



Request for proposals (RFP)

The supply of 3PB usable Lustre file system storage with Lustre professional support to the CSIR

RFP No. 3383/07/08/2020

Date of Issue	Wednesday, 15 July 2020	
Compulsory briefing session	None	
Closing Date	Friday, 07 th August 2020 at 16h30	
Electronic Submission	Email: tender@csir.co.za If the documents size exceeds 30MB, send multiple emails. Use the tender number and description as the subject on the email.	
Enquiries	Strategic Procurement Unit	E-mail: tender@csir.co.za
CSIR business hours	08h00 – 16h30	
Category	Computer hardware & Software	

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	3
2	BACKGROUND	3
3	CURRENT ENVIRONMENT	4
4	INVITATION FOR PROPOSAL	4
5	PROPOSAL SPECIFICATION	4
6	FUNCTIONAL EVALUATION CRITERIA	9
7	PRE-QUALIFICATION CRITERIA TO ADVANCE CERTAIN GROUPS	9
8	ELIMINATION CRITERIA	10
9	NATIONAL TREASURY CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE (CSD) REGISTRATION	10
	<u>SECTION B – TERMS AND CONDITIONS</u>	12
10	VENUE FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION	12
11	TENDER PROGRAMME	12
12	SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS	12
13	DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION	13
14	AWARDING OF TENDERS	14
15	EVALUATION PROCESS	14
16	PRICING PROPOSAL	15
17	VALIDITY PERIOD OF PROPOSAL	15
18	APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE PROVIDER	15
19	ENQUIRIES AND CONTACT WITH THE CSIR	16
20	MEDIUM OF COMMUNICATION	16
21	COST OF PROPOSAL	16
22	CORRECTNESS OF RESPONSES	16
23	VERIFICATION OF DOCUMENT	16
24	SUB-CONTRACTING	17
25	ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANTS	17
26	TRAVEL EXPENSES	17
27	ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS	17
28	CSIR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO	18
29	DISCLAIMER	18
	DECLARATION BY TENDERER	19
30.	ANNEXURE A – CHPC HPC INFINIBAND DIAGRAM	20
31.	ANNEXURE B - FUNCTIONAL/TECHNICAL CRITERIA AND SCORESHEET AND ELIMINATION CRITERIA	20
32.	ANNEXURE C – SBD1 FORM - (TO BE COMPLETED BY BIDDER).	20

SECTION A – TECHNICAL INFORMATION

1 INTRODUCTION

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is one of the leading scientific research and technology development organisations in Africa. In partnership with national and international research and technology institutions, CSIR undertakes directed and multidisciplinary research and technology innovation that contributes to the improvement of the quality of life of South Africans. The CSIR's main site is in Pretoria while it is represented in other provinces of South Africa through regional offices.

1.1 CENTRE FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING ('the centre')

The Centre for High Performance Computing (CHPC), a ring-fenced national facility managed by the CSIR, is one of three primary pillars of the National Integrated Cyber-Infrastructure System (NICIS) intervention supported by the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI). The South African National Research Network (SANReN) and the Data Intensive Research Initiative of South Africa (DIRISA) complement the CHPC through the provision of low latency, high-bandwidth connectivity, and the effective curation of a variety of notably large and critical databases. The CHPC infrastructure is updated and maintained meticulously to comply with international standards.

The **mission** of the Centre for High Performance Computing is to provide a world-class High Performance Computing (HPC) Facility that enables cutting-edge research with high impact on the South African Economy.

The main **objectives** of the centre are to enable South Africa to become globally competitive and to accelerate Africa's socio-economic upliftment through the effective application of high-end Cyberinfrastructure.

In its **vision**, the centre wants to become an accomplished and preferred partner for High Performance Computing solutions.

2 BACKGROUND

CHPC has the mandate to supply the HPC services to the South African Research community. Storage and parallel file system are integral part of HPC and even more important because of their main function to store data. Due to the growth in number of CHPC users and change in technology, CHPC needs to also try to keep up with the demand of storage and

management thereof. The 3PB storage should be able to help with CHPC HPC users current data needs.

3 CURRENT ENVIRONMENT

CHPC HPC System

CHPC has on 07 June 2016, unveiled a brand new machine named Lengau. The Peta-scale system consists of Dell servers powered by Intel processors, using FDR Mellanox InfiniBand switches and is managed by the Bright Cluster Manager. Lengau network is attached as ANNEXTURE A on this document. Lengau cluster consist of over 32000 cpu cores, 9 GPU nodes and 4PB of Lustre. The current 4PB of Lustre consists of 8 pairs OSSs, 1 pair MDS, running Centos-6.7 Operating System and 96 OSTs managed by Intel Manager for Lustre version 2.4.0

4 INVITATION FOR PROPOSAL

Proposals are hereby invited for the suppliers to propose to the CSIR a 3 PB usable storage of Lustre filesystem with Lustre support to deliver on the mandate of the NICIS.

5 PROPOSAL SPECIFICATION

All proposals are to be submitted in a format specified in this enquiry. However, bidders are welcome to submit additional/alternative proposals over and above the originally format.

5.1 SOLUTION OVERVIEW

The objective of this project is to procure a parallel filesystem to take care of CHPC HPC users' needs

5.2 PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS

In their proposal, bidders must include:

5.2.1 Lustre file system

- i. The rack must have 3 phase smart PDUs in HA mode. The supplier must provide at least 3 PB usable storage. (All storage capacities in this document are expressed in SI units, for example 1KB = 10^3 bytes. The tenderer must use SI units in their response. Usable capacity is the capacity of a formatted volume mounted by the operating system. The usable capacity of a volume in SI units may be viewed in Linux using the "df -H" command.)
- ii. The supplier must provide Lustre parallel filesystem with at least version 2.12.
- iii. The supplier must provide Lustre management software and/or tools.

- iv. MDS and OSS pairs must have at least 12Gbps SAS HBAs
- v. The parallel file system must deliver at least 20Gbps sustained bandwidth (using default block size).
- vi. The parallel file system should have no single point of failures
- vii. The total solution must fit in a 1 x 42U rack.

5.2.2 Professional support for Lustre file system.

- i. The supplier must offer 3 years support for the total solution including support for Lustre
- ii. The supplier must provide at least 2 references as proof of their Lustre support service offering.
- iii. The supplier must provide CV(s) of engineer(s) with at least 5 years' experience on Lustre parallel file system support.
- iv. The supplier shall provide a description of their capabilities to support the following Lustre support commitment:
 - a) The supplier must be able to fix any Lustre issues and make every effort to provide CHPC with a production ready solution.
 - b) The supplier must work with CHPC to provide workarounds and assist to make the file system stable for operations.
 - c) The supplier must file a Lustre bug report to the Lustre community if the issue(s) determined requires a fix to Lustre code base and must also track its progress through the Lustre release/development processes.
 - d) The supplier must work with CHPC to apply any available bug fix to the Lustre file system to resolve the issues.
 - e) The supplier must commit to work with CHPC on developing any tools or white paper(s) on the proposed solution. The white paper(s) must be completed within 3 years of the contract.

5.2.3 Robinhood policy engine and Lustre management tool(s)

- i. Supplier must offer solution with Robinhood policy engine or similar policy engine.
- ii. Supplier must offer solution with Integrated Manager for Lustre.

5.2.4 Communication and hardware

CHPC HPC InfiniBand Diagram

- i. Supplier must offer at least 1 X Mellanox MSB7800-ES2F (EDR InfiniBand switch) to connect to the current CHPC HPC environment.
- ii. Supplier must include all needed cables and SFPs with Mellanox Silver Technical Support and Warranty for at least 3 years
- iii. All servers proposed must be at least Intel Xeon Gold 6230 or equivalent

5.2.5 Professional support for current CHPC HPC 4PB Lustre file system

- The supplier must provide 12 months Lustre support to CHPC current Lustre file system.

5.3 IMPLEMENTATION

The installation and setup of the system should be performed at the CHPC facility in Rosebank, Cape Town.

- i. The supplier must provide a project management plan for the entire project.
- ii. The supplier must provide a support engineer on-site, available 8am–4:30pm Monday to Friday, with the exception of CHPC holidays, beginning on the project initiation date until to project completion. The support engineer will be expected to work closely with CHPC staff to install, configure and test the system until the acceptance stage and also until it is ready to run the production workloads.
- iii. It is also expected that skill transfer of the system configuration, installation, and maintenance package be transferred to CHPC staff during this period or any other time the engineer is working on the system.

5.4. WARRANTY AND LICENSING INFORMATION

- 5.4.1.** The cost of the proposed system shall include all warranties and licensing (if applicable) for all hardware and any software, delivered with the system. This must include hardware which is not manufactured by the primary Vendor. Warranties and licenses (if applicable) shall be for a period of 3 years of operation.
- 5.4.2.** The start date of the year of full production operation is defined as the day of machine acceptance.
- 5.4.3.** The date of the warranties and licenses (if applicable) for all components shall be clearly provided in the technical proposal.

5.5. SKILLS TRANSFER AND TRAINING

- 5.5.1.** Each proposal must include the implementation process that the Vendor will follow to work together with the CHPC staff.
- 5.5.2.** Vendors must commit to on-site skills transfer for system administration of the equipment and software as part of their proposal.
- 5.5.3.** Skills transfer shall commence before the implementation
- 5.5.4.** The supplier must describe all proposed training and documentation relevant to the proposed solutions utilizing the following methods:
- i. Classroom training
 - ii. Onsite training
 - iii. Online documentation
 - iv. Online training

5.6 ACCEPTANCE TEST SUITE

- 5.6.1.** The system will be accepted if the following criteria are met:
- i. Demonstration of 20Gbps bandwidth
 - ii. CHPC HPC users can write and read to new filesystem
 - iii. IML working
 - iv. Functional Robinhood policy engine (create database, able to purge files according to policy) or a similar policy engine

- v. Capacity (The “df -H” command will be executed and the usable capacity of the volume will be determined. The capacity of the volume must meet or exceed the required capacity of 3PB).

5.7 MAINTENANCE, SUPPORT, AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

- 5.7.1.** Hardware support will require replacement of failed or faulty critical components by the next business day or sooner. A critical component is defined as one that is required to enable 90% of the system to run projects successfully. Software support will require telephone and email response to problem calls and questions. Response to software support calls to be next business day or sooner.
- 5.7.2.** Vendors should describe both the hardware and software support provided for the proposed system during the support period. Vendors must provide documentation to demonstrate a current ability to provide 24x7 support, as the CHPC may, in the future, decide to take advantage of such a program.
- 5.7.3.** Vendors must specify the location of the nearest parts depot and explain the conditions under which support will be contracted out to a third party.
- 5.7.4.** Bidders must provide information on how to anticipate delivering and supporting their proposed solution, paying particular attention to the personnel and skills available within their organization.

5.8 DOCUMENTATION

- 5.8.1. The Vendor shall provide documentation for the total solution to the operators and system administrators in order to effectively operate, configure, and use the platform.
- 5.8.2. The Vendor shall provide documentation for the total solution describing the configuration, network topology, labelling schema, hardware layout, etc. of the system as deployed before the commencement of the system acceptance testing.
- 5.8.3. The Vendor shall supply support system and user level documentation for all components of the system. The Vendor shall supply additional documentation necessary for the operation and maintenance of the system.
- 5.8.4. All documentation shall be distributed and updated electronically and in a timely manner. For example, changes to the system shall be accompanied by relevant documentation. Documentation of changes and fixes may be distributed electronically in the form of release notes. Reference manuals may be updated later, but effort should be made to keep all documentation up to date.

6 FUNCTIONAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 6.1. The evaluation of the functional/ technical detail of the proposal will be based on the following criteria. **Please refer to Annexure A** for functional evaluation criteria.
- 6.2. Proposals with functionality / technical points of less than the pre-determined minimum overall percentage of **70%** and less than **50%** on any of the individual criteria will be eliminated from further evaluation.

7 PRE-QUALIFICATION CRITERIA TO ADVANCE CERTAIN GROUPS

- 7.1. Only bidders with a BBEE status of level 1 or 2, and are EME or QSE will be considered for this tender.
- 7.2. A certified copy or an original copy of a valid B-BBEE certificate, or valid sworn affidavit must be submitted.
- 7.3. Bidders that failed to meet the pre-qualification requirements of this tender will not be considered.

8 ELIMINATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be eliminated under the following conditions: (please refer to ANNEXTURE A for scoring points)

- i. Submission after the deadline.
- ii. Proposals submitted at incorrect location.
- iii. The supplier did not propose Lustre parallel filesystem.
- iv. The supplier did not propose Lustre management software.
- v. The supplier did not propose Lustre support services.
- vi. The supplier did not provide at least 2 references sites where they are providing or have provided Lustre support services. Give contactable references.
- vii. The supplier did not propose at least 3PB usable storage.
- viii. The supplier did not propose Lustre support service for CHPC's current 4PB Lustre
- ix. Proposed filesystem does not deliver at least 20Gbps sustained bandwidth.
- x. The supplier does not commit to work with CHPC on developing any tools or white paper(s) on the proposed solution within the 3 years of the contract.
- xi. The supplier does not commit to provide training to CHPC staff.
- xii. The supplier did not propose High Availability on parallel file system servers.
- xiii. The supplier did not propose Robinhood policy engine or similar policy engine.
- xiv. The supplier did not propose Mellanox MSB7800-ES2F (EDR switch).
- xv. The supplier did not propose Mellanox MSB7800-ES2F EDR switch cables and SFPs to connect to the current CHPC HPC system.
- xvi. Proposed MDS and OSS servers does not have 12 Gbps SAS HBAs.
- xvii. Proposed total solution does not fit in a 1 x 42U rack.
- xviii. Proposed solution does not have 3 phase smart PDUs in HA mode.
- xix. Bidders that are not EME's or QSE with a Level 1 or 2 B-BBEE, such bidders must provide either a valid B-BBEE Sworn Affidavit or certified valid B-BBEE certificate.

9 NATIONAL TREASURY CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE (CSD) REGISTRATION

Before any negotiations will start with the winning bidder it will be required from the winning bidder to:

- be registered on National Treasury's Central Supplier Database (CSD). Registrations can be completed online at: www.csd.gov.za;
- provide the CSIR of their CSD registration number; and

- provide the CSIR with a certified copy of their B-BBEE certificate. If no certificate can be provided, no points will be scored during the evaluation process (RSA suppliers only)

SECTION B – TERMS AND CONDITIONS

10 VENUE FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

All proposals must be submitted at: tender@csir.co.za

In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the CSIR requires that, all tender submissions be submitted electronically to tender@csir.co.za.

Should tender file size exceed 30 MB, tenderers can submit tender in multiple emails. Use the tender number **RFP 0000/31/07/2020** and clear description of the tender as the subject on your email.

11 TENDER PROGRAMME

The tender program, as currently envisaged, incorporates the following key dates:

• Issue of tender documents:	Wednesday, 15 th July 2020
• Compulsory Briefing session:	None
• Last day for submission of technical enquiries	Tuesday, 28 July 2020
• Closing / submission Date:	Friday, 08 th August 2020 at 16:30
• Estimate appointment date of successful tenderer:	30 September 2020
• Estimated contract duration	3 Years as per project requirements

12 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

12.1. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, proposals must be submitted at: tender@csir.co.za.

12.2. All proposals are to be clearly marked with the RFP number under the subject on each e-mail submission

12.3. Proposals must consist of two parts, each of which is submitted in a separate e-mail package clearly marked with the RFP Number and the description of the tender

12.4. The detail requirements for each link are provided in the technical requirements document.

12.5. Proposals submitted by companies must be signed by a person or persons duly authorised.

12.6. The CSIR will award the contract to qualified tenderer(s)' whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the CSIR, taking into consideration the technical (functional) solution, price and B-BBEE.

RFP Section	Tender Response Documents
Part 1	Technical Proposal and all relevant supporting documents on technical proposal.
	Project management plan and related information
	References related information
	All relevant supporting documents on technical proposal.
	Any other technical information the bidder wishes to share as part of the technical submission, e.g. This information must not contain any pricing information (Part 2).
	Signed RFP and Declaration (this document)
	ANNEXURE B - Functional/Technical Criteria and Scoresheet and Elimination criteria ANNEXURE C – SBD1 Form - (to be completed by bidder).
Part 2	B-BBEE certificate (SANAS) approved or Sworn Affidavit (in Dti format)
	Price schedule spreadsheet and official quotation on the company letterhead.
	CSD registration(www.csd.gov.za)
	Latest audited financial statements.
	This information must not contain any technical information i.e. Part 1 information.

13 DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Proposals shall be submitted at the address mentioned above no later than the closing date of **Friday, 08th August 2020**, during CSIR's business hours. The CSIR business hours are between 08h00 and 16h30.

Where a proposal is not received by the CSIR by the due date and at the stipulated place, it will be regarded as a late tender.

Late tenders will not be considered.

14 AWARDING OF TENDERS

Awarding of tenders will be published on the National Treasury e-tender portal or the CSIR's tender website. No regret letters will be sent out.

15 EVALUATION PROCESS

15.1 Evaluation of proposals

All proposals will be evaluated by an evaluation team for technical capability, price and B-BBEE. Based on the results of the evaluation process and upon successful negotiations, the CSIR will approve the awarding of the contract to successful tenderers.

A two-phase evaluation process will be followed.

- i. The first phase includes evaluation of the **technical criteria**.
- ii. The second phase includes the evaluation of **price** and **B-BBEE** status.
- iii. Shortlisted service providers may be asked to do a presentation of their tender during the evaluation process.

Pricing Proposals will only be considered after technical capability phase has been adjudicated and accepted. Only proposals that achieved the specified minimum qualification scores for technical capability will be evaluated further using the preference points system

15.2 Preferential Point System

The **80/20** preference point system will be used where 80 points will be dedicated to price and 20 points to B-BBEE status.

16 PRICING PROPOSAL

- 16.1. Pricing proposal must be cross-referenced to the sections in the Technical Proposal. Any options offered must be clearly labelled. Separate pricing must be provided for each option offered to ensure that pricing comparisons are clear and unambiguous.
- 16.2. Price needs to be provided in South African Rand (excl. VAT), with details on price elements that are subject to escalation and exchange rate fluctuations clearly indicated.
- 16.3. Price should include additional cost elements such as freight, insurance until acceptance, duty where applicable. Only firm prices* will be accepted during the tender validity period. Non-firm prices** (including prices subject to rates of exchange variations) will not be considered.

**Firm price is the price that is only subject to adjustments in accordance with the actual increase or decrease resulting from the change, imposition, or abolition of customs or excise duty and any other duty, levy, or tax which, in terms of a law or regulation is binding on the contractor and demonstrably has an influence on the price of any supplies, or the rendering costs of any service, for the execution of the contract;*

***Non-firm price is all prices other than "firm" prices*

- 16.4. Payment will be according to the CSIR Payment Terms and Conditions.

17 VALIDITY PERIOD OF PROPOSAL

Each **proposal** shall be valid for a minimum period of **eighty (80) business days** calculated from the closing date of this tender.

18 APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE PROVIDER

- 18.1. The contract will be awarded to the tenderer who scores the highest total number of points during the evaluation process, except where the law permits otherwise.
- 18.2. Appointment as a successful service provider shall be subject to the parties agreeing to mutually acceptable contractual terms and conditions. In the event of the parties failing to reach such agreement CSIR reserves the right to appoint an alternative supplier.
- 18.3. Awarding of contracts will be announced on the National Treasury website and no regret letters will be sent to unsuccessful bidders.

19 ENQUIRIES AND CONTACT WITH THE CSIR

Any enquiry regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing to CSIR at tender@csir.co.za with “**RFP No 3383/07/08/2020 - The Supply of 3 PB usable storage with Lustre filesystem and Lustre professional support to the CSIR**” as the subject.

Any other contact with CSIR personnel involved in this tender is not permitted during the RFP process other than as required through existing service arrangements or as requested by the CSIR as part of the RFP process.

20 MEDIUM OF COMMUNICATION

All documentation submitted in response to this RFP must be in English.

21 COST OF PROPOSAL

Tenderers are expected to fully acquaint themselves with the conditions, requirements and specifications of this RFP before submitting proposals. Each tenderer assumes all risks for resource commitment and expenses, direct or indirect, of proposal preparation and participation throughout the RFP process. The CSIR is not responsible directly or indirectly for any costs incurred by tenderers.

22 CORRECTNESS OF RESPONSES

The tenderer must confirm satisfaction regarding the correctness and validity of their proposal and that all prices and rates quoted cover all the work/items specified in the RFP. The prices and rates quoted must cover all obligations under any resulting contract. The tenderer accepts that any mistakes regarding prices and calculations will be at their own risk.

23 VERIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS

- 23.1.** Tenderers should check the numbers of the pages to satisfy themselves that none are missing or duplicated. No liability will be accepted by the CSIR in regard to anything arising from the fact that pages are missing or duplicated.
- 23.2.** **One electronic copy (via email)** of proposal must be submitted.
- 23.3.** Pricing schedule and B-BBEE credentials should be submitted with the proposal, but as a separate document and no such information should be available in the technical proposals.

24 SUB-CONTRACTING

- 24.1.** A tenderer will not be awarded points for B-BBEE status level if it is indicated in the tender documents that such a tenderer intends sub-contracting more than **25%** of the value of the contract to any other enterprise that does not qualify for at least the points that such a tenderer qualifies for, unless the intended sub-contractor is an exempted micro enterprise that has the capability and ability to execute the sub-contract.
- 24.2.** A tenderer awarded a contract may not sub-contract more than **25%** of the value of the contract to any other enterprise that does not have an equal or higher B-BBEE status level than the person concerned, unless the contract is sub-contracted to an exempted micro enterprise that has the capability and ability to execute the sub-contract.

25 ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANTS

The consultants will only be remunerated at the rates:

- 25.1.** Determined in the "Guideline for fees", issued by the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA); or
- 25.2.** Set out in the "Guide on Hourly Fee Rates for Consultants", by the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA); or
- 25.3.** Prescribed by the body - regulating the profession of the consultant.

26 TRAVEL EXPENSES

- 26.1.** All travel expenses for the CSIR's account, be it directly via the CSIR's travel agent or indirectly via re-imbursements, must be in line with the CSIR's travel policy. The following will apply:
- 26.2.** Only economy class tickets will be used.
- 26.3.** A maximum of R1300 per night for accommodation, dinner, breakfast and parking will be allowed.
- 26.4.** No car rentals of more than a Group B will be accommodated.

27 ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 27.1.** A tenderer shall not assume that information and/or documents supplied to CSIR, at any time prior to this request, are still available to CSIR, and shall consequently not make any reference to such information document in its response to this request.

- 27.2.** Copies of any affiliations, memberships and/or accreditations that support your submission must be included in the tender.
- 27.3.** In case of proposal from a joint venture, the following must be submitted together with the proposal:
- i. Joint venture Agreement including split of work signed by both parties;
 - ii. The original or certified copy of the B-BBEE certificate of the joint venture;
 - iii. The Tax Clearance Certificate of each joint venture member;
 - iv. Proof of ownership/shareholder certificates/copies; and
 - v. Company's registration certificates.
- 27.4.** An omission to disclose material information, a factual inaccuracy, and/or a misrepresentation of fact may result in the disqualification of a tender, or cancellation of any subsequent contract.
- 27.5.** Failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions as set out in this document will invalidate the Proposal.

28 CSIR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO

- 28.1.** Extend the closing date;
- 28.2.** Verify any information contained in a proposal;
- 28.3.** Request documentary proof regarding any tendering issue;
- 28.4.** Give preference to locally manufactured goods;
- 28.5.** Appoint one or more service providers, separately or jointly (whether or not they submitted a joint proposal);
- 28.6.** Award this RFP as a whole or in part;
- 28.7.** Cancel or withdraw this RFP as a whole or in part.

29 DISCLAIMER

This RFP is a request for proposals only and not an offer document. Answers to this RFP must not be construed as acceptance of an offer or imply the existence of a contract between the parties. By submission of its proposal, tenderers shall be deemed to have satisfied themselves with and to have accepted all Terms & Conditions of this RFP. The CSIR makes no representation, warranty, assurance, guarantee or endorsements to tenderer concerning the RFP, whether with regard to its accuracy, completeness or otherwise and the CSIR shall have no liability towards the tenderer or any other party in connection therewith.

DECLARATION BY TENDERER

Only tenderers who completed the declaration below will be considered for evaluation.

RFP No: 3383/07/08/2020

I hereby undertake to render services described in the attached tendering documents to CSIR in accordance with the requirements and task directives / proposal specifications stipulated in RFP No. 3383/07/08/2020 at the price/s quoted. My offer/s remains binding upon me and open for acceptance by the CSIR during the validity period indicated and calculated from the closing date of the proposal.

I confirm that I am satisfied with regards to the correctness and validity of my proposal; that the price(s) and rate(s) quoted cover all the services specified in the proposal documents; that the price(s) and rate(s) cover all my obligations and I accept that any mistakes regarding price(s) and rate(s) and calculations will be at my own risk.

I accept full responsibility for the proper execution and fulfilment of all obligations and conditions devolving on me under this proposal as the principal liable for the due fulfilment of this proposal.

I declare that I have no participation in any collusive practices with any tenderer or any other person regarding this or any other proposal.

I accept that the CSIR may take appropriate actions, deemed necessary, should there be a conflict of interest or if this declaration proves to be false.

I confirm that I am duly authorised to sign this proposal.

NAME (PRINT)

WITNESSES

CAPACITY

1

SIGNATURE

NAME OF FIRM

2

DATE

30. ANNEXURE A – CHPC HPC Infiniband Diagram

31. ANNEXURE B - Functional/Technical Criteria and Scoresheet and Elimination criteria

32. ANNEXURE C – SBD1 Form - (to be completed by bidder).