification document. This will be done within reasonable time prior to the application due date.

3.4 Application submission costs

Neither the Invitation, nor the submission of the Documents, shall in any way commit NDMA to enter into a contract with the Candidate, or involve NDMA in any financial commitments.

NDMA will not under any circumstances refund the Candidate any of the costs arising from making, submitting, or following up of the application.

The Candidates that is invited to the test period will have to deliver 50 pair of Nordic Boots and 25 pair of Desert Boots for testing purposes, which costs up until NOK 50.000 will be covered by the NDMA.

3.5 Return of documentation

Received applications will not be returned to the Candidates.

4 Social and ethical responsibility

4.1 General

The Norwegian Defence shall perform their procurement in an ethical manner. The Candidate shall review the Norwegian Ministry of Defence`s Ethical Guidelines for contact with business and industry in the defence sector. The guidelines are to be found at:

https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/fd/reglement/ethical-guidelines-for-business-and-industry-in-the-defence-sector_2011_s-1001-e_web.pdf

In order to become a supplier for the Norwegian Defence the Candidate must confirm by self-declaration that the ethical requirements will be fulfilled and respected, see Appendix 3 Norwegian Defence Materiel Agency Ethical Requirements to all Candidates

4.2 Salary and work conditions

For work undertaken by Contractors in Norway, salary and work conditions as set out in «Forskrift om lønns- og arbeidsvilkår i offentlige kontrakter (Forskrift av 8.februar 2008 nr. 112)», will apply.

5 Confidentiality and security regulations

5.1 Confidentiality and transparency

The Freedom of Information Act applies to public access to documents relating to a public procurement. The Purchaser and its employees have a duty to prevent others from gaining access to and knowledge of information about technical installations and procedures or operational and business matters that should be kept secret for competitive reasons, cf. FOSA § 3-4, cf. the Public Administration Act § 13.

The contractors submit a version of the tender in which information that should be kept secret for competitive reasons is redacted. Examples of such classified information can be personal data, reference descriptions, information about partners, unit prices, hourly rates etc.

This notwithstanding, the Purchaser shall, if access is requested, consider whether the information is of a nature that means the Purchaser is obliged to grant access.

The contractors shall protect confidential information that is made available to them in connection with the procurement.

5.2 Candidate confidentiality obligation

By participating in the competition, the Candidate undertake to maintain any and all information as confidential which is found in, or related to, this tender document and/or acquired throughout the entire procurement process.

6 Pre-qualification requirements

In the qualification process, NDMA focus will be on selecting the Candidates that possess the necessary competence, experience, capacity and financial standing to handle the prospective scope of the Contract.

In order to allocate such potential bidders, NDMA has established a set of Pre-qualification requirements - PQRs.

All PQRs are followed by one or more “Pre-qualification documentation requirement” - PQD.

The documentation requested in the PQDs as related to each PQR, should be correspondingly numbered and submitted by the Candidate as separate annexes to the application.

All the requirements stated hereunder are mandatory. If a Candidate does not satisfactorily document and/or confirm compliance to the requirements in the application, the Candidate will normally be excluded from the prequalification process.

NDMA reserves the right to require additional information for verification of all PQRs from any one of the Candidates as found necessary. The Candidates shall therefore, as part of the application state acceptance to meet such requirements from NDMA.

6.1 Tax and VAT certificate and HES statement

Requirements	Documentation requirements
PQR 1 The Candidate shall fulfil obligations relating to the payment of taxes, VAT or similar payments.	<p>PQD 1-1 Tax certificate issued within 6 months of due date for delivery of the application for Pre-qualification. With tax certificates means:</p> <p><u>For Norwegian Bidders:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Form from the Tax Commission (RF-1244) issued by the treasury (“Skattekontoret”) for value added tax. 2. Form from the Tax Commission (RF-1244) issued by the municipality treasurer/ “Skatteoppkreverkontoret” for payroll and regular taxes. <p><u>For Foreign Bidders:</u></p>

	Foreign Bidders must have corresponding certificates from their authorities documenting that they have complied with the rules and regulations relating to taxes, VAT fees, duties etc. If the Authorities do not issue such certificates, the Bidders shall forward a statement confirming that all such taxes have been paid. The Statement shall be confirmed and signed by the Candidates Chief Financial Officer and auditor.
PQR 2 For works/services that are being performed in Norway the Candidate must fulfil Norwegian HES–requirements.	PQD 2-1 Completed and signed HES statement in accordance with Appendix 5 or 5-1.

6.2 Requirements to the Candidate’s organisation and legal position

As, the objective of this pre-qualification process is to select qualified suppliers, organisational documentation is required in order to verify the professionalism and legal position of the individual Candidates.

Requirements	Documentation requirements
PQR 3 The Candidate shall be a legally established company.	<p>PQD 3-1 <u>For Norwegian Candidates:</u> Company registration certificate from “foretaksregisteret i Brønnøysund”</p> <p><u>For Foreign Candidates:</u> Confirmation that the Candidate is registered in a trade register or a register of business enterprise in accordance with the laws of the country where the Candidate is established.</p>

6.3 Requirements to the Candidate’s financial position

Requirements	Documentation requirements
PQR 4 The Candidate shall document that the company financially is sound, and further will be strong enough to fully meet all requirements of a potential contract for delivering the Combat Boots.	<p>PQD 4-1 The Candidate’s financial statement (annual accounting) including current financial or other explanatory notes, executive management statements, representations and/or certifications as well as a report from a certified auditor covering the previous three (3) fiscal years.</p> <p>If the financial statement from the previous calendar/fiscal year has not been completed by the application deadline, certified financial statements from the previous two (2) years as well as a provisional statement for current year shall be attached.</p> <p>The Purchaser reserves the right to demand / obtain additional information to verify that the Candidate has</p>

	<p>sufficient financial resources. The Purchaser may also require a credit rating and report from a nationally or internationally recognised credit rating company.</p> <p>The required information stated above shall also be furnished by the Candidate's parent company, if applicable.</p> <p>The Candidate must be prepared to allow the Purchaser to audit and complete a financial analysis of the Candidate's ability to fulfil the requirements of a potential contract.</p>
<p>PQR 5 The Candidate shall provide a performance guarantee</p>	<p>PQD 5-1 If the Candidate is part of a group of companies the application shall be accompanied by a declaration of willingness from the head of the company (the governing legal body in the group) to issue a parent company guarantee in accordance with Appendix 7 Parent Company Guarantee.</p> <p>The Purchaser reserves the right to demand a first-rate bank/ financial institution guarantee if the Contractor is awarded the contract.</p>

6.4 Requirements to technical and professional qualifications

The Candidate must possess technical and professional competence, as well as the capacity to handle the prospective contract scope.

Requirements	Documentation requirements
<p>PQR 6 The Candidate shall have sufficient performance ability</p>	<p>PQD 6-1 <u>Candidate's own company:</u> A <u>short</u> description on the organisation, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 A description of the company's business idea and core competence related to the scope of delivery. 2 A description of the company, how it is organised and their ownership, in addition to a description of current activities. 3 A description of how the Candidate is organised for the fulfilment of this contract. <p><u>Collaborating partners and/or sub-contractors:</u></p> <p>If any collaborating partners and/or sub-contractors are offered as part of the tender, the Candidate shall submit a description of the following:</p>

	<p>4 Name, address and business organisational number for the subcontractor.</p> <p>5 Description of which parts of a service commission the subcontractor will be responsible for.</p> <p>6 If the Candidate relies on any subcontractors for the purpose of fulfilling one or several of the qualification requirements, sufficient documentation must be submitted in order to prove that the requirement is fulfilled.</p>
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6.5 Social and ethical requirements

Requirements	Documentation requirements
<p>PQR 7 The Candidate shall comply and undertake sufficient corporate social and ethical responsibility</p>	<p>PQD 7-1 The Candidate shall sign the self-declaration Norwegian Defence Materiel Agency Ethical Requirements to all Contractors according to Appendix 3.</p> <p>PQD 7-2 The Candidate shall by a self-declaration accept the requirements to human rights, environment and employee rights as they appear in Appendix 6 Corporate Responsibility.</p>

6.6 Quality assurance

The Candidate is required to have a quality management system to secure fulfillment of the quality requirements throughout the entire supply chain.

Requirements	Documentation requirements
<p>PQR 8 The Candidate shall have a Quality Management System (QMS) that follow the requirements of ISO 9001:2008/ISO9001:2015 or equivalent.</p>	<p>PQD 8-1 The Candidate shall enclose a Certificate or other equivalent documentation showing that the requirements in ISO9001:2008/ISO9001:2015 or /equivalent is fulfilled.</p>
<p>PQR 9 The Candidate shall declare willingness and ability to comply with AQAP-2131 Edition C Version 1, NATO Quality Assurance Requirements for Final Inspections and Test.</p>	<p>PQD 9-1 The Candidate shall state Yes or No to PQR 9</p>
<p>PQR 10 The Candidate shall have a system for traceability of its supply chain, that to any given time, gives an overview to which suppliers (including agents/producers) that directly or indirectly contributes in the production of textiles/leather and in which country they are located.</p>	<p>PQD 10-1 The Candidate shall state Yes or no to PQR 10</p>

6.7 Functional and performance requirements

6.7.1 Scenarios

6.7.1.1 Nordic Boots

Climate zones / Degrees Celsius	Topography/terrain	Activity	Equipment	Other conditions
Intermediate: A3, C0, M1, M2 Cold: C1, C2.	Woodland, Hills, Plains, Coastal, mountains and build up areas.	Low to high intensity. Mounted and dismounted.	With and without: helmet, body armor, rucksack, comms, weapons etc.	During night and daytime. Weather conditions from snow to rain with no wind to storm.

Spring.

It is April and the weather is typical spring weather up to 10-15°C during day time and it drops down to around 3-5°C during night time. It's a mix of sunny days, and moments with showers of spring rain. The platoon is training at an area somewhere in Scandinavia. The platoon will stay in the field for a week. The aim of this training is to conduct a movement by vehicle, dismount and perform a hasty attack. This will be repeated several times during day as well as night. At the end of the week they will perform a march by foot through the terrain covering a distance of 25 km. Soldiers will use their body armor in the combat training. During the march their burden is increased by backpacks and group equipment. The soldier uses his/her boots during the whole week. The boots give the soldier the protection he/she needs from the outside environment when conducting marches and combat patrols, and carrying heavy equipment in rough terrain. Upholding the soldiers' effectiveness when conducting hasty attacks. The Boots keep the soldiers feet dry, by evaporating moisture from the feet.

Summer.

It is summer and the weather is warm and mostly dry, with temperatures from 15-30°C during day time and down to 10°C at night. During daytime a platoon is transported by helicopters to a drop-of-point 15 km from a village and must walk the rest of the way across hills wearing body armor. At night it starts to rain and the wind is increasing. The soldiers have reached a forming up point near the target in order to prepare for the attack. Just before the assault the soldiers doff their weather protection, pack it in their 3-days pack and perform the assault wearing their equipment, helmet, body-armor and war belt.

Fall.

It is fall, 0°C and rain. Veiled in darkness, the patrol is heading into the area where the observation post (OP) to the inlet of the Fjord is to be established. After caching their rubber dinghies, the patrol continues on foot. The mission is to survey the fjord inlet so that friendly forces may disembark from the other side. The boots provides protection against the rain and proper ventilation, so the soldiers can ventilate the humidity and dry quickly. When they arrive at the OP, they only need to change the sweaty undergarments to maintain combat ability. When the temperature drops at night, personnel awake are able to reinforce their thermal isolation when on duty.

Winter.

It is January, and there is up to one meter of snow in the terrain. The temperature is minus 20°C, and the wind is blowing at 10 meters per second. The task forces' mission is to secure the important allied ammunition store until it has been emptied. Hostile agents have made several attempts to gain access to the object. The soldiers at the guard post and access control posts are static in position. The boots keep the soldiers warm and protected against the wind. When the guard posts need to improve their positions at the control post, they are able to perform their tasks without exposing the bare skin and avoid cold injuries.

6.7.1.2 Desert Boots

Climate zones / Degrees Celsius	Topography/terrain	Activity	Equipment	Other conditions
Hot Dry: A1, A2 (B3)	Sand desert, Stone desert, mountain desert.	Low to high intensity. Mounted and dismounted.	With and without: helmet, body armor, rucksack, comms, weapons etc.	Thermal load medium to high. High solar radiation. Weather conditions from no wind to sandstorm and high temperature variation night and day.

During the warm month the temperature during daytime will be up to 50°C. in the shade and at nighttime down to 20°C..In other periods the temperature can be at daytime 25-30°C and at nighttime down to minus 5°C. A patrol of six soldiers is tasked to patrol the settlements around a big city to show presence, gather information and defend friendly or neutral parts against attacks from the enemy. The mission is carried out mounted in a lightly armored utility vehicle, and everything proceeds as normal in the first villages the patrol visits. On their way out of the city, the patrol is fired at with small arms from a hill 300 meters away. The vehicle is exposed in the open terrain and the patrol has few opportunities to extract, so they decide to leave the vehicle and find firing positions.

Features on the boots provide proper protection against the hard and rocky terrain for soldiers. The boots are durable and light and breathes well. Reinforcement arrives and provides cover fire ensuring that the six patrol members can get in position.

Requirements	Documentation requirements
<p>PQR 11 The Candidate shall have experience with similar related contract performance</p>	<p>PQD 11-1 Attestations of similarly related contractual performance from the preceding [five] (5) years. All attestations shall be signed or otherwise confirmed and approved in writing by the Candidate and shall at a minimum include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Short description of the contract performance. 2 Time of performing the contract. 3 Scope of contract performance in monetary terms. 4 Name and telephone number to the reference person. <p>If a signed or confirmed attestation cannot be obtained, the Candidate shall submit a list containing all relevant contract performances with a description corresponding to the content requirement for the attestations.</p>
<p>PQR 12 The Candidate shall be in a position to deliver both types of boots</p>	<p>PQD 12-1 The Candidate shall state that it is capable of delivering a Nordic Boot and a Desert Boot</p>
<p>PQR 13 The Candidate shall send 50 pair of Nordic Boots and 25 pair of Desert Boots (no colour specifications) to the Purchaser for testing purposes within 25th of January 2019. Specifications on this will be described more in the subsequent tender phase.</p>	<p>PQD 13-1 The Candidate shall state that he is able and willing to make available a total of 75 pair of Combat Boots as part of an evaluation of Tenders at the Purchasers location.</p>

The Purchaser reserves the right to inquire further to determine whether Candidate’s information is verifiable and correct through other sources, including secondary or third party information.

7 Selection of candidates

7.1 Steps

1. Based on the received documentation, NDMA will evaluate each candidate for actual qualification. To be qualified, a Candidate must successfully meet all the PQR’s with appurtenant PQD’s in this document (PQR 1 – PQR 13)

All Candidates who successfully meet the said requirements will thus be pre-qualified and invited to the further process.

7.2 Explanatory feedback

Candidates, who are not qualified or pre-qualified will upon request receive a short explanation.

8 Application submission

8.1 Application structure

The application shall contain the following documentation that shall be structured in accordance with the following template:

Section no.	Documentation for:
1	<p>Application letter containing the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Reference to the pre-qualification name and number. 3 Candidate’s address, telephone number, company identification number (federal/national employer number or federal/national tax identification number) 4 Candidate’s contact person with telephone number and email address. 5 Bank account number and the name and address of the bank 6 Clearing/SWIFT code and IBAN code 7 Binding signature from person authorised to sign on behalf of the Candidate
2	<p>Documentation for Qualification</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Deviations from requirements, ref. Appendix 1 3 Parent Company Guarantee, if applicable, ref. Appendix 7 4 Declaration of commitment, ref. Appendix 2 5 HES statement, ref. section 6.1 and Appendix 5 or 5-1 6 Tax certificates, ref. section 6.1 7 Company registration certificate, ref. section 6.2. 8 Economical and financial position, ref. section 6.36.3 9 Technical and professional qualifications, ref. section 6.4 10 Documentation on social and ethical requirements, ref section 6.5 and Appendix 3 and 6 11 Documentation and attestation on quality assurance, ref. section 6.6 12 Functional and performance requirements, ref section 6.7
3	Any confidential information, ref section 5.1
4	Other relevant information

8.2 Application dispatch

8.2.1 Method of Delivery

All prequalification applications shall be delivered electronically via the Mercell portal, www.mercell.com, within the deadline. Applications submitted after this is automatically rejected by the portal. NDMA asks that the Candidate upload the application in a ZIP-file.

If the Candidate is not a Mercell user, or if there are any questions about the portal, contact Mercell Support on phone number: +47 21 01 88 60 or by e-mail to: support@mercell.com.

It is recommended that the application is submitted well in advance of the expiry of the deadline, e.g. minimum one (1) hour before. Already submitted offers can be changed or withdrawn until the deadline expires.

8.2.2 Electronic signature on delivery

The Candidates could be asked to make an electronic signature to confirm that it is the current business that has submitted the prequalification/tender documents.

Electronic signatures can be obtained at www.commfides.com, www.buypass.no and www.bankid.no.

The Purchaser note that it may take a few days to receive electronic signature so that this process is initiated as soon as possible.

8.3 Rejection of candidates or applications

NDMA reserve the right to reject any incomplete applications.

Applications delivered after the due date set in section 2.4 will automatically be rejected.

9 Completion of the competition

9.1 Cancellation of the competition and rejection of all applications

The Purchaser reserve the right to cancel the competition or to reject all applications if there are factual and objective grounds for such cancellation or rejection.