

TENDER NOTICE

No. EA/02-09-2026

HLR/EPC - HSS Platform Upgrade for KBL1 and KBL2

1. Etisalat Afghanistan invites bids from authorized and qualified providers for the HLR/EPC - HSS Upgrade for KBL1 and KBL2 Project detailed in the RFP Annexure.

The Bid Document is also available for download on the Etisalat Afghanistan website at:
www.etisalat.af/en/about-us/doing-business-with-us/tenders

2. RFP deadline is **23 February 2026 Afghanistan time**.

3. Bid received after the above deadline shall not be accepted.

4. Bidders can provide either a sealed Hardcopy of the Proposal or a Softcopy of the Proposal through email. A hard copy can be submitted to Etisalat's Main office, Reception Desk (Tender Box). The softcopy shall be submitted through email (ashalizi@etisalat.af) and cc: (Ihsanullah@etisalat.af) and marked clearly with the **RFP name, and number**. Vendors must submit their proposals using the same email that is shared by Etisalat. Any proposal submitted with a modified or incorrect subject/title of email may not be considered. Etisalat shall not be responsible for proposals that are missed, delayed, or excluded due to non-compliance with this requirement.

5. The bidder shall submit the proposal with separate (Technical and Commercial) parts. The commercial part must be a password-protected document for a soft copy of the proposal, and we will request the password once the concerned committee opens bids (starts the bid's commercial evaluation). The bids shall be first evaluated technically. Technical evaluation will be based on the conformity to required technical specifications and compliance matrix specified in the Bidding Documents. Only technically compliant bids that meet all the mandatory service-effecting requirements will be evaluated commercially.

6. Etisalat Afghanistan reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to annul the bidding process at any time, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder(s) or any obligations to inform the affected bidder(s) of the grounds for Etisalat Afghanistan action.

7. if you have any questions, you can share them with the below email:

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(RFP)

For

**HLR/EPC -HSS Platform Upgrade for
KBL1 and KBL2**



1. DEFINITIONS

In this document, the following terms and meanings shall be interpreted as indicated:

1.1 Terms.

“Acceptance Test(s)” means the test(s) specified in the Technical Specifications to be carried out to ascertain whether the Goods, Equipment, System, Material, Items or a specified part thereof is able to attain the Performance Level specified in the Technical Specifications in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.

“Acceptance Test Procedures” means test procedures specified in the technical specifications and/or by the supplier and approved by EA as it is or with modifications.

“Approved” or “approval” means approved in writing.

“BoQ ” stands for Bill of Quantities of each job/work as mentioned in this contract and its annexes according to which the Supplier shall supply equipment & services and subject to change by agreement of both parties.

“Bidding” means a formal procurement procedure under which sealed bids are invited, received, opened, examined and evaluated for the purpose of awarding a contract.

“Bid/Tender Document” means the Bid/Tender documents issued by EA for invitation of Bids/Offer along with subsequent amendments and clarifications.

“Competent Authority” means the staff or functionary authorized by EA to deal finally with the matter in issue.

“Completion Date” means the date by which the Supplier is required to complete the Contract.

“Country of Origin” means the countries and territories eligible under the rules elaborated in the “Instruction to Bidders ”.

“Contract” means the Contract between Etisalat Afghanistan (EA) and the Supplier and comprising documents.

“Supplier” means the individual or firm(s) ultimately responsible for supplying all the Goods/Equipment/Systems/Material/Items on time and to cost under this contract to EA.

“Supplier’s Representative” means the person nominated by the Supplier and named as such in the

contract and approved by EA in the manner provided in the contract.

“Contract Documents” means the documents listed in Article (Contract Documents) of the Form of Contract (including any amendments thereto) or in any other article in this contract.

“Contract Price” means the price payable to the Supplier under the Contract for the full and proper performance of its contractual obligations.

“Day” means calendar day of the Gregorian calendar.

“Delivery charges” means local transportation, handling, insurance and other charges incidental to the delivery of Goods to their final destination.

“Effective Date” means the date the Contract shall take effect as mentioned in the Contract.

“Etisalat Afghanistan (EA)” means the company registered under the Laws of Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and having office at Ihsan Plaza Charahi Shaheed Kabul in person or any person dully authorised by it for the specific purpose for the specific task within the Contract and notified to Supplier in writing.

“Final Acceptance Certificate” means the certificate issued by EA after successful completion of warranty and removal of defects as intimated by EA.

“Force Majeure” means Acts of God, Government restrictions, financial hardships, war and hostilities, invasion, act of foreign enemies, rebellion, revolution, riot, industrial disputes, commotion, natural disasters and other similar risks that are outside of Supplier's and EA's control.

“Liquidated Damages” mean the monetary damages imposed upon the Supplier and the money payable to EA by the Supplier on account of late delivery of the whole or part of the Goods.

“L.o.A” means Letter of Award issued by EA to successful bidder with regard to the award of tender.

“Month” means calendar month of the Gregorian calendar.

“Offer” means the quotation/bid and all subsequent clarifications submitted by the Bidder and accepted by EA in response to and in relation with the Bid Documents.

“Origin” means the place where the Goods are mined, grown or produced from which the ancillary services are supplied. Goods are produced when, through manufacturing, processing or substantial and major assembling of components, a commercially recognized product results that is substantially

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different in basic characteristics or in purpose or utility from its components.

“EA's Representative” shall mean the representative to be appointed by EA to act for and on behalf of EA with respect to this Contract.

“Supplier/Vendor” (used interchangeably) means the individual or firm ultimately responsible for supplying all the Goods on time and to cost under this Contract acting individually alone or as a “prime Supplier” for a consortium.

“Supplier's Representative” means the person nominated by the Supplier and named as such in the Contract and approved by EA in the manner provided in the Contract.

“Site” means the land or locations, buildings and other places including containers shells wherein and upon which the Facilities are to be installed, and such other land or places as may be specified in the Contract as forming part of the site.

2. INTRODUCTION TO WORK.

2.1 Bids are invited for the HLR/EPC -HSS Upgrade for KBL1 and KBL2 in accordance with the stated specifications of RFP documents.

2.2 The tender award will be based on the best technical and pricewise, lowest offer.

3. Validity of Offers

The Tenders must be valid for a minimum of 90 days from the Tender closing date, or as may be specified by the Purchaser in the Tender documents.

4. Suppliers: Responsibilities:

4.1 Supplier shall provide project as described in the RFP scope of work.

4.2 Supplier shall have all licenses, permits, and permission required for the provision of this tender from government of Afghanistan and other related organization/people.

5. Payment Terms

5.1 Bidders are required to submit commercial offer as per the Annexure-B of RFP.

5.2 All payments shall be made via bank transfer upon receipt of the original hardcopy of the invoice.

5.3 No advance payments shall be made to the Supplier.

5.4 EA commits to making prompt payments within thirty (30) days of the submission of a valid invoice or payment claim by the Supplier. This is contingent upon the receipt of all required supporting documents as specified in the contract and any necessary deductions due to penalties, such as late delivery or the replacement of defective goods, confirmed by the Project Director.

5.5 All payments are subject to the applicable income tax deductions at the prevailing rates, in accordance with the relevant tax laws. These deductions will be remitted to the appropriate tax authorities unless the Supplier is explicitly exempted. EA shall provide a tax deduction certificate to the Supplier to facilitate tax return filings with the relevant authorities.

5.6 All prices and payments shall be made in Afghani (AFN) for local firms and International firms can provide in USD/AFN.

5.7 EA reserves the right to process Purchase Order (PO) or contract-related payments through the mHawala (mobile financial services) platform, directly to the Supplier's registered mHawala account.

6. Price:

Payments against the entire contract will be made by EA based on the contractor's ability to meet payment milestones as defined in the Bid Documents in the following manner.

6.1 For Supply of Equipment (Hardware & Software);

5.1.1 EA will make payment equal to 50% of the amount of equipment on the arrival of Equipment at site of installation and certification by EA Project Director/Manager of their receipt in good condition.

5.5.1.2 Balance 50% of the amount of equipment will be paid on issuance of RFS for the complete system area in individual city.

6.2 For Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Professional Services

6.2.1 EA will make payment equal to 75% of amount of Services cost when equipment is offered for Acceptance Testing in individual city.

6.2.2 Balance 25% of the amount of Services cost will be made at the time of issuance of final PAC for complete system in individual city.

6.3 For System Support and Maintenance Services (if available).

5.3.1 EA will make payment on quarterly/monthly basis at end of each quarter/month, after support/service is delivered.

7. Local Taxes, Dues and Levies:

7.1 The Supplier shall be responsible for all government-related taxes, dues, and levies, including personal income tax, which may be payable in Afghanistan or elsewhere.

7.2 Withholding tax (if applicable) shall be deducted on the local portion only as per prevailing rates as notified Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. The amount of withholding Tax(s) is 2% of all project costs for local/registered companies who have Afghanistan Government Official Work License and 7% for International/ nonregistered companies.

8. Construction of Contract:

The Contract shall be deemed to have been concluded in the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and shall be governed by and construed in accordance with Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan Law.

9. Termination of the Contract

9.1 If during the course of the Contract, the Supplier shall be in breach of the Contract and the Purchaser shall so inform the Supplier by notice in writing, and should the breach continue for more than seven days (or such longer period as may be specified by the Purchaser) after such notice then the Purchaser may immediately terminate the Contract by notice in writing to the Supplier.

9.2 Upon termination of the Contract the Purchaser may at his option continue work either by himself or by sub-contracting to a third party. The Supplier shall if so required by the Purchaser within 14 days of the date of termination assign to the Purchaser without payment the benefit to any agreement for services and/or the execution of any work for the purposes of this

Contract. In the event of the services/jobs being completed and ready for utilization by the Purchaser or a third party and the total cost incurred by the Purchaser in so completing the required services/jobs being greater than which would have been incurred had the Contract not been terminated then the Supplier shall pay such excess to the Purchaser.

9.3 Etisalat has the right to terminate this Contract without cause at any time by serving a 30-day prior written notice to the Supplier.

10. Amendment.

No amendment or other variation of the Contract shall be effective unless it is in writing, is dated, expressly refers to the Contract, and is agreed in writing duly signed by authorized representative of each party.

11 AFFIRMATION.

11.1 No Staff or employee of EA shall be admitted to any share or part of this Contract or to any benefit that may arise there from.

11.2 The Supplier declares and affirms that;

A. The Supplier and its shareholders, directors, officers, employees, and agents have not paid nor undertaken to pay, any bribe, pay-off, kick-back or unlawful commission. The Supplier and its shareholders, directors, officers, employees, and agents have not in any way or manner paid any sums, whether in Afghanis or a foreign currency and whether in Afghanistan or abroad, given or offered to give any such gifts and presents in Afghanistan or abroad, to any staff or employee of EA or any other person to procure this tender/contract. The Supplier undertakes not to engage in any of these or similar acts during the term of this Contract.

B. The contract shall be liable for cancellation during any time of execution if such an act is proved.

12. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION

12.1 The Supplier shall not, without EA's prior written consent disclose the contract, or any provision thereof, or any specification, plan, drawing, pattern, sample or information furnished by or on behalf of EA in connection therewith, to any person other than a person employed by the Supplier in the performance of the contract. Disclosure to any such employed person shall be made in confidence and shall extend only as far as may be necessary for purposes of such performance.

12.2 The Supplier shall not, without EA's prior written consent, make use of any documents or information except for purposes of performing the contract.

12.3 Any documents, other than the contract itself, shall remain the property of EA and shall be returned (in all copies) to EA on completion of the Supplier's performance under the contract if so required by EA.

13 SUPPLIER'S DEFAULT

13.1 If the Supplier shall neglects to perform the contract with due diligence and expedition or shall refuse/or neglect to comply with any reasonable instructions given to him in writing by EA or any of its authorized representative in connection with the performance of the contract or shall contravene the provisions of the contract, EA may give notice in writing to the Supplier to make good the failure, neglect or contravention complained of.

13.2 Should the Supplier fail to comply with the said notice, within 15 days from the date of issue of said notice thereof, it shall be lawful for EA forthwith to terminate the contract by notice in writing to the Supplier without prejudice to any rights which may have accrued under the contract to either party prior to such termination.

13.3 If EA have to incur extra cost for procuring any part of Goods or any such similar Goods not delivered in accordance with the Contract on the date of such termination, the Supplier shall pay on demand within one month the amount of such extra costs incurred by EA.

13.4 If the Supplier fails to complete any of his obligations within the extended time mutually agreed between the parties under "FORCE MAJEURE" and EA shall have suffered any loss from such failure, EA shall be entitled to deduct from the contract price at the rate of one (01) percent per week of the contract value of the Goods which cannot in consequence of the said failure be put to the use intended for such work for each week between the time fixed in the Contract (except as aforesaid) and the actual date of completion.

14 FORCE MAJEURE.

14.1 The Supplier shall not be liable for forfeiture of its performance security, liquidated damages or termination for default, if and to the extent that, it's delay in performance or other failure to perform its obligations under the contract is the result of an event of Force Majeure.

14.2 If either party is temporarily rendered unable, wholly or in part by Force Majeure to perform its duties or accept performance by the other party under the Contract it is agreed that on such party, giving notice with full particulars in writing of such Force Majeure to the other party within 14 (fourteen) days after the occurrence Expansion such Force Majeure shall be suspended during the continuance of any inability so caused but for no longer & period and such cause shall as far as possible be removed with all reasonable speed. Neither party shall be responsible for delay caused by Force Majeure. The terms "Force Majeure" as used herein shall mean Acts of God, strikes, lockouts or other industrial disturbance, act of public, enemy, war, blockages, insurrections, riots, epidemics, landslides, earthquakes, fires, storms, lightning, flood, washouts, civil disturbances, explosion, Governmental Export/Import Restrictions (to be supported by a letter from the relevant Authority and verified by the Diplomatic Mission in Afghanistan), Government actions/restrictions due to economic and financial hardships, change of priorities and any other cause similar to the kind herein enumerated or of equivalent effect, not within the control of either party and which by the exercise of due care and diligence either party is unable to overcome. The term of this Contract shall be extended for such period of time as may be necessary to complete the work which might have been accomplished but for such suspension. If either party is permanently prevented wholly or in part by Force Majeure for period exceeding One (01) month from performing or accepting performance, the party concerned shall have the right to terminate this contract immediately giving notice with full particulars for such Force Majeure in writing to the other party, and in such event, the other party shall be entitled to compensation for an amount to be fixed by negotiations and mutual agreement.

If a Force Majeure situation arises, the Supplier shall promptly notify EA in writing of such conditions and the cause thereof. Unless otherwise directed by EA in writing, the supplier shall continue to perform its obligations under the contract as far as is reasonably practicable, and shall seek all reasonable alternative means for performance not prevented by the Force Majeure event.

15 INDEMNIFICATION.

15.1 Supplier shall indemnify and save harmless EA from and against all losses and all claims, demands, payments, suits, actions, recoveries and judgment of every nature and description made and related cost and expenses brought or recovered against the EA related to the work done under this Contract, by reasons of any act, omission to act or status of liability of Supplier or its agents or employees. Supplier agrees to give EA prompt notice of any possible liability.

15.2 If the Supplier is in breach of any obligations under this Contract (or any part of it) to EA or if any other liability is arising (including liability for negligence or breach of statutory duty) then the maximum liability of the Supplier under this contract shall be limited to the Total Contract Price.

15.3 The Supplier shall indemnify EA in respect of all injury or damage to any person or to any property and against all actions, suits, claims, demands, charges and expenses arising in connection herewith which shall be occasioned by the negligence or breach of statutory duty of the Supplier, any sub-Supplier before or after, the whole of the project has been finally accepted.

16 LIQUIDATED DAMAGES.

16.1 If the Supplier fails to deliver any or all of the Goods or perform the Services in accordance with the delivery milestones specified in the Contract, EA, without prejudice to its other remedies under the contract, shall have the right to terminate the contract forthwith or claim liquidated damages.

16.2 The Supplier shall pay to EA as liquidated damages with respect to those delays in delivering milestones as defined in the Bid Documents. For each delayed milestone damages will be charged at one percent (1%) per week of the total value of the Contract up to a maximum of ten percent (10%). Once the maximum is reached, EA shall forthwith terminate the contract.

16.3 The value of all Goods or part supply of Goods made which are incomplete and therefore not utilized by EA in its operations shall also be added for the purpose of liquidated damages. Any liquidated damages if not paid in cash by the Supplier shall be deducted from the invoice(s) submitted by the Supplier. The imposition of liquidated damages upon the Supplier and its payment shall not absolve the Supplier from its obligations to deliver or from any other liabilities or obligations under the contract.

17. GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

17.1 This Agreement and any Dispute or Claim arising out of or in connection with it or its subject matter or formation (including non-contractual Disputes or Claims) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Afghanistan.

17.2 The Parties irrevocably agree that the courts of Afghanistan shall have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any Dispute or Claim that arises out of or in connection with this Agreement or its subject matter or formation (including non-contractual Disputes or Claims).

18. ANNEXURES:

This RFP has the following annexure as part of the RFP.

1. Annexure –A Scope of Work.
2. Annexure- B..... Commercial Format/price schedule.
3. Annexure- C..... Supplier Code of Ethical Conduct.
4. Annexure –D Compliance Clauses.
5. Annexure –E Cyber Security Clauses.

Annexure-A (Scope of Work)

HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR:

Etisalat Afghanistan is one of the leading telecom Company in Afghanistan having system handling traffic of 2G/3G/4G Technologies.

Scope of Work for HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR:

Vendor to provide Current HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR Swap solution with Hardware and software capacity to handle Traffic of 14 million subscribers and breakdown of subscribers shall be 6 million 2G/3G and 8 million 4G and 10 million EIR which will be integrated with CIER and provide all function of Current third party EIR and CEIR.

HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform deployment must be as PR & DR.

HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR Platform software and Hardware capacity should be capable of handling user 2G/3G/4G/ Volte and Capable of VoWifi and 5G technologies.

All Integration and license cost for connecting HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR with existing network elements until HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR is fully function/RFS will be vendor responsibility and Etisalat Afghanistan will only support to facilitate same.

HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR Hardware and Software:

- HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR Software and Hardware capacity should be capable of handling 2G/3G/4G/ Volte and Capable of VoWifi and 5 G technologies traffic and should be expandable upon need.
- HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR needs to be integrated into the existing network and to handle all signalling protocols and shouldn't be limited to MAP, SIGTRAN & Diameter, and connection to IMS.
- HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR solution should be scalable and expandable by simply adding extra Hardware to handle extra traffic upon need.
- **HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform Security:** Vendor should install Etisalat Afghanistan Security software in the platform. Vendor should provide flexible Security features, to

avoid attacks, unauthorized access risks and safety for operation & Maintenance. Etisalat Afghanistan Cyber security policies must be implemented.

- **HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform Compatibility:** Vendor ensures HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR Compatibility with Current Etisalat network Nodes.
- **Operation & Maintenance management:** HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR Network Element Management and Reporting components should be deployed at each site independently; should be deployed in redundancy fashion.
- **HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform redundancy:** HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR solution needs to be fully redundancy and shouldn't have any single point of failure and offer High Availability characteristics at a minimum of 99.999% for the platform. The strategy and implementation of high availability should be detailed.
- **HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform:** Vendor provides details on licensing models (per subscriber, concurrent users, TPS etc.).

HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR :

AI shall be considered for Configuration and Optimization of traffic for HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR.

- **HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform KPIs:** HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR solution should provide detailed key performance indicators to monitor and judge the system performance in a configurable time interval (5, 15, 30, 60 min, daily, weekly) & real time monitoring, based on specific interfaces and protocols.
- **HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform Tracing capability:** HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR should have capability to capture required traces from different interfaces & protocols. for analyzing and troubleshooting.
- **HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform to Support IPv4 & IPv6:** HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR should be capable of supporting IPv4 and IPv6 based on need and market demand.
- **Training for HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform:** Vendor should provide complete professional Operation & Maintenance training for proposed employees of Etisalat Afghanistan.

- **Warranty & Support:** The bidder shall provide warranty and technical support for the solution offered at least for one-year FOC, from the date of RFS signed by Etisalat. And provide the 5 years cost of support after the warranty period.
- **End of life of HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform:** Vendor should provide information for end of life of Hardware and software for 10 years.
- **Technical Support for HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR platform:** Vendor should provide yearly technical support services.

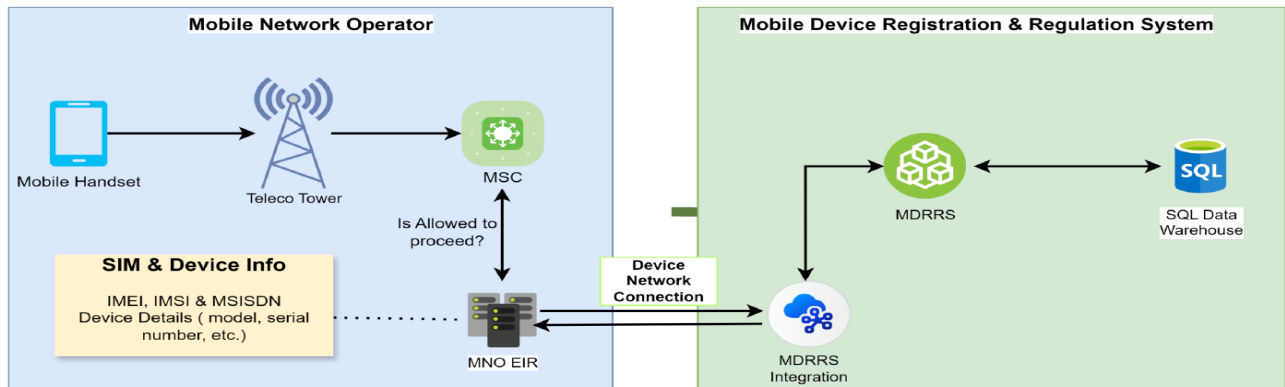
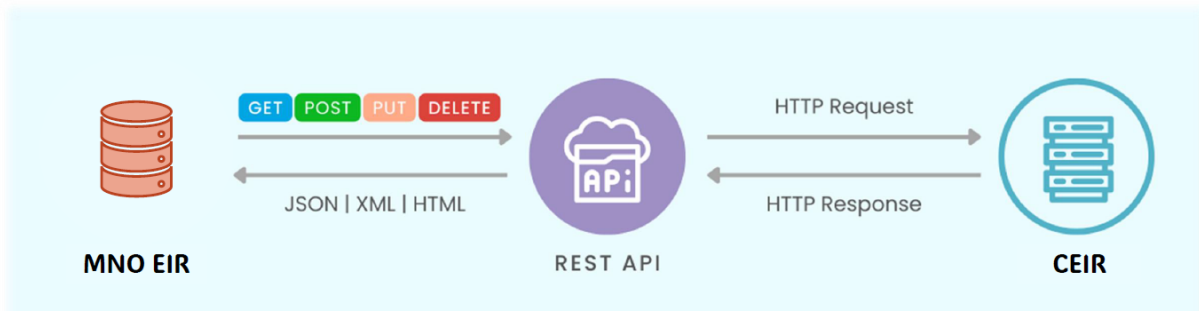
Pricing: Vendor should provide CAPEX and 5 years OPEX cost for HLR/EPC-HSS & EIR Platforms

Criteria for HLR/EPC-HSS Platform
HW capacity
License Capacity
Switch & Router
Integration with Existing Network
Features based on RFP
Training
Project team availability
Deployment Model
Redundancy/High Availability.
Equipment end of live
Maintenance Support on the ground

EIR and its Integration with CEIR and Core Network

Etisalat Afghanistan is need for an EIR solution to be integrated with its existing Core Network, ADMS/OTA System and the Central EIR (CEIR) of the Government.

The Government body (ATRA) has the Centralized Equipment Identity Register mobile, The Devices that are uncontrolled in the market for theft and fraudulent reasons to manage their IMEI in the CEIR platform of the government, The main focus of the CEIR platform will be on GSMA and Non-GSMA devices in the market to be in the centralized equipment identity Register platform. The Government CEIR platform requirement to have real time live integration with Etisalat Afghanistan EIR platform.

CEIR Integration Flow:**MNO EIR & CEIR Integration****MNO EIR & CEIR Integration**

--more details are available in the attached document *Integration Documentation v1.1.pdf*

Main Features:

- Blacklisting, Whitelisting and Grey Listing
- Location Awareness
- Last Activity
- Device Type Information
- Purging Mechanism
- Language support (Dari, Pashto and English)
- Web Portal (CC and Admin)
- Integration with EA's monitoring tools
- Integration with EA's Cybersecurity tools

- SMS notifications (in 3 languages)
- Advanced Reporting and integration with downstream systems such as DWH
- Integration with OTA/ADMS
- Integration with EA's Core Network for 2G, 3G, 4G, IMS and 5G
- Deployment over virtualized environment.
- TestBed environment
- Internal Redundancy
- Scalability
- Bulk Operations (mainly for whitelisting, blacklisting and grey listing)
- Open API to external parties
- Support of all standard interfaces defined in 3GPP

Customized Default behavior: to be either Grey Listing, Blacklisting or Whitelisting.

Annexure – B (Commercial Format)

Commercial Proposal Submission Requirement

Bidders are required to submit commercial offer summarized in the table below. In addition, bidders should submit the detailed commercial breakdown / Bill of Quantities (BoQ) clearly showing unit prices, quantities, and total amounts, corresponding to the summarized prices.

S/N	Description	Price	Remarks
1	Equipment/Hardware		
2	Software/License (Prepetual), if any		
3	Installation Services		
4	Annual Support (first year)		
5	Annual Support (next 4 years)		
6	Subscription fee/Annual License Fee (if available)		
7	Training Cost (if available)		
Total Cost USD			
Incoterm for any parts (CIP/DDP Kabul only).			
Applicable Tax as per RFP			
Payment Term As per RFP			
Warranty After delivery			

Contract – Annexure C:

Etisalat Afghanistan's Supplier Code of Ethical Conduct – Making Good Possible Together

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1. Supplier Definition and Scope

- 1.1. The term **Supplier** means any person, entity or organisation that provides or seeks to provide Etisalat Afghanistan with products, goods, or services. This includes all officers, employees, Suppliers, sub Suppliers, and agents of any Supplier.
- 1.2. This Supplier Code of Ethical Conduct applies to all Etisalat Afghanistan Suppliers and their procurement agreements.

2. Purpose of this Code

- 2.1. **Etisalat Afghanistan** is fully committed to doing business in accordance with the highest standards of ethics and integrity, with professional business principles and in compliance with all applicable laws in the country. We recognise the importance of earning and maintaining the trust of our customers and stakeholders where we operate.
- 2.2. We expect our Suppliers to abide with this Code (as defined below) and conduct all our business and relationships with the highest standards of ethics to maintain this trust.
- 2.3. This Supplier Code of Ethical Conduct (**the “Code”**) sets out Suppliers’ obligations in relation to compliance with ethical conduct, any relevant legal obligations including anti-bribery and anti-corruption, sanctions, export and trade controls, and relevant regulations and standards in the Country in which the Supplier operates.
- 2.4. The purpose of the Code is to promote safe working conditions and the responsible management of social, ethical, and environmental issues in Etisalat Afghanistan’s procurement and supply chain. This includes issues such as human rights, working practices, labour standards, environmental, the responsible sourcing of minerals and health and safety.
- 2.5. The Supplier is encouraged to ensure its own Suppliers and subSuppliers are made aware of the principles of the Code when undertaking any work, or providing any product or service to, or on behalf of Etisalat Afghanistan.

3. Supplier selection and on-boarding

- 3.1. Etisalat Afghanistan is committed to doing business with the highest standards of ethics and integrity. We expect that our partners, Suppliers, consultants, agents, etc. apply the same standards.
- 3.2. To ensure that Etisalat Afghanistan work with the right third parties and to protect Etisalat Afghanistan’s brand and reputation, we conduct a thorough registration/selection, due diligence, and engagement processes prior to on-boarding or engaging any Suppliers.

3.3. The Supplier shall take reasonable steps to ensure that it's selection processes also include adequate due diligence on sub-Suppliers.

3.4. The Supplier shall ensure it does not commence any work or activities on behalf of Etisalat Afghanistan until it confirms it has read, understood, and will comply with all the principles set out in this Code.

4. Supplier monitoring

4.1. The Supplier must ensure they have processes in place to identify, correct and monitor the continued compliance of any activities that fall below the standards of ethical conduct set out in this Code.

4.2. Any breach of this Code may be considered to be a material breach of any agreement or contract with Etisalat Afghanistan, and Etisalat Afghanistan reserves its legal rights and remedies in respect of any such breach.

5. Data Protection, Privacy and Confidentiality

5.1. At Etisalat Afghanistan, we respect the privacy of our customers and third parties, as well as of others with whom we conduct business.

5.2. The Supplier must ensure they handle any confidential or customer personal data with due care, ensuring it has a process in place to ensure access and storage of this data is managed securely.

5.3. The Supplier shall ensure that any authorised communication of Etisalat Afghanistan confidential or customer information should be limited to appropriately trained and authorised individuals who need it to carry out their work, in accordance with applicable laws and for legitimate business purposes only.

5.4. The Supplier must ensure they protect any Etisalat Afghanistan confidential or customer information from improper disclosure.

5.5. The Supplier shall respect Etisalat Afghanistan's brand and intellectual property rights and manage any technology and know-how it receives from Etisalat Afghanistan in a manner that protects these intellectual property rights.

6. Modern Slavery, Child Labour, and Human Trafficking

6.1. Etisalat Afghanistan is committed to ensuring all workers in our procurement & supply chain receive fair and equal treatment in full compliance with the laws, rules, and regulations of the country. In case there are different standards set forth in this Code compared to the applicable laws, rules, and regulations, Etisalat Afghanistan expects the same standards or more stringent requirements to be applied.

- 6.2. Etisalat Afghanistan prohibits the use forced labour, whether in the form of prison labour, indentured labour, bonded labour or otherwise. No employee or worker may be compelled to work through force or intimidation of any form, or as a means of political coercion. Also, we operate a zero-tolerance policy for any form of Slavery and Human Trafficking in our operations and procurement & supply chain. The Supplier shall not permit the use of any form of forced, bonded, compulsory labour, slavery, or human trafficking. We will treat any reported incidents seriously, with respect and in confidence.
- 6.3. Etisalat Afghanistan condemns all forms of exploitation of children. We remain committed to prohibit and eliminate the use of child Labour in our operations and procurement & supply chain. Our aim is to ensure that all our operations remain in compliance with national regulations. The Supplier shall not knowingly use any child labour and should not employ or engage anyone who is below the minimum legal age for employment in line with applicable laws in the country.
- 6.4. All the Supplier's employees shall be freely employed. This means all employees must be provided with employment contracts that stipulate, the employee's rights to terminate their employment with reasonable notice period, the working hours, and the minimum wage and required benefits in line with applicable laws in the country.
- 6.5. The Supplier may deduct subsistence expenses from employees' wages as required and substantiated for the nature of the work or in accordance with established company policies (Article 95 of Afghanistan's Labor Code). Any such deductions must be transparent, justified, and consistent with reasonable standards, ensuring that they do not impede an employee's basic rights or cause financial hardship. However, the Supplier shall refrain from making any other wage deductions, withholding payments, imposing unauthorized debts upon employees, or demanding the surrender of government-issued identification, passports, or work permits as a condition of their employment. All deductions must comply with fair and legal practices, respecting the rights and protections afforded to employees under the prevailing labor regulations. The Supplier shall not engage in or support the use of corporal punishment, threats of violence or other forms of mental or physical coercion. All employees shall be treated with dignity and in accordance with our policies maintaining a work environment that is free of any sort of physical punishment. All employees should be aware that we will treat all incidents seriously and with respect and in confidence and we will promptly investigate all allegations of physical punishment. No one will be victimized for making such a complaint.

7. Discrimination

- 7.1. Etisalat Afghanistan believes that everyone should be treated with dignity and respect, therefore, Etisalat Afghanistan prohibits all forms of discrimination, harassment, humiliation, threats of violence and abusive or offensive behaviour.
- 7.2. The Supplier shall not engage in, or support, any form of discrimination, in hiring, employment terms, remuneration, access to training, promotion, termination, retirement procedures or decisions including but not limited to race, ethnicity, skin colour, age, gender identification or any other characteristics protected by law, pregnancy, disability, religion, political affiliation, nationality, medical condition, social origin, social or marital status and trade union membership.

8. Bribery and Corruption

- 8.1. Etisalat Afghanistan's stance on avoiding Bribery and Corruption means that regardless of local customs, we never receive or provide Gifts, Entertainment, Hospitality or any other benefits that are motivated by an improper purpose, such as to gain an inappropriate business, personal or other advantage.
- 8.2. The Supplier shall not tolerate or enter into any form of bribery, including improper offers or payments to or from employees, customers, Suppliers, organisations or individuals.
- 8.3. The Supplier shall abide by all applicable anti-corruption laws and regulations of Etisalat Afghanistan and applicable laws in the country, including the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act ("FCPA") and applicable international anti-corruption conventions.
- 8.4. The Supplier shall have an anti-bribery policy that sets out the principle of zero tolerance to any form of bribery or corruption within their organisation, including facilitation payments.
- 8.5. In the course of doing business with or on behalf Etisalat Afghanistan or fulfilling any agreement or contract with Etisalat Afghanistan, the Supplier must not in relation to any public or government official, offer, give, promise, receive or request any bribes (financial or any other improper advantage).
- 8.6. The Supplier shall ensure its employees, Suppliers and sub-Suppliers are aware of its antibribery policy and how to comply with its requirements.

9. Money laundering

- 9.1. The Supplier shall act in accordance with all applicable international standards and laws on fraud and money laundering and (where appropriate) maintain an anti-money

laundrying compliance programme, designed to ensure compliance with the law including the monitoring of compliance and detection of violations.

10. Environment and Climate Change

- 10.1. The Supplier shall commit to protecting the environment. Supplier shall minimise its use of finite resources (such as energy, water, and raw materials) and the release of harmful emissions to the environment (including waste, air emissions and discharges to water).
- 10.2. The Supplier shall seek to improve the environmental performance of the products and services it provides, as well as support those that offer environmental and social benefits to Etisalat Afghanistan's customers.
- 10.3. The Supplier shall adhere to relevant environmental legislation and international standards in Afghanistan. In cases where specific environmental legislation is not readily evident or enforced within Afghanistan, the Supplier must establish and maintain reasonable practices to manage environmental impacts in accordance with internationally accepted norms and principles. The Supplier shall identify, monitor, and minimize Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHG) and energy consumption from its own operations including CO2 emissions from transportation and travel and support.

11. Speak Up

- 11.1. The Supplier shall provide an anonymous complaint mechanism for its managers and workers to report workplace grievances and shall take measures to protect whistleblower confidentiality and prohibit retaliation.
- 11.2. The Supplier shall report any instances of illegal or unethical behaviour or breaches of this Code (in relation to the goods and services being provided to Etisalat Afghanistan) in confidence using the 'Speak Up' contact details below.
- 11.3. The Supplier shall regularly promote these Etisalat Afghanistan 'Speak Up' contact details to its employees and any agents or sub Suppliers working on the Supplier's behalf for Etisalat Afghanistan: via the official Etisalat Afghanistan whistle-blower email eawb@etisalat.af.

12.0 Health, Safety and Environment (HSE)

12.1 Health Services:

The contractor must provide health services such as the treatment of first aid injuries, prevention of dehydration, work stress, poor work environment, provide necessary facilities for workers etc. Accident and emergency services in their areas of operation should be available and should be made known to all employees.

12.2 Safety:

The contractor must comply with EA, national, and international rules and regulations of the HSE and maintain the workplace free from hazards as well as to ensure that the workers are equipped with appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). The contractor shall obey permit to work procedure according to HSE and the work permit should be granted by EA HSE team. Contractors must take all necessary measures, at their own costs, to ensure the health and safety of their employees.

12.2 Environment:

Ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, no nuisance is caused to the local community and any residents through the emissions of noise, dust, odors, grit, smoke, fumes (known collectively as 'Statutory Nuisances'). Prevent the pollution of the air, water resources and the contamination of land. store wastes securely to prevent spillage and to ensure that waste is removed, treated, prevent damage to wildlife, plants, water, land, and other natural resources. Contractors are required to maintain the highest standards set by EA and ensure that their work locations are free from slip, trip and fall hazards.

12.3 Accidents / Incidents:

Contractor is obliged to comply with EA Incident's investigation, response & reporting process document. If an incident happens at any EA or supplier/contractor premises, it should be reported to EA HSE Team within 03 hours. The initial report shall be submitted to EA HSE Team within 24 hours, using form number 01. Incidents investigation and report closing shall be completed within 03 working days, using form number 02. Incidents, accidents, environmental emergencies, or complaints, however trivial, must be reported as per Incidents Investigation, Response & Reporting procedure to EA HSE team as soon as on the incident/accident occurrence. Fatalities, lost time injuries, and serious environmental incidents shall be investigated by the Senior Contractor Manager and EA respective department with the help of HSE team.

In addition to compliance with best international and national standards the contractors shall attend all HSE Performance Review meetings with EA upon invitation. Each Contractor shall have dedicated HSE Officers, approved by EA. The Contractor HSE officers shall ensure that their HSE Files, documentation and records are available at site. Contractors shall be required to submit their HSE

Performance reports/statistics to EA HSE team on monthly basis during their contract's validity. The contractor is responsible for their workers and employee's activities to be performed as per HSE policies and procedures. All HSE inspections, assessments, Monitoring and Training must be recorded and reported on daily, weekly and monthly basis.

12.4 Rules and Responsibility

- Contractors, vendors, and suppliers carrying out work for & on behalf of Etisalat Afghanistan are obliged to comply with Health, Safety & Environment (HSE) policies, rules, standards, processes, procedures, and best international practices.
- Conform with all the local laws and regulations laid down by the Government of Afghanistan related to their operations, wellbeing, health of employees, public, protection and sustainable use of natural resources and the environment they operate.
- the contractors are required to strictly follow and implement mentioned HSE regulation and standards during their operations and activities. The instructions are produced primarily for the use of the contractor's management and supervisory staff who are required to ensure that the rules and procedures are brought to the notice of all the contractors' workers and that such rules and procedures are strictly followed by them.
- EA will not be responsible for any damage, loss, incident, legal issues, and non-compliance with HSE standards that may arise from the contractors' activities.
- Contractor must obtain permit for work and report any HSE related incidents such as injury, fatality, death, and non-compliance to Etisalat Afghanistan HSE focal points and via email

12.5 General Obligation on Law, Health, Safety, & Environment

Contractor HSE representations warrant:

- a) That the information provided to EA during the bidding process, before the Contract is signed, and throughout the Contractual relationship, including information regarding its HSE qualifications and performance, was true and correct when given. The Contractor assures that no significant changes have occurred subsequently, that would render such information substantially incorrect or misleading during the execution of the Contract.
- b) That it has in place, or will timely put in place, adequate management systems, procedures, and practices and adequately qualified Personnel to ensure that it can fulfil its HSE obligations under the Contract throughout its duration.

12.6 General HSE Obligations

The Contractor undertakes to perform its obligations under the Contract in such a way as to ensure a healthy and safe Workplace for its Personnel, EAs' Personnel, and third parties, as well as to avoid damage to the environment. To this end, the Contractor shall:

- a) comply with applicable Law in matters of HSE at work and protection of the environment.

- b)** Obtain all necessary permits, authorizations, and/or certifications required by the applicable Law for the Contractual performance, and keep them valid throughout the duration of the Contract
- c)** Comply with these HSE Terms and other HSE obligations set out in the Contract
- d)** Abide by good industry best practices, considering the principles contained in the policies adopted by EA, namely the "Health and Safety Policy," "Environmental Policy," and procedures.
- e)** cooperate with EA and third parties (other Contractors, Authorities, etc.) seeking continuous improvement, to ensure that health, safety, and environment are protected to the maximum extent practicable during the performance of the Contract (e.g., participating in HSE risk prevention and mitigation process.)
- f)** give immediate information to EA on any issue regarding HSE that could impact, jeopardize, delay, or interfere with the proper execution of Contractual performance or activities and/or areas managed by EA.

While EA is committed to safeguarding health, safety, and environment, the Contractor remains fully responsible for any damage to health, safety, or the environment caused by its own Personnel or that of its Vendors, Suppliers/Sub Supplier, Contractor/Subcontractor.

12.7 HSE Requirements

In addition to what is set out in the Contract: a) the Contractor shall use Personnel in accordance with applicable Law and shall implement suitable procedures to ensure timely payment of their remuneration, as well as of all taxes, insurance and social security contributions, as required for by the Law and/or by any applicable collective labor agreement. b) the Contractor shall ensure to establish and communicate appropriate adequate health, safety, and environmental rules to its Personnel present at any time at the Workplace, and implement suitable procedures for monitoring and enforcing compliance with such rules by the Personnel itself c) the Contractor must verify that all its Personnel comply with the Contractual clauses related to personal identification, providing them with badges with photos and appropriate identifying data, logos on uniforms, helmets, etc. The provision of Personal protective equipment (PPE) is the sole responsibility of the vendors, contractors, and suppliers to be provided for their staff and workers. Personal Protective and Safety Equipment, required as listed below, but not limited to.

1. Hard hat/Helmet
2. Safety Glasses
3. Safety Gloves

4. Safety Vest (Green color for Supervisors and Orange color for workers)
5. Safety Shoes (Steel-Toed)
6. Full Body Harness (For Fall protection)
7. Working clothes/Uniform (Afghan clothes are not allowed during work)

Any operation or work activities that require the Fall protection system, the vendor and contractors are required to provide and establish such fall prevention and protection system as per the assessment and requirements that will include the Provision of the Full body harness, with lifeline system, Scaffold with Guardrail system, Mechanical Man lift/Man basket, etc.

12.8 Guidelines for Health, Safety and Environmental Management Plans

Guidelines for the Health and Safety and Environmental Plan shall include, where applicable to the Contractual activity, an assessment of the following aspects:

- a) Identification of relevant environmental aspects/impacts and risks.
- b) Waste management, including need for temporary storage, reuse and/or recovery, specifying the applicable regulations and the required authorization processes.
- c) Noise mitigation, considering all potential stakeholders: workers, passengers, Personnel present at the Workplace, residential/sensitive receptors located outside airport premises near the Workplaces.
- d) detailed plan explaining how the Contractor and its Subcontractors/Sub suppliers shall comply with all environmental and Health and Safety aspects during the execution of the Contractual performance (the plan should include, at least: atmospheric emissions, waste management, soil management, noise, waste water, dust and particle emissions, biodiversity protection, etc.)
- g) environmental emergency management plan, indicating the equipment that must always be available at the Workplaces (absorbent materials/substances, cloths, etc.)

12.9 Provision Concerning First Aid, Fire Prevention, and Emergency Management

The Contractor/Subcontractor, Vendors and supplier are responsible for independently organizing and managing the emergencies and medical first aid activities as required.

12.10 Fire Emergency Measures:

The following measures should be implemented:

- a) The Contractor must immediately communicate any emergency, of any nature, to EA, through its representative or the available alert channels at the Workplaces
- b) the

Contractor is responsible for autonomously organizing first aid and fire prevention measures based on the characteristics of the Workplace.

c) The Contractor shall ensure the presence of Personnel responsible for fire emergency management and first aid, as indicated in the offer and HSE documents, throughout the duration of the Contract. The Contractor shall promptly notify EA of any changes in this Personnel.

d) all Contractor's actions pertaining to first aid, fire prevention and emergency management must be carried out in coordination with the existing Workplace emergency plans.

e) in case of special activities (e.g. Electrical work, confined spaces, working at heights, etc.), the Contractor shall establish appropriate intervention procedures.

12.12 Waste Management:

All waste generated from activities related to the Contract must be managed in compliance with the provisions of the Law in force as well as with all the obligations provided for in the Contract and in the Environmental Management Plan. The Contractor, as the waste producer, is responsible for all the activities related to the management of waste and the disposal of resulting materials produced during Contract execution, including packaging waste, in compliance with applicable provisions of Law. In particular, the Contractor/Subcontractor/Suppliers and/or Vendors are responsible for the legal obligations relating to the appropriate management of any temporary warehouses, as well as for archiving and preserving environmental documents. Waste produced by Contractor shall be conferred by them, at their own expense, to authorized waste recovery or disposal entities, where possible. The Contractor is strictly forbidden to set up temporary waste storage areas at the Workplaces, unless otherwise expressly specified in the Contract. In case the temporary waste storage is allowed by the Contract, waste produced by the Contractor shall be stored exclusively in the areas assigned by EA and managed according to the provisions of Law for temporary waste storage.

Summary of HSE (Health, Safety and Environment) terms and conditions for contractors

- Contractors, vendors, and suppliers carrying out work for & on behalf of Etisalat Afghanistan are obliged to comply with Health, Safety & Environment (HSE) policies, rules, standards, processes, procedures, and best international practices.
- Conform with all the local laws and regulations laid down by the Government of Afghanistan related to their operations, wellbeing, health of employees, public, protection and sustainable use of natural resources and the environment they operate.
- the contractors are required to strictly follow and implement mentioned HSE regulation and standards during their operations and activities. The instructions are produced primarily for the use of the contractor's management and supervisory staff who are required to ensure

that the rules and procedures are brought to the notice of all the contractors' workers and that such rules and procedures are strictly followed by them.

- EA will not be responsible for any damages, loss, incident, legal issues, and non-compliance with HSE standards that may arise from the contractors' activities.
- Contractor must obtain permit for work and report any HSE related incidents such as injury, fatality, death, and non-compliance to Etisalat Afghanistan HSE focal points and via email hse@etisalat.af .

12. For more details about Etisalat Afghanistan HSE Rules and Requirement including the HSE Policies please contact hse@etisalat.af .

ANNEXURE D, (RFP Compliance Clauses):

1. Anti-Bribery Anti-Corruption

1.1 The Supplier represents and warrants on behalf of itself, its directors and employees and any third-party employed and/or retained to act for or on its behalf including, without limitation, agents, Suppliers, sub-Suppliers and professional representatives (“Representatives”) (including executive officers and directors of any such Representatives) that:

- (a) it complies and will comply with all applicable laws, statutes, and regulations relating to anti-bribery and anti-corruption including but not limited to the UAE Penal Code and to any applicable foreign anti-bribery and anti-corruption laws.
- (b) it will not directly or indirectly through a third party, in relation to, in connection with, or arising from the performance of this Agreement give, receive, promise, attempt to give or to receive or in any way facilitate the giving and/or receiving of anything of value to any person for unlawfully of securing an improper advantage for (an advantage that is not legitimately due to) either Party, inducing or influencing any person to take any action or refrain from taking any action to obtain or retain business for either Party, and/or inducing any government or public official to take or to omit to take any decisions unlawfully;
- (c) it has and shall maintain in place throughout the term of this Agreement its own adequate policies and procedures that are aligned with the Relevant Requirements, and shall train its own employees on its policies and procedures to ensure compliance with the Relevant Requirements, and will enforce its policies and procedures where appropriate.
- (d) it shall immediately and in any case within three (3) days report to Etisalat Afghanistan in writing any actual or suspected violations including any request or demand for any undue financial or other undue advantage of any kind that it receives in connection with the performance of this Agreement; and
- (e) following a request from Etisalat Afghanistan, it shall certify to Etisalat Afghanistan in writing and signed by an officer of the Supplier its compliance with this clause and the compliance of all persons associated with it as well as that of its third parties under this Agreement. The Supplier shall provide such supporting evidence of compliance as Etisalat Afghanistan may reasonably request.

2.1 “Conflict of Interest” shall mean any circumstance, potential, actual, or perceived, that might cause a Party, persons associated with it, or a third party, to place their financial or personal

interests above the interests of their contractual commitments and the performance of their obligations under this Agreement causing them to be biased in their business judgments, or to not act in good faith when taking decisions and actions that are detrimental to the interests of the other Party under this Agreement;

- 2.1.1 The Supplier shall immediately and in any case within three (3) days notify Etisalat Afghanistan in writing if a Public Official¹ becomes an officer or employee of the Supplier or acquires a direct or indirect interest in the Supplier and the Supplier warrants that it has no Public Officials as direct or indirect owners, officers or employees as of the date of this Agreement.
- 2.1.2 The Supplier represents and warrants that neither it nor any persons associated with it or any third party has interests that would conflict in any way with the performance of its obligations under this Agreement; and
- 2.1.3 If any actual or potential Conflict of Interest arises under this Agreement, the Supplier shall immediately and in all cases within three (3) days inform Etisalat Afghanistan in writing of such conflict and shall provide all relevant information to assist Etisalat Afghanistan in its assessment of such conflict.

3.1 The Supplier shall ensure that any third party associated with the Supplier who is performing services or providing goods in connection with the performance of this Agreement does so only on the basis of a written contract which imposes on such third-party terms equivalent to those imposed on the Supplier in this Annex 1. The Supplier shall be responsible for the observance and performance by such third parties of the terms similar to those stipulated by this compliance provisions and shall be directly liable to Etisalat Afghanistan for any breach by such third parties of any of the Relevant Requirements. For the purposes of this Annex 1, a person associated with the Supplier includes any subSupplier of the Supplier. The Supplier may only engage a third-party (e.g., subSupplier) under this Agreement subject to Etisalat Afghanistan's prior written approval.

3.2 In connection with its relationship to Etisalat Afghanistan and each of the transactions established by the Agreement, the Supplier has maintained and will continue to maintain complete and accurate books, records, invoices and other documents concerning payments and expenses.

3.3 Etisalat Afghanistan or its auditors or representatives may at any time audit Supplier's compliance with this Annex 1, and the Supplier warrants its full cooperation with any

¹ "Public Official," for the purposes of this agreement, includes, but is not limited to: (i) any elected or appointed official (whether in the executive, legislative or judicial branches of government) of a local, state, provincial, regional or national government (or any department or agency of those types of government bodies), (ii) any government employee, part-time government worker, unpaid government worker, or anyone "acting in an official capacity" (i.e., acting under a delegation of authority from a government to carry out government responsibilities), (iii) any political party, party official, or candidate for political office, (iv) any official or employee of a public international organization such as the World Bank or United Nations, or any department or agency of those types of organizations, (v) any official, representative, or employee of a company that is under even partial ownership or control by a government.

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investigation of suspected violations, including but not limited to, the timely provision of all relevant information, records, documentation, evidence, and employees, as may be requested by Etisalat Afghanistan.

3.4 Etisalat Afghanistan shall be entitled to suspend payments of Supplier invoices that are, or become due in case there is a reasonable believe that the Supplier might have committed an actual or potential violation of this Annex 1 or applicable anti-bribery or anti-corruption laws, or whenever investigation or audit conducted reveal actual or suspected violations of this Annex 1, or that become due at any time during a period of ninety (90) days thereafter.

3.5 The Supplier shall indemnify Etisalat Afghanistan against any losses, liabilities, damages, costs (including but not limited to legal fees) and expenses incurred by, or awarded against, Etisalat Afghanistan as a result of any breach of this Annex 1 by the Supplier.

3.6 Breach of this Annex 1 shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement by the Supplier. If the Supplier is in breach of this Annex 1:

- (a) Etisalat Afghanistan shall have the right to terminate this Agreement with immediate effect and suspend all payments, without prejudice to its rights and remedies under this Agreement, including its right to claim damages; and
- (b) the Supplier shall not be entitled to any claim compensation or any further remuneration, regardless of any agreements entered into with third parties before termination.

2. Export Controls and Sanctions

Definition Section:

Affiliated Persons	mean any owner, officer, director, partner, principal, employee, any legal entity with control of or controlled by the Supplier or same owner(s) and/or or agents, suppliers or other Suppliers of the Supplier.
Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws	mean the Sanctions Laws and/or the Export Control Laws of the UAE, and any other jurisdiction in which the Supplier deals in Items and/or provides services [including but not limited to US, UK, EU].
Blocked Person	means, at any time, any person (a) whose property or interest in property is blocked by any Sanctions, (b) designated as a target of asset freeze under Sanctions, (c) with whom dealings are otherwise prohibited under applicable Sanctions or Export Control Laws, or (d) owned or controlled by any such person.
Export Control Laws	mean laws and regulations related to the regulation of imports, exports, re-exports, sale, resale, transfers, releases, shipments, transmissions, or any other provision or receipt of goods, technology, technical data, software, or services, and any laws or regulations of a similar nature administered and enforced by Governmental Authorities.
EU	Means the European Union
Governmental Authorities	mean any agency, office, bureau, department, or instrumentality of the national government of the UAE, [any other applicable jurisdiction: US, UK, EU], that is responsible for administering and enforcing Sanctions and Export Control Laws and/or which has other relevant regulatory or other authority over the Supplier, as required in the context of the relevant Agreement.
Item	means hardware, software including source code, technology, documents, technical data, diagrams and services.
Representatives	mean any third-party employed to act for or on behalf of Supplier including, without limitation, agents, Suppliers, sub-Suppliers and professional representatives.

Sanctions Laws	mean economic or financial sanctions or trade embargoes imposed, administered or enforced by Government Authorities with applicable jurisdiction.
Sectoral Sanctioned Entity	means, at any time, any person subject to Sanctions administered or enforced Governmental Authorities.
US	Means the United States of America
UK	Means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
UAE	Means the United Arab Emirates

Sanctions and Export Control clauses:

[1. The Supplier acknowledges that any Items that it provides under the Agreement may be subject, or become subject in the future, to the Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws of one or more jurisdictions (including without limit those of the U.S., the European Union, the UAE, the UK and any other jurisdiction in which it deals in Items), and shall not deal in, supply, deliver, broker or export any such Items without first obtaining all governmental licenses and approvals and making any notifications that may be required under such Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws.]

2. The Supplier agrees at all times to comply with and ensure that it, its Affiliated Persons and Representatives act in compliance with all Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws in carrying out its responsibilities under this Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, the Supplier represents, warrants and undertakes that:

2.1 Neither the Supplier, nor any of its Affiliated Persons or Representatives is a Blocked Person, Sectoral Sanctioned Entity, or otherwise sanctioned person/entity with whom dealings are prohibited or restricted under the Applicable Sanctions/Export Control

Laws;

2.2 The Supplier will not, in connection with any activities involving [Etisalat Afghanistan] (including all Affiliated persons or representatives of [Etisalat Afghanistan]) or this Agreement, export, re-export, ship, sell, resell, supply, deliver, or otherwise transfer any Items to, from, or through – either directly or indirectly – any country or person in violation of any Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws;

2.3 The Supplier will not cause [Etisalat Afghanistan] to violate any Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws;

2.4 The Supplier shall provide to [Etisalat Afghanistan], prior to delivery of any Items that would be classified under applicable Export Controls, [i] a schedule identifying in writing the export controls regime to which the Items are subject and, [ii] the appropriate export controls classifications (e.g., Export Control Classification Numbers) with respect to each

Item, in sufficient detail to enable [Etisalat Afghanistan] to ascertain any export control that may apply to [Etisalat Afghanistan]; and

2.5 The Supplier shall promptly notify [Etisalat Afghanistan] in writing of any suspected or confirmed violations or issues of non-compliance involving any Items provided to [Etisalat Afghanistan], and in any case no later than within 3 days.

2.6 The Supplier shall notify [Etisalat Afghanistan] in writing as soon as possible if:

(i) the Supplier, or any of its Affiliated Persons or Representatives, has become listed on any restricted parties list (including, without limitation, any US, EU, UK or UN sanctions lists) or becomes subject to any Sanctions; or

(ii) it becomes aware that any relevant Governmental Authority has initiated or will initiate any investigation or proceedings against the Supplier, or any of its Affiliated Persons or Representatives, relating to an actual or potential breach of any Export Control Laws or Sanctions in relation to its obligations under this Agreement.

3. The Supplier shall identify, obtain and maintain all government registrations, licenses and approvals required under any applicable Export Control Laws to engage in the activities covered by this Agreement, including any applicable registrations or licenses to engage in the business of manufacturing, exporting, brokering or trading export controlled Items.

4. Nothing in the Agreement is intended, and nothing herein should be interpreted or construed, to induce or require either Party or their Affiliated Persons or Representatives to act in any manner which is inconsistent with, penalized, or prohibited under any Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws as applicable to such Party;

5. Neither party nor its Affiliated Persons or Representatives shall be obliged to perform any obligation otherwise required under this Agreement if this would be in violation of, inconsistent with, or expose such party to punitive measures under, any Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws.

6. If [Etisalat Afghanistan], acting reasonably, believes that the Supplier, its Affiliated Persons or its Representatives breached or is likely to have breached any element of these Sanctions and Export Control clauses, [Etisalat Afghanistan] shall have the right to immediately conduct an appropriate audit into any such breach or potential breach, using its own resources and/or through independent third parties engaged by [Etisalat Afghanistan], and shall withhold payments to the Supplier during the period of any such audit. Supplier, its Affiliated Persons or its Representatives shall at all times cooperate fully and in good faith including with regard to the prompt provision of all relevant information, records and documents in order to facilitate and expedite the conduct of any such [Etisalat Afghanistan] audit.

7. The Supplier agrees that non-compliance with any of the representations and/or obligations set out in this Agreement by the Supplier, its Affiliated Persons or its Representatives may result in adverse consequences for [Etisalat Afghanistan] and would allow [Etisalat Afghanistan] to consider such non-compliance as a material breach of the Agreement, and would further entitle [Etisalat Afghanistan] to immediately terminate any and all existing Agreements with the Supplier for cause without liability as specified in the Agreement.

8. The Supplier agrees to fully indemnify and hold harmless [Etisalat Afghanistan] and its representatives against any damages, costs, losses, liabilities, fines, penalties, and/or expenses (including attorneys' fees and expenses) arising out of and in connection with the Supplier, its Affiliated Persons or Representatives non-compliance with these Sanctions and Export Control clauses, including violation or alleged violation of any Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws.

9. The Supplier agrees that [Etisalat Afghanistan] may, at its sole discretion, conduct surveys and audits (either directly or through independent third parties engaged by [Etisalat Afghanistan]) to verify compliance by the Supplier, its Affiliated Persons and Representatives with these Sanctions and Export Control clauses and Applicable Sanctions/Export Control Laws. Such surveys or audits shall be reasonable as to scope, location, date and time. The Supplier, its Affiliated Persons or Representatives) shall cooperate fully and in good faith with any such survey or audit including the prompt provision of all relevant information, records and documents as [Etisalat Afghanistan] may reasonably require in order to facilitate and expedite the conduct of any such audit.

10. In the event that [Etisalat Afghanistan] is required to obtain an authorisation, licence or other governmental approval or to make a notification under Applicable Export Control Laws for reasons arising out of this Agreement or the acts contemplated by it, the Supplier shall provide such assistance to [Etisalat Afghanistan] in obtaining such approval as [Etisalat Afghanistan] may reasonably require.

3. Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Finance of Terrorism:

1. **"Applicable Anti-Money Laundering Laws and Counter Finance of Terrorism" or "AML/CFT"** means any laws, rules, or regulations applicable to [Etisalat Afghanistan] and the Supplier, that prohibit engaging in or facilitating financial transactions that promote or conceal unlawful activity in any jurisdiction.

2. The Supplier represents and warrants that:

- i. the Supplier and each of its affiliated persons will refrain from engaging, whether directly or indirectly, in improper and/or illegal conduct, including money-laundering and terrorist financing; and, where applicable, will comply with Applicable AML/CFT Laws;
- ii. If applicable, the Supplier has in place procedures aimed at preventing AML/CFT violations; and

the Supplier agrees to notify [Etisalat Afghanistan] promptly and in any event within 3 days, in writing, of any suspicious activity under AML/CFT Laws, of which it becomes aware relating to the transaction involving Etisalat Afghanistan. Upon reasonable request, the Etisalat Afghanistan agrees to provide Etisalat Afghanistan with documentation relating to its AML/CFT policies and procedures and assist [Etisalat Afghanistan] with any clarification required without any undue delay.

Annexure-E

EA Cybersecurity Requirements for the New Projects-2025 Version

Overview

This document defines the minimum Cybersecurity requirements that must be considered and incorporated in the RFX documents for new projects and systems. The Cybersecurity requirements are created in adherence to Etisalat Afghanistan Cybersecurity Policies.

The cybersecurity requirements outlined in our RFPs and contracts serve as the foundation of our commitment to safeguarding sensitive data and ensuring the integrity of our operations. Compliance with these measures is not just a formality but an essential component in mitigating risks, maintaining legal compliance, and protecting the trust of our stakeholders. By adhering to our cybersecurity protocols, vendors play a key role in strengthening our digital infrastructure against evolving threats, thereby contributing to a secure and resilient business ecosystem. We urge vendors to recognize the significance of these requirements and partner with us in upholding the highest standards of cybersecurity excellence.

Important Note

Bidders, vendors, project managers, and any concerned party shall fill all the fields in the below table, any missing or non-compliant item may cause disqualifying the proposed system from the Etisalat Afghanistan Cybersecurity Department.

For any compliant items, further supporting documents must be submitted to the Cybersecurity Department for analysis and validation.

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
1	Security Requirements		
1.1	The Contractor/Supplier/vendor to sign Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) with Etisalat Afghanistan before finalizing RFX/contract/POC agreement as per Etisalat NDA process.		
1.2	Contractor/Supplier/vendor equipment's (e.g. Servers, PCs, etc.) that are connected to Etisalat network must be securely wiped before taking out of Etisalat premises.		
1.3	The proposed/contracted system shall pass Etisalat Afghanistan's Cybersecurity Audit (Vulnerability Assessment/Penetration Testing/Security Audit) before go-live/service acceptance by Etisalat Afghanistan. Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall provide SLA for fixing Security gaps based on severity.		
1.4	Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall fix all security issues/vulnerabilities identified and reported by ETISALAT and/or Third Party Contracted to do the testing, with no additional cost even after going live.		

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
1.5	Contractor/Supplier/vendor confirms that its products/solution are tested for weaknesses via methods such as Vulnerability Assessment, penetration testing, Static/Dynamic Code Analysis, red teaming exercises and scans that check for compliance against the baseline security standards or security best practices, before the new product or any of its releases is delivered to ETISALAT Afghanistan.		
1.6	The Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall provide evidence/report of the security assessment/audit of the proposed solution to Cybersecurity Department of Etisalat Afghanistan.		
1.7	Proposed system must not have dependency on end of life/end of support software or any such requirements.		
1.8	The proposed system (OS & Database) must be hardened with CIS control as per EA Secure Configuration Policy.		
1.9	Vendor must report any security incident or suspicious activity to Etisalat SOC team at soc@etisalat.af address.		
1.10	Vendor must ensure their operating systems/hardware are up to date and is not End of Life/End of support in next 3 years.		
1.11	EA has the right to request for vulnerabilities or penetration testing reports of web applications if vendor is supposed to deploy any in EA.		
1.12	The proposed system must not have any dependency on end of life/end of support software or any such requirements.		
1.13	Vendors must align all their services and configurations in accordance to EA Information Security policies and standards.		
1.14	Vendors must use and install only licensed applications.		
1.15	The installation and Integration of servers must be aligned with IT and Cybersecurity requirements.		
1.16	Vendor must access the servers only through Etisalat PAM solution.		
1.17	In the event of a security concern or suspicious activity arising from the vendor's end, Etisalat reserves the right to suspend or revoke access during investigation from Etisalat's side.		
1.18	Vendor must align their changes according to EA Change Management Policy.		
1.19	Vendor must ensure all their operating systems are fully patched with the latest OS/Software updates.		
1.20	The database must encrypt admin user's information with algorithms such as PBKDF2 and SHA256/384/512 bits.		
2	Security Architecture		
2.1	The Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall ensure that proposed solution shall comply with the applicable IT and Telecom Security standards (such as UAE NES (SIA) IA V2, UAE DESC (ISR), UAE TRA, 3GPP, ETSI, ENISA, CSA, NIST, PCI, ISO, GDPR		

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
	etc.) The Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall confirm the applicable standard.		
2.2	The proposed solution shall support the latest operating systems and application versions. Contractor/Supplier/vendor to ensure proposed solutions will run the latest stable software, operating system, and firmware that is not End of Life or End of Support.		
2.3	The solution shall be designed with multi-tier architecture, (Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), middleware, and private network). Any system accessible from the Internet shall be on the DMZ and access to internal sensitive data shall be secured through the middle tier application proxy and/or a standard Firewall Technology.		
2.4	The proposed solution shall not impact the existing Etisalat Afghanistan security controls or posture in any way.		
2.5	The performance of the proposed system shall meet the business requirements without disabling or removing any existing security control.		
2.6	The Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall provide only secure methods of communication such as HTTPS, SFTP, SCP, TLS1.3, IPSEC, SRTP, SSH v2, SNMPv3 between the proposed nodes. Non-secure protocols such as Telnet, HTTP and FTP are strictly prohibited.		
3	Password Security		
3.1	All Operating Systems (e.g. Linux and Windows) must be hardened according to the official secure configuration baseline of Etisalat Afghanistan and to fully comply with Etisalat Afghanistan Security Policies.		
3.2	The proposed system includes password management module that supports the following features:		
3.3	Setting the minimum password length		
3.4	Password complexity, and not accepting blank passwords		
3.5	Maximum password age and password history/Threshold		
3.6	Account lockout		
3.7	Enforce changing password after first login		
3.8	Prompt / notify for the old password on password changes		
3.9	The password shall be saved in hashed format (i.e., irreversible encryption)		
3.10	The hashing/encryption algorithm of the proposed solution must be in compliant with Etisalat Afghanistan cryptographic requirements.		
3.11	Forgetting or resetting password function must support MFA mechanism using OTP or email for verification		
4	Authentication		

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
4.1	The proposed system shall not provide access without valid username and password.		
4.2	All user access to the proposed system shall support integration with industry Privilege account Management (PAM) solutions.		
4.3	For public web applications, the proposed system supports and uses CAPTCHA or OTP to prevent against password attacks including but not limited to Dictionary Attack, Brute Force and Password Spraying mechanism.		
4.4	For mobile applications, the proposed system shall support and uses fingerprint authentication method		
4.5	The proposed system supports and uses secure authentication protocols, like Kerberos, LDAP-S, NTLM V2 and above, HTTPs (for web applications)		
4.6	The proposed system will not use insecure authentication protocols including but not limited to FTP, Telnet, NTLM v1, and HTTP (for web applications)		
4.7	The proposed system shall support session timeout settings		
4.8	The proposed solution shall support secure API architecture to integrate systems to exchange data were deemed necessary.		
4.9	The proposed solution shall support integration with Identity and Access Management solution (IAM) for user lifecycle management via standard APIs.		
4.10	The proposed solution must support LDAP and RADIUS authentication.		
5	Authorization		
5.1	The proposed solution shall support role-based and Rule Based access controls that includes access profiles or security matrix (i.e., Role Name VS. Access Permissions)		
5.2	The proposed system supports role-based / rule-based access permissions, i.e., Administrator, Operator, Viewer, User...		
6	Software Security		
6.1	The software development and testing will not run on the production systems and will be running in an isolated environment.		
6.2	The software source code will not include clear-text passwords.		
6.3	The software code will not include insecure protocols, like FTP, telnet ...etc.		
6.4	The software testing will not use live/production sensitive or PII data unless it's masked as per Etisalat Afghanistan's Cybersecurity Policies		
6.5	The proposed system enforces input and output validation to prevent Cyber-attacks including but not limited to SQL Injection, Buffer Overflow, XSS and SSRF...etc.		

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
6.6	For web portals, the proposed solution shall include all the security controls to prevent / protect the application against OWASP Top 10 security attacks and risks		
6.7	For mobile application, the proposed system shall include security checks / controls to protect from mobile attacks, like SSL Pinning, Jailbreak, Anti-debug, Anti-hooking, and Advanced Obfuscation...		

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
7	Security Event Logging		
7.1	Proposed systems shall support standard logging protocols such as CIFS/Syslog/CSV logs files		
7.2	The system shall generate and support audit logs that contain the following fields (as a minimum): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Username b) Timestamp (Date & Time). c) Source and Destination IPs d) Transaction ID & session information e) Failed/Successful Logins f) Modification of Security Settings g) Privilege Escalation h) User Account Modification 		
7.3	The proposed solution shall support the integration with Etisalat Afghanistan NTP server for time synchronization and accurate logging.		
7.4	The proposed solution shall support integration with IBM QRadar for Log Aggregation and Correlation.		
8	Public Cloud Security		
8.1	Etisalat customers' and staff personal data (PII: name, contacts, address, Emirates ID, Passport number, Nationality ...) is encrypted at rest and in transit using a strong industry-standard encryption protocol in full compliance with Etisalat Afghanistan's Cryptographic requirements.		
8.2	The Public Cloud setup that stores PII information shall be hosted in the UAE		
8.3	The Public Cloud setup is hosted in a dedicated tenant for Etisalat Afghanistan (i.e., not shared)		
8.4	The Public Cloud data center shall not be moved to another country or location without prior coordination and approval from Etisalat Afghanistan Cybersecurity Department		
8.5	All Etisalat data will be permanently erased from the Public Cloud on termination of the service or support agreement		
8.6	The proposed Cloud system supports Etisalat Afghanistan's Cloud Access Security Broker (such as Microsoft MCAS, Netskope CASB)		
9	Virtualization and Container Security		
9.1	If applicable, Bidder shall ensure the proposed virtualized infrastructure, service based and micro services architecture to support multi tenancy, zoning & micro-segmentation, security visibility, secure virtualization (sVirt), trusted image signing, virtual Firewalls, DoS protection, Trusted platform module (TPM), Hypervisor & Host OS security to secure data and resources.		
9.2	The proposed solution shall support integration with Etisalat/Leading Container Security Solution, where		

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
	applicable, to scan the container images and ensure malware protection of CI/CD pipeline.		
10	Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Security		
10.1	If the proposed solution uses AI/ML, it must ensure model integrity, prevent model poisoning, and protect training data from leakage.		
10.2	Any AI model must be explainable and auditable, especially for systems impacting customer services or security decisions		
10.3	AI/ML-based systems must include monitoring to detect adversarial inputs or behavioral drift.		
10.4	Access to AI training datasets must be role-based and logged.		
11	Encryption and Key Management		
11.1	All sensitive data at rest and in transit must be encrypted using strong encryption standards (AES-256, TLS 1.3, etc.).		
11.2	Key management must be handled via secure KMS (Key Management Systems) in compliance with Etisalat Afghanistan's Cryptographic Policy.		
11.3	Private keys and credentials must not be hardcoded into applications or scripts.		
12	Database Security		
12.1	The database must enforce the least privilege of access and role separation.		
12.2	Database activity monitoring (DAM) should be enabled and integrated with the SIEM.		
12.3	Sensitive fields (e.g., PII, financials) must be encrypted and masking enabled for non-privileged users.		
12.4	Default accounts and unused stored procedures must be disabled or removed.		
13	Network Security		
13.1	The solution must comply with Etisalat Afghanistan's network segmentation and zero trust architecture.		
13.2	2 All network connections must be protected using firewalls, IDS/IPS, and NDR (Network Detection and Response).		
13.3	Insecure protocols (e.g., Telnet, SMBv1) must be disabled.		
13.4	Remote access must be restricted and controlled through VPN, MFA, and PAM.		
14	API Security		
14.1	APIs must enforce authentication and authorization using OAuth2.0 or JWT standards.		
14.2	APIs must be protected against OWASP API Top 10 vulnerabilities.		
14.3	API traffic must be logged and monitored with anomaly		

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
	detection.		
14.4	Rate limiting and throttling mechanisms must be in place to prevent abuse.		
No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
15	Physical and Environmental Security		
15.1	Equipment housing critical data must reside in secure, access-controlled environments.		
15.2	Physical access to sensitive areas must be logged and monitored.		
15.3	Proper labeling, secure disposal, and asset lifecycle tracking must be implemented for all hardware.		
15.4	Surveillance and intrusion detection must be in place for all datacenter or server rooms used in the project.		
16	Infrastructure and Visibility		
16.1	All components of the infrastructure must support centralized logging and monitoring.		
16.2	The system must support integration with vulnerability scanners and patch management tools.		
16.3	Network and application topology must be documented and shared with EA Cybersecurity.		
16.4	Shadow IT and undocumented components must be reported and approved before deployment.		

The following Information must be submitted with the offer.

Bidder Contact Details	
Bidder Name	
Bidder Address	
Bidder Email Address	
Bidder Phone Number	
Bidder Contact Person Name	
Bidder Contact Person Phone No	
Bidder Contact Person Email Address	
Bidder Registration License Number	
License Validity	
TIN Number /Tax Number	

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