

IFIB-ACT-SACT-21-97



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
HEADQUARTERS, SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER TRANSFORMATION
7857 BLANDY ROAD, SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23551-2490

Description of Acquisition

Part 1 Bidding Instructions

IFIB-ACT-SACT-21-97

This Enclosure is designed to assist the respective company provide HQ SACT with all necessary documents/information required. For clarification, please refer to Bidding instructions in part 1 of subject solicitation.

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PART 1 BIDDING INSTRUCTIONS

1. General

This is a Firm Fixed Price Deliverables contract in accordance the General Terms and Conditions; **Contract Award is contingent upon funding availability; Partial bidding is not allowed.**

2. CLASSIFICATION

This IFIB is a NATO UNCLASSIFIED document.

3. DEFINITIONS

- (a) The “Prospective Bidder”, shall refer to the entity that has completed and returned the Enclosure of the transmittal letter of this IFIB, and has indicated thereon its intention without commitment, to participate in this IFIB.
- (b) The term “Bidder”, shall refer to the bidding entity that has completed a bid in response to this IFIB.
- (c) The term Contractor shall refer to the bidding entity to whom the contract is awarded.
- (d) The term “Contracting Officer” designates the official who executes this IFIB on behalf of HQ SACT.
- (e) “Contracting Officer`s Technical Representative” or “COTR” is the official who is appointed for the purpose of determining compliance of the successful bid, per the technical specifications.
- (f) The term “HQ SACT” shall refer to Supreme Headquarters Allied Command Transformation.
- (g) The term “ACT” shall refer to Allied Commander Transformation.
- (h) The term “NATO”, shall refer to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.
- (i) The term “days” as used in this IFIB shall, unless otherwise stated, be interpreted as meaning calendar days.
- (j) The term “Habitual Residence”, means HQ SACT, Norfolk, Virginia, VA 23511.
- (k) The term “Cohort” shall refer to the group of selected students that will start in a given year and will last until they complete their research.

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4. ELIGIBILITY

This IFIB is open to companies:

- (a) Established in a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Alliance member nation. Working in the required field of study and legally authorised to operate in the United States of America, at the time of bidding.
- (b) Has demonstrated the desired past performance as described in this IFIB.
- (c) Offering key personnel who are citizens of NATO member nations.

5. DURATION OF CONTRACT

- (a) The contract awarded shall be effective upon date of award.

Period of Performance:

COHORT	START	FINISH
1	1JAN22	31DEC24
2	1JAN23	31DEC25
3	1JAN24	31DEC26
4	1JAN25	31DEC27
5	1JAN26	31DEC28

6. EXEMPTION OF TAXES

- (a) In accordance with the agreements, (Article VIII of the Paris Protocol dated, 25 August 1952) goods and services under this contract are exempt from taxes, duties and similar charges.

7. AMENDMENT OR CANCELLATION

- (a) HQ SACT reserves the right to amend or delete any one or more of the terms, conditions or provisions of the IFIB prior to the date set for bid closing. A solicitation amendment or amendments shall announce such action.
- (b) HQ SACT reserves the right to cancel, at any time, this IFIB either partially or in its entirety. No legal liability on the part of HQ SACT shall be considered for recovery of costs in connection to bid preparation. All efforts undertaken by any bidder shall be done considering and accepting, that no costs shall be recovered from HQ SACT. If this IFIB is cancelled any/all received bids shall be returned unopened, per the bidder's request.

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8. BIDDER CLARIFICATIONS

- (a) Prospective Bidders should seek clarification at their earliest convenience. Any explanation regarding the meaning or interpretation of this IFIB, terms, clause, provision or specifications, shall be requested in writing, from the Contracting Officer. The Contracting Officer must receive such requests for clarification no later than **10 days prior to closing**.
- (b) In lieu of a bidder's conference, HQ SACT invites bidders to submit initial technical questions not later than **29 October 2021**.
- (c) Information in response to all inquiries / requests for clarification to a prospective bidder shall be furnished to all prospective bidders at the following link: <http://www.act.nato.int/contracting-procurements> as a Question and Answer addendum. All such addendums and any necessary solicitation amendments shall be incorporated into this IFIB. Oral Interpretations shall not be binding.

9. BID CLOSING DATE

Bids shall be received at HQ SACT, Purchasing and Contracting Office, no later than **26 November 2021, 0900 hours, Eastern Standard Time, Norfolk, Virginia, USA**. No bids shall be accepted after this time and date.

10. BID VALIDITY

Bids shall remain valid for a period of one hundred and twenty days (120) from the applicable closing date set forth within this IFIB. HQ SACT reserves the right to request an extension of validity. Bidder shall be entitled to either grant or deny this extension of validity; HQ SACT shall automatically consider a denial to extend the validity as a withdrawal of the bid.

11. CONTENT OF PROPOSAL

The proposal shall consist of two (2) separate single PDF documents (Technical / Price) sent via e-mail as per the instructions. **No hard copy proposals are required or will be accepted**. E-mailed PDF documents shall be received no later than **26 November 2021, 0900 hours, Eastern Standard Time, Norfolk, Virginia, USA**.

A table of contents for the entire proposal

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- (a) The bidder's full name address, Point of Contacts, Telephone, Fax number and Internet site, (See Enclosure #1);
- (b) Compliance statement (See Enclosure #2);
- (c) Provision of administrative, financial and technical volumes
- (d) Compliance Matrix – Annex A
- (e) Past performance (See Enclosure #3)
- (f) Company price proposal (Enclosure #4)

12. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

- (a) Proposals shall be submitted in two separately e-mailed packages, one containing a **single PDF document** of the Technical volume and one containing a **single PDF document** of the Price volume. **Multiple files that must be pieced together to form the technical proposal will be rejected.** The e-mail subject and PDF files shall be clearly marked with the IFIB Solicitation reference number and indicate if it is the Technical or Price Volume.
- (b) Proposal packages must be received by the HQ SACT identified Contracting Officers prior to the 0900 deadline. Delays in receipt due to server processes either at the contractors facility, HQ SACT or both do not constitute an acceptable delay to the deadline. **Contractors should ensure there is sufficient time to transmit proposals and confirm receipt prior to the established deadline.**
- (c) **Price proposals shall be in U.S. Dollar currency.** Contractor may request payment post award in alternate currency based on agreed conversion rate.
- (d) Prices shall be on a Firm Fixed Price Basis and include any relevant discount schedule.
- (e) It is the sole responsibility of the interested company to review any Q & A that may be issued in support of this solicitation, prior to bid submission at www.act.nato.int/contracting.
- (f) No oral bids or oral modifications or telephonic bids shall be considered.
- (g) It is the ultimate responsibility prior to submission that all proposal submissions are reviewed to ensure they meet the technical and administrative specifications and that offers meet the limitations and expressed conditions.

13. LATE PROPOSALS

This Enclosure is designed to assist the respective company provide HQ SACT with all necessary documents/information required. For clarification, please refer to Bidding instructions in part 1 of subject solicitation.

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- (a) It is solely the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the proposal reaches HQ SACT prior to the established closing date and time. All late bids shall be disqualified. Only if it can be unequivocally demonstrated that the late arrival of the bid package was the result of NATO staff negligence (mishandling) shall the bid be considered.
- (b) A delay in electronic transfer does not constitute a valid excuse for late submission.

14. BID WITHDRAWAL

A bidder may withdraw their bid up to the date and time specified for bid closing. Such a withdrawal must be completed in writing or facsimile, with attention to the HQ SACT Contracting Officer. As this is a best value evaluation, contractor pricing will be opened and held within the contract file, whether considered or not. A bid withdraw will be annotation on the Contract Award Record.

15. BID EVALUATION

- (a) The evaluation of bids and determination as to the responsiveness and technical adequacy or technical compliance, of the products or services requested, shall be the responsibility of HQ SACT. Such determinations shall be consistent with the evaluation criteria specified in the IFIB. HQ SACT is not responsible for any content that is not clearly identified in any proposal package.
- (b) Due to the highly technical nature of this requirement, HQ SACT reserves the right conduct pre-award discussions with proposed key personnel to accurately assess identified technical competencies. Discussions will be limited to scope of this IFIB and the evaluation criteria identified in Annex A.
- (c) Proposals shall be evaluated and awarded based on best value to NATO. The following factors are considerations;
 - Successful administrative submission of bid packages and requested Enclosures, as listed in this IFIB. (Pass/Fail)
 - Technical factors: Compliant / Non-Compliant
 - Acceptance of HQ SACT General Terms and Conditions

16. PROPOSAL CLARIFICATIONS

During the entire evaluation process, HQ SACT reserves the right to discuss any

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bid with the order to clarify what is offered and interpretation of language within the bid, to resolve in potential areas of non-compliance.

17. AWARD

HQ SACT intends to award a firm fixed price contract(s) to the Offeror(s) whose proposal(s) represents the best value to NATO. Partial awards are not authorized.

HQ SACT will collect information from references provided by the Offeror in regard to its past performance. Contractors must provide authorization to contact references.

HQ SACT reserves the right to negotiate minor deviations to the listed General Terms and Conditions to this IFIB.

18. COMMUNICATIONS

All communication related to this IFIB, between a prospective bidder and HQ SACT shall only be through the nominated HQ SACT Contracting Officer. Designated contracting staff shall assist the HQ SACT Contracting Officer in the administrative process. There shall be no contact with other HQ SACT personnel in regards to this IFIB. Such adherence shall ensure Fair and Open Competition with equal consideration and competitive footing leverage to all interested parties.

19. POINT OF CONTACT IS:

LCDR Brandon Stewart, ACT Contracting Officer 757-747-3977,
Brandon.Stewart@act.nato.int

and

Kellie Hagen, ACT Contracting Officer 757-747-4180,
Kellie.Hagen@act.nato.int

All correspondence shall be forward to:

HQ SACT, BUDFIN BRANCH
Purchasing & Contracting,

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Contracting Officer
IFIB-ACT-SACT-21-97
ATTN: LCDR Brandon Stewart/Kellie Hagen
7857 Blandy Road, Suite 100,
Norfolk, VA, U.S.A.

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1.1 ENCLOSURE 1

PROPOSAL CONTENT / CHECKLIST

Table of Contents

- Bidder`s name, address, POC, Contact numbers, email address.
- Compliance Statement.
- Past performance (including References).
- List of Key personnel.
- Technical Proposal.
- Price Proposal.

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2.1 ENCLOSURE 2

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT TO SEALED BID IFIB-ACT-SACT-21-97

It is hereby stated that our company has read and understands all documentation issued as part of IFIB-ACT-SACT-21-97. Our company proposal submitted in response to the referenced solicitation is fully compliant with the provisions of IFIB-ACT-SACT-21-97 and the intended contract with the following exception(s); such exemptions are considered non-substantial to the HQ SACT solicitation provisions issued.

<u>Clause</u>	<u>Description of Minor Deviation.</u>
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(If applicable, add another page)

Company: _____ Signature: _____

Name & Title: _____ Date: _____

Company Bid Reference: _____

Bidder's proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the IFIB and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non-substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non-responsive.

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3.1 ENCLOSURE 3

PAST PERFORMANCE INFORMATION FORM

- (a) Contracting Agency:
- (b) Contract No:
- (c) Type of Contract (Firm Fixed Price, IDIQ, Requirements):
- (d) Title of Contract:
- (e) Description of Work Performance and Relevance to Current Acquisition (Type of facility, capacity, estimated patronage, summary of staff used):
- (f) Contract Dollar Amount:
- (g) Period of Performance:
- (h) Name, Address, Fax and Telephone No. of Reference:
- (i) Indicate Whether Reference Acted as Prime or Sub-contractor:
- (j) Comments regarding compliance with contract terms and conditions:
- (k) Complete Contact Information for client:
- (l) Permission to contact client for reference: Yes/ No

Name/Signature of Authorized Company Official

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3.2 ENCLOSURE 4

IFIB-ACT-SACT-21-97 SEALED BID PRICE PROPOSAL

COMPANY NAME: ABC, Inc

ADDRESS: Street,

CITY, POST CODE

TO: Chairman of Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, (HQ SACT)

Contracts Award Committee.

ATTN: Kellie Hagen

7857 Blandy Road, Suite 100

Norfolk, VA 23551

PROPOSED RATES MUST BE FULLY "LOADED" [G&A, O/H ETC.], HOWEVER THEY MUST NOT INCLUDE PER DIEM (MEALS & LODGING) AND TRAVEL. TRAVEL (AND RELATED EXPENSES) WILL NOT BE COVERED UNDER THIS CONTRACT, BUT HANDLED SEPARATELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACT FINANCIAL MANUAL.

SUBJECT: IFIB-ACT-SACT-21-97 Sealed Bid Price Proposal

Please find on behalf of **Insert: Company Name** to provide HQ SACT with services (collectively referred as "ITEMS"), subject to the provisions, terms and conditions stated in IFIB ACT-SACT-21-97 and the "**Insert : Company Name** Technical proposal", submitted in accordance with solicitation provisions. Include requested Milestone payment schedule if applicable.

Milestone 1	\$
Milestone 2	\$
Milestone 3	\$
Milestone 4	\$

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Milestone 5	\$
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Total Proposal Cost \$ _____

Please verify and acknowledge propriety of above, by duly completing signatures below.

Authorizing Company Official:

Printed _____ Name: _____

Position: _____

Title: _____

Authorizing Company (Signature): _____, Date: _____.

Company name Witness Official:

Printed _____ Name: _____

Position: _____

Title: _____

Witness Signature: _____, Date _____

3.3 ENCLOSURE 5

Statement of Work

PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE

in support of NATO HQ SACT Joint Force Development

1. Introduction

Across NATO, the enhancement of Human capital (HC) capacities is a centre of gravity in improving skills (including leadership and academic), knowledge, behaviours, and practices. The ability to develop such competencies and capacities has been tested through a comprehensive initial and “through-life” professional development experiment for some personnel (military and civilian) within the organisation. This longitudinal experiment considered the effect of Doctorate Level education and qualification on the operational effectiveness of a sample of 37 staff members (in two years and two distinct cohorts).

The Professional Doctorate experiment attempted to measure the effectiveness of such interventions in several area and particularly in these:

- Provide a proven return on investment by improving functionality of NATO, at branch level, headquarters level, or more widely on some specific area of expertise, including collective defence and security.
- Improve productivity, including throughout academic approach for solving the complex problems and overcoming existing and potential challenges.
- Provide opportunities for innovation throughout wide spectrum of NATO activities.
- Develop a supportive environment, as well as create a community of interests in the respective subjects of academic developments.

It identified:

- Professional Doctorate research increases individual performance (both – academically and practically) and organisational performance simultaneously because the subjects are linked to organisational goals, aims, and objectives. This is an investment in personnel, and it will provide a return on investment to NATO and the Nations.
- The benefits are numerous at all levels, because the programme is open to all NIC (NATO International Civilians) and military personnel in ACT regardless of rank.
- Language (there are 30+ nations represented in HQ SACT) does not disbar anyone from attendance to a Professional Doctorate Programme (it is acknowledge that a certain level of English proficiency might be required in order to guarantee the successful accomplishment of all the Professional Doctorate modules).

The success of this initial experiment saw direction from SACT to establish a reasonable annual programme. This SOW outlines how the programme will address the requirements.

2. Background and Scope of Work

a. Background.

To set up its experiment, HQ SACT requested a company to deliver (through a university) a Professional Doctorate level training and all associated support, to selected personnel and measured its effectiveness. The company that participated proposed and delivered training for two cohorts of candidates (2019 and 2020), with lessons learned and proposed improvement inside the process in between. Acknowledging the duration and level of such a training, the selected candidates are still working on completion of their studies.

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It is now HQ SACT's intention to set up a multi-year contract able to provide the same level of training for some other selected candidates on a yearly basis. While conditions of admission might be requested by the contractor/university, the selection of the candidates remains under the full responsibility of HQ SACT.

b. Contractor Support.

HQ SACT requires a company or academic institution (as a matter of simplification, this is globally named the contractor support) to provide a Professional Doctorate degree and the associated support to cohorts of ten (10) ACT students (per year) as part of the Professional Doctorate Programme.

The Professional Doctorate course is required to meet the following **objectives**:

- Increased output and standard of product from participants.
- Increased recognition (from outside) of organisation's outputs (standing).
- Decreased use of contractors (for specific purpose).
- Introduction of a new Higher Education style Training.
- Provide potential opportunities for publication in International Journal.
- Increased Self-Efficacy and level of cognitive reasoning.

The Professional Doctorate Programme is to be implemented following driving forces:

- Supporting ACT ability to manage efficiently NATO's transformation programmes.
- Reducing uncertainty by contributing to the production of evidence-based outcomes.
- Enabling/improving innovation by providing alternative perspectives or methods.
- Identifying and solving practical problems that cannot be determined through studies and analysis alone.
- Fostering a greater depth of understanding of complex subject matter.

3. Type of Contract and Period of Performance

a. Type of Contract.

Firm Fixed Price Deliverable. This is required to be paid at the start of each cohort's entry into the program. Estimated cost is \$20K per student for the lifecycle of the program.

b. Period of Performance.

COHORT	START	FINISH
1	1JAN22	31DEC24
2	1JAN23	31DEC25
3	1JAN24	31DEC26
4	1JAN25	31DEC27
5	1JAN26	31DEC28

4. Tasking and Deliverables

This academic intervention is continued yearly in one contiguous phase that works on the Fixed Mastery Variable Time method.

It is understood that this type of training programme is usually completed between two and four years, consequently the final deadlines, milestones and whole timeframe are to be agreed prior starting any courses, according to the best proposal from the winner. As a first overview, it is made up of (for the first cohort):

- *Work Package One:* Jan '22: Deliver Doctoral Research Methods Module (20%)

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- *Work Package Two:* Jan '22 - Apr '22: Liaise with all participants over the refinement of their project proposals (subject definition and validation). (20%)
- *Work Package Three:* Apr '22 – Sep '23: Provide ongoing pastoral and academic support to each participant, all along the training development, up to the completion of the project (the academic research will probably have several steps to complete, with several productions and several assessments (written or verbal). (40%)
- *Work Package Four:* Sep '23 – Dec '24: Provide support in the final submission process of any documents and support for any viva preparation as required by the university. (20%)

This programme will be repeated for each cohort annually until completion of the Professional Doctorate study of the individuals and until the end of the contract (last option year contracted).

5. Schedule of Delivery

The paragraph 4 above describes the deliverables and the estimated schedule for cohort one. The schedule is constructed against the estimated timeframe and the lessons learned from HQ SACT experiment. This schedule is expected to be the template for the duration of the contract, but it will be discussed in detailed with the winner prior starting the academic training of each cohort.

6. Acceptance Criteria

a. Performance verification

The performance of the contract services will be verified by the COTR:

- Academic courses delivery (including any associated research methods module, study skills, research abilities, academic approaches, etc.).
- Professional Doctorate framework details explanation provided (including all specificities of the university, requirements, ways of communication, website access, and other administrative support).
- Support in enrolment at the university (and regular renewal if needed).
- Academic support provided to each of the students as required both in terms of physical support and access (via accredited University and scholarly sources) to academic literature and research).
- Pastoral support (means any necessary intellectual, motivational support) provided to the students, in whatever format the provider offers, but considerate the varied student composition and recognising the wide cultural differences that exist across the NATO Alliance and Partner nations.
- Supervision of the students (in the framework of their practice). The varied employment of personnel across the NATO commands means that there needs to be a suite of supervision options that are tailored to each individual. The provider is encouraged to employ innovative methods in support of this critical area, to ensure that the students deliver the best possible product to the organisation.
- Delivery of awards and recognitions to students (or proposal of the students to official bodies) after completion of their studies.
- Delivery of reports and attendance to the contracts meetings. Once awarded, the provider will confirm an agreed pattern of reports and contractual returns to ensure that the client is appraised of all activities. It is expected that this will include, but not limited to, monthly status reports, a review of Quality Assurance checks as and when required, attendance and briefings by students at Webinars, symposia and other noteworthy events.

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b. Mandatory expectations and qualifications of the contractors and its members

- The company is officially registered in one of the NATO nations.
- All persons (academics, lecturers, teachers, trainers, supervisors...) involved anytime in the contract have proficiency in English as defined in STANAG 6001, SLP 3333.
- All persons dedicated to a task (supervising, teaching, training, coaching, mentoring, ...) has the appropriate certificate or diploma or academic degree to perform that specific task in the specific area of delivery (academic support, teaching, demonstrating, practicing, supervising).
- The company is able to demonstrate that proposed educational establishment/partner has the necessary experience in the field of academic activities (researching, supervising, mentoring, ...).

c. Essential expectations and qualifications of the contractors and its members

- The company has at least five years of experience in the field of professional education at the expected (academic) levels (Higher Education/Level 8).
- The company has worked in recent years in the area of academic education with a NATO organisation or with a military organisation.
- The company has already worked in the recent years with a NATO organisation (including NETFs) or with a military organisation from a NATO nation (can state in which area, outside of the Professional Doctorate).
- The company assures that student will be provided with at least one academic supervisor that is expert in the field of the student's research.
- The company assures the selected NATO students will have unlimited access to the educational establishment's resources/facilities, including bespoke academy/business sector/aligned military or academic material.
- The company assures the selected NATO students will be prepared with the knowledge, skills, attributes and practices for conducting independent research appropriate to the required academic level.
- The company assures the selected NATO students will have clear and transparent criteria for success, as well as knowledge for further academic development.
- The company assures the selected NATO students will receive an internationally recognised qualification upon successful completion of the Professional Doctorate academic programme.
- The company has a proven Quality Assurance (QA) process.

7. Contractor Performance Requirements and Reporting

The awarded contractor shall perform an annual report (with details on the progression of each student and cohorts, performance measurement, recommendation...) that will be followed by an annual meeting.

Intermediate reports are expected every six months.

Immediate report is expected in case of issue with a candidate, a pastoral mentor, a supervisor, a trainer, a course/module/semester/year completion, or any other unexpected circumstances.

8. Personnel Required for Statement of Work

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Qualifications of the trainers/teachers (i.e. CV, academic degree(s), proof of qualification, references or recommendations) are required.

If there are changes in the identity of some mentors/supervisors/trainers/teachers during the performance of the contract, the same qualification demonstration will be required.

9. Proof of Past Performance

Contractor companies shall cite at least two past performances based on contracts held within the last ten years that are of similar scope, magnitude, and complexity to the tasks, activities, and deliverables detailed in this SOW, or succinctly state that they have no relevant, directly related or similar past performance experience. Contractor companies shall show this relevant past and present experience in a manner that is directly traceable to the requirements of the SOW. In particular, contractor companies must show relevant experience in effectiveness, risk, cost and schedule analysis for similarly sized/complexity programmes.

10. Place of Performance

The company or academic institution is expected to deliver the training interventions in HQ SACT Norfolk (or in the vicinity) within the cost of the contract, and/or at the institution itself.

The company or academic institution may propose any detailed alternatives to the above (e.g. students to be partly trained in a NATO country).

Additional face to face pastoral and academic support tutorials are to be included and detailed in the contract cost as well as any virtual means of support (e.g. VTC/Email/WhatsApp).

If there are requirements for additional facility to be used for the completion of the training, they shall be identified and detailed in the contract proposals.

11. Required Travel for Personnel Services Contracts

Travel from the contractor shall be included in the contract proposal and sufficiently detailed (separately from the whole training performance).

If there is a requirement for additional USA travel within the duration of the contract, this will be identified by the Project COTR and subject to HQ SACT Travel conditions.

If the location for some interventions changes within the duration of the contract (for any unexpected circumstances), then the travel and per diem costs will be discussed between the winner and the COTR.

12. Furnished Materials and Services (If Applicable)

HQ SACT does not expect to furnish any material or service.

13. Physical Security

There is no specific clearance required to work on this task.

14. Security Considerations for the Deliverables

There might be security requirement associated to some of the deliverables, which includes necessity of NATO Security Clearance. This shall be handled in case-by-case basis. The Provider may need to provide personnel with NATO security classifications up to but not exceeding NATO SECRET.

15. COTR

The COTR is Colonel H.Kovalenko, HCEIT Branch.

The Project Sponsor is Capt (Navy) Peñuelas, BH HCEIT, JFD ACT.

Lt Cdr Driscoll, HCEIT Branch will support the COTR and Project Sponsor as the DCOTR.

The primary customer is HCEIT Branch, on behalf of HQ/SACT.

16.

ANNEX:

A: Compliance Matrix

ANNEX A

Best Value criteria for the

Contractor’s technical proposals will be assessed on the qualifications of the individuals proposed to perform the work. Individuals’ resumes will be measured against each of the criteria specified below in order to ascertain whether the individuals have adequately rate the candidate’s qualifications. (HQ SACT reserves the right to conduct technical discussions of nominated candidates). **Examples of how detailed knowledge levels were attained are expected.** Ultimately Contractor **companies shall clearly demonstrate by providing unequivocal reference to where candidates meet the criteria set forth in this solicitation (please include page number, reference to CV or links as applicable).**

Company Name:

Proposed Candidate Name:

TECHNICAL EVALUATION MATRIX

Bidder’s Technical Score Lowest Price
 _____ * 80 + _____ * 20 = _____ (Total Score out of 100)

Total Possible Score Bidder’s Price

Num	Criteria	Assessment	Comments (Contractor should complete each section below outlining how compliance is achieved and concisely demonstrate by direct reference to technical proposal that unequivocally demonstrates compliance)
	In the following rows A1 to A4 “No” means non-compliance		
A1	Contractor certifies that the company is officially registered in one of the NATO nations.	Technically Compliant Yes/No	
A2	Contractor certifies all persons (academics, lecturers, teachers, trainers, supervisors, other) involved anytime in the contract have has proficiency in English as defined in STANAG 6001, SLP 3333.	Technically Compliant Yes/No	
A3	Contractor is able to demonstrate (provide proof) that each persons dedicated to a task (supervising, teaching, training, coaching, mentoring)	Technically Compliant Yes/No	

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	has the appropriate certificate or diploma or academic degree to perform that specific task in the specific area of delivery (academic support, teaching, demonstrating, practicing, supervising).		
A4	Contractor is able to demonstrate that proposed educational establishment/partner has the necessary experience in the field of academic activities (researching, supervising, mentoring, ...)	Technically compliant Yes/No	
	In the following rows A5 to A13 a "0" score does NOT mean non-compliance.		
A5	Contractor certifies the company has at least "5" years of experience in the field of professional education at the expected (academic) levels (Higher Education/Level 8).	Higher Education Delivery. 0-15 Grading Scale _____ / 15 0 = 0-1 year 4 = 2-3 years 8 = 4-5 years 10 = 6-7 years 12 = 8-9 years 15 = 10 years and more	
A6	Contractor is able to demonstrate the company has worked in recent years in the area of academic education, with a NATO organisation or with a military organisation.	0-12 Grading Scale _____ / 12 0 = never 3 = yes, once 6 = yes, twice 9 = yes, three times 12 = yes, more than 3 times	
A7	Contractor certifies the company has already worked in the recent years with a NATO organisation (including NETFs) or with a military organisation from a NATO nation (and is able to demonstrate in which area, outside of the Professional Doctorate).	0-10 Grading Scale _____ / 10 0 = never 5 = yes, at least once 10 = yes, at least 3 times	
A8	Contractor ensures that student will be provided with at least one	0-10 Grading Scale	

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	academic supervisor that is expert in the field of the student's research (contractor proposes several fields of recognised expertise).	<p>_____ / 10</p> <p>0 = no guaranteed expertise</p> <p>2 = two area of expertise quoted and verifiable</p> <p>4 = three or four area of expertise quoted and verifiable</p> <p>6 = five to six area of expertise quoted and verifiable</p> <p>8 = seven to eight area of expertise quoted and verifiable</p> <p>10 = at least ten area of expertise quoted and verifiable</p>	
A9	Contractor certifies the selected NATO personnel provided will have unlimited access to the educational establishment's resources/facilities, including bespoke academy/business sector/aligned military or academic material.	<p>0-11 Grading Scale</p> <p>_____ / 11</p> <p>0 = never</p> <p>3 = yes, limited access</p> <p>7 = yes, unlimited access</p> <p>11 = Yes, Unlimited with Previous examples of practice</p>	
A10	Contractor certifies the selected NATO personnel will be prepared with the knowledge, skills, attributes and practices for conducting independent research appropriate to the required academic level.	<p>0-10 Grading Scale</p> <p>_____ / 10</p> <p>0 = never</p> <p>5 = yes, on limited scale</p> <p>10 = yes, on full scale</p>	
A11	Contractor certifies personnel provided will have clear and transparent criteria for success, as well as knowledge for further academic development.	<p>0-12 Grading Scale</p> <p>_____ / 12</p> <p>0 = no</p> <p>4 = yes, partly</p> <p>8 = yes, fully</p> <p>12 = Fully with examples of previous practice</p>	

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<p>A12</p>	<p>Contractor certifies selected NATO personnel will receive an internationally recognised qualification upon successful completion of the Professional Doctorate academic programme.</p>	<p>0-10 Grading Scale _____ / 10 0 = never 5 = yes, limited recognition 10 = yes, international recognition</p>	
<p>A13</p>	<p>Contractor demonstrates a proven Quality Assurance process. Different cultural learning styles are in place.</p>	<p>0-10 Grading Scale _____ / 10 0 = no 5 = yes, a proven QA process is in place. 10 = yes, a proven QA process is in place, and different cultural learning styles are in place.</p>	

HQ SACT GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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1. Definitions. As used throughout this contract, the following terms shall have meanings as set forth below:

a. "HQ SACT" means the Supreme Headquarters Allied Command Transformation, located at 7857, Blandy Road, Suite 100, Norfolk, Virginia, United States of America. Wherein a subordinate command is referred, it shall have equal meaning and representation as HQ SACT. (HQ SACT SEE, JALLC, JWC, JFTC).

b. Contracting Officer means the person executing and managing this contract on behalf of HQ SACT.

c. Inspector means a person appointed by the Contracting Officer for the purpose of determining compliance with the technical requirements of the contract.

d. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is hereafter referred to as "NATO".

e. The term "days" shall be interpreted as meaning calendar days

2. Applicable law. Except as otherwise provided in this contract, this contract shall be governed, interpreted and construed with the laws of the commonwealth of Virginia of the United States of America.

3. Assignment. This agreement is not assignable by the Contractor either in whole or in part unless agreed in writing by HQ SACT Contracting Officer in accordance with;

a. Any modifications, including changes, additions or deletions and instructions under this contract shall not be binding unless issued in writing by the Contracting Officer

b. Sub-contractors shall be limited to citizens or legal entities of member nations of NATO, unless specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer.

c. The Contractor shall determine that any sub-contractor proposed by him for the furnishing of supplies or services which shall involve access to classified information in the Contractor's custody has been granted an appropriate facility security clearance by the sub-contractor's national authorities, which is still in effect, prior to being given access to such classified information.

4. Acceptance

a. Acceptance or rejection of the supplies shall be made as promptly as practicable after delivery, except as otherwise provided in this contract.

b. Acceptance shall be conclusive, except for latent defects, fraud, gross mistakes amounting to fraud, or otherwise stated in the Contract. It is the action by which HQ SACT acknowledges that the Contractor has fully demonstrated that the deliveries are HQ SACT General Terms & Conditions complete and operational. The formal acceptance will take place when the following requirements have been met:

- Availability at final destination of all deliverables.
- Successful completion of acceptance testing.
- Verification of the inventory.
- Satisfactory completion of all training or other services, if any, required by that date.
- Agreement between the Contracting Officer and the Contractor on a discrepancy list (if necessary) and corresponding clearance dates.

c. When discrepancies exist and if these do not prevent satisfactory use or operation of the supplies, the Contracting Officer may declare the acceptance provisional. In this case he will withhold from payment an amount commensurate with the importance of the discrepancies but in any case not less than ten (10) percent of the total contract value and this until all discrepancies have been cleared; at that time the acceptance becomes final.

5. Service and Parts Availability. Unless as specified otherwise in the Technical Specifications, the Contractor and his subcontractors will maintain and furnish a source of an adequate supply of services, components, spare parts and sub-assemblies to properly maintain the supplies for a period of minimum five (5) years from Contract Effective Date.

6. Preferred Customer

a. The Contractor warrants that the prices set forth in this contract are as favourable as those extended to any Government, Agency, Company, Organization or individual purchasing like quantities covered by the contract under similar conditions. In the event that prior to complete delivery under this contract the Contractor offers any of such items in substantially similar quantities to any customer at prices lower than those set forth herein, the Contractor shall so notify HQ SACT and the prices of such items shall be correspondingly reduced by a supplement to this contract.

b. Prices in this sense means "Base Price" prior to applying any bonuses.

7. Notice of Shipment

a. At the time of delivery of any supplies to a carrier for transportation, the Contractor shall give notice of shipment to the Contracting Officer and to such other persons or installations as are designated by the Contracting Officer. If such instructions have not been received by the Contractor at least one working day prior to such delivery to a carrier, the Contractor shall request instructions from the Contracting Officer concerning notice of shipment to be given.

b. The following information shall be included in such notification:

(1) Contract Number

(2) Shipping address

From: (Name and complete address of consignor) To: (Name and complete address of consignee)

- (3) Listing of supplies by Contract Items(s)
- (4) Number of and marking on packages(s)
- (5) Weight and dimensions of packages(s)
- (6) Name and address of Carrier, mode and date of shipment with waybill number,
- (7) Customs documents required by Contractor (if applicable).

8. Security

- a. The Contractor shall comply with all security requirements prescribed by HQ SACT and the National Security Authority or designated security agency of each NATO country in which the contract is performed.
- b. The Contractor shall be responsible for the safeguarding of NATO classified information, material and equipment entrusted to him or generated by him in connection with the performance of the contract.
- c. Any known or suspected breaches of security or other matters of security significance shall be reported by the Contractor to the Contracting Officer and to the National Security Authority or designated security agency.
- d. The Contractor shall apply to the Contracting Officer for approval before sub- contracting any part of the work, if the sub-contract would involve the sub-contractor in access to classified information. The Contractor shall place the sub-contractor under security obligations no less stringent than those applied to his own contract

9. Inspection

- a. Unless otherwise specifically provided for in the specifications, all equipment, materials and articles incorporated in the work covered by this contract are to be new and of the most suitable grade of their respective kinds for the purposes intended. All workmanship shall be first class.
- b. All supplies (which terms throughout this clause includes without limitation raw materials, components, intermediate assemblies, and end products) shall be subject to inspection and test by HQ SACT, to the extent practicable at all times and places including the period of manufacture, and in any event prior to acceptance.
- c. In case any supplies are defective in material or workmanship or otherwise not in conformity with the requirements of this contract, HQ SACT shall have the right either to reject them (with or without instructions as to their disposition) or to require their correction or to accept them against reduction in price which is equitable under the circumstances.
- d. If any inspection or test is made by HQ SACT on the premises of the Contractor or sub-contractor, the Contractor without additional charge shall provide all reasonable facilities and assistance to inspectors in the performance of their duties. If HQ

SACT inspection or test is made at a point other than the premises of the Contractor or a sub-contractor, it shall be at the expense of HQ SACT except as otherwise provided in this contract. In case of rejection HQ SACT shall not be liable for any reduction in value of samples used in connection with such inspection or test. HQ SACT reserves the right to charge to the Contractor any additional cost of HQ SACT inspection and test when supplies are not ready at the time such inspection, when test is requested by Contractor or when re-inspection or retest is necessitated by prior rejection. Failure to inspect supplies shall neither relieve the Contractor from responsibility for such supplies as are not in accordance with the contract requirements nor impose liability on HQ SACT therefore.

e. The inspection and test by HQ SACT of any supplies does not relieve the Contractor from any responsibility regarding defects or other failures to meet the contract requirements which may be discovered prior to acceptance. Except as otherwise provided in the contract, acceptance shall be conclusive except as regards latent defects, hidden deficiencies, fraud, or such gross mistakes as amount to fraud.

10. Title. Unless specified elsewhere in this contract, title to supplies furnished under this contract shall pass to HQ SACT upon acceptance, regardless of when or where HQ SACT takes physical possession.

11. Supply Warranty

a. Notwithstanding inspection and acceptance by HQ SACT of supplies furnished under the contract or any provision of this contract concerning the conclusiveness thereof, the Contractor warrants that for a period of twelve (12) months following the date of acceptance:

(1) All supplies furnished under this contract will be free from defects in material or workmanship and will conform with the specifications and all other requirements of this contract; and

(2) The preservation, packaging, packing and marking and the preparation for and method of shipment of such supplies will conform with the requirements of this contract.

b. The Contracting Officer shall give written notice to the Contractor of any breach of the warranties in paragraph a. of this clause within thirty (30) days after discovery of any defect.

c. Within a reasonable time after such notice, the Contracting Officer may either:

(1) By written notice require the prompt correction or replacement of any supplies or part thereof (including preservation, packaging, packing and marking) that do not conform with requirements of this contract within the meaning of Paragraph a. of this clause; or

(2) Retain such supplies, whereupon the contract price thereof shall be reduced by an amount equitable under the circumstances and the Contractor shall promptly make appropriate payment.

d. When return, correction or replacement is required, the Contracting Officer shall return the supplies and transportation charges and responsibility for such supplies while in transit shall be borne by the Contractor. However, the Contractor's liability for such transportation charges

shall not exceed an amount equal to the cost of transportation by the usual commercial method of shipment between the designated destination point under this contract and the Contractor's plant and return.

e. If the Contractor does not agree as to his responsibility to correct or replace the supplies delivered, he shall nevertheless proceed in accordance with the written request issued by the Contracting Officer per paragraph c to correct or replace the defective or nonconforming supplies. In the event it is later determined that such supplies were not defective or nonconforming within the provisions of this clause, the contract price will be equitably adjusted. Failure to agree to such an equitable adjustment of price shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this contract entitled "Dispute".

f. Any supplies or parts thereof furnished in replacement pursuant to this clause shall also be subject to all the provisions of this clause to the same extent as supplies initially delivered. Corrected parts will be warranted for a period not less than six (6) months starting at the time the part is received back at the user's location.

g. In case of a provisional acceptance the warranty period starts at the date of provisional acceptance and ends twelve (12) months after the date of provisional acceptance.

h. Failure to agree upon any determination to be made under this clause shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the "Disputes" clause of this contract.

i. The word "supplies" as used herein includes related services.

j. The rights and remedies of HQ SACT provided in this clause are in addition to and do not limit any rights afforded to HQ SACT by any other clause of the contract.

12. Invoices

a. The contractor shall submit an original invoice and three (3) copies (or electronic invoice, if authorized) to the address designated in the contract to received invoices. All invoices shall be submitted no later than 30 days upon completion of work or services performed. Standard Payment Terms are NET 30 days. An invoice must include: 1) Name and address of the Contractor; 2) Invoice date; 3) Purchase Order number and Purchase Order or Contract line item number; 4) Description, quantity, unit of measure, unit price and extended price of the items delivered; 5) Shipping number and date of shipment including the bill of lading number and weight of shipment if shipped on a bill of lading; 6) Terms of any prompt payment discount offered; 7) Name and address of official to whom payment is to be sent: and 8) Name, title, and phone number of person to be notified in event of defective invoice. All invoices shall be certified by the signature of a duly authorized company representative. Invoices for Contractor Travel shall include: 1) Contractor name; 2) Date of Travel; 3) Number of days; 4) Destinations. All invoices shall be submitted to:

HQ SACT
Accounts Payable 7857 Blandy Road
Suite 100, SR-82,
Norfolk, VA 23551-2490

b. Electronic Fund Transfer is the prescribed method of payment for HQ SACT. Contractors are requested to submit copies of banking information. Such information shall be submitted to HQ SACT 14 days prior to any contract award.

13. Payment. Payment shall be made for items accepted by HQ SACT that have been delivered to the delivery destinations set forth in this contract. Payments under this contract may be made by HQ SACT by electronic funds transfer payments or (check in exceptional cases) and shall submit this designation to the contracting officer as directed. In the event the Contractor, during the performance of this contract, elects to designate a different financial institution for receipt of any payment made using electronic funds transfer procedures, notification of such change and the required information must be obtained by HQ SACT thirty (30) days prior to the date such change is to become effective. The documents furnishing the information required in this clause must be dated and contain the signature, title, and telephone number of the Contractor official authorized to provide it, as well as the Contractor's name and Purchase Order number. Contractor failure to properly designate a financial institution or to provide appropriate payee bank account information may delay payments of amounts otherwise properly due. Discount time will be computed from date of delivery at place of acceptance or from receipt of correct invoice at the office specified by HQ SACT, whichever is later. For the purpose of computing the discount earned, payment shall be considered to have been made on the date which appears on the payment check or the specified payment date if an electronic funds transfer payment is made.

14. Taxes. The contract excludes all applicable Federal, State, and local taxes and duties. HQ SACT is a tax-exempt organization.

15. Excusable Delays. The Contractor shall be liable for default unless non-performance is caused by an occurrence beyond the reasonable control of the Contractor and without its fault or negligence such as, acts of God or the public enemy, acts of HQ SACT in its sovereign or contractual capacity, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, unusually severe weather, and delays of common carriers. The Contractor shall notify the contracting Officer in writing as soon as is reasonably possible after the commencement of any excusable delay, setting forth the full particulars in connection therewith, shall remedy such occurrence with all reasonable dispatch, and shall promptly give written notice to the Contracting Officer of the cessation of such occurrence.

16. Indemnity. The contractor shall indemnify HQ SACT and its officers, employees and agents against liability, including costs for actual or alleged direct or contributory infringement of or inducement to infringe, any United States or foreign patent, trademark, copyright, or other intellectual property right, arising out of the performance of this contract, provided the Contractor is reasonably notified of such claims and proceedings.

17. Disputes. Except as otherwise provided, during the period of performance, any dispute between the parties arising out of the performance of this contract which is not disposed of by agreement shall be decided by the HQ SACT Contracting Officer, who shall reduce his decision to writing and mail or otherwise furnish a copy thereof to the Contractor. The decision of HQ SACT shall be final and conclusive unless, within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of such copy, the Contractor mails or otherwise furnishes to HQ SACT a written appeal.

In connection with any appeal of HQ SACT decision under this paragraph, the Contractor shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard and to offer evidence in support of its appeal. A decision shall be rendered within thirty (30) days of receipt of appeal. HQ SACT FC decision is final.

18. Termination for Convenience. HQ SACT reserves the right to terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for its sole convenience. In the event of such termination, the Contractor shall immediately stop all work hereunder and shall immediately cause any and all of its suppliers and subcontractors to cease work. Subject to the terms of this contract, the Contractor shall be paid a percentage of the contract price reflecting the percentage of the work performed prior to the notice of termination, plus reasonable charges the Contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of HQ SACT using its standard record keeping system have resulted from the termination. In the event of the failure of the Contractor and the Contracting Officer to agree as provided in paragraph

d. upon the whole amount to be paid to Contractor by reason of the termination of work pursuant to this clause, the Contracting Officer shall pay to the Contractor the amounts determined by the Contracting Officer. The Contractor shall not be required to comply with the cost accounting standards or contract cost principles for this purpose. This paragraph does not give SACT any right to audit the Contractor's records. The Contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred which reasonably could have been avoided.

19. Termination for Default

a. HQ SACT may, subject to the provisions or paragraph c. below, by written notice of default to the Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of this contract in any one of the following circumstances:

(1) If the Contractor fails to make delivery of the supplies or to perform the Services within the time specified herein or any extension thereof; or

(2) If the Contractor fails to perform any of the other provisions of this contract, or so fails to make progress as to endanger performance of this contract in accordance with its terms and in either of these two circumstances does not cure such failure within a period of ten days (or such longer period as the Contracting Officer may authorize in writing) after receipt of notice from the Contracting Officer specifying such failure.

b. In the event HQ SACT terminates this contract in whole or in part as provided in paragraph a. of this clause, HQ SACT may procure supplies or services similar to those so terminated and the Contractor shall be liable to HQ SACT for any excess costs for such similar supplies or services. The Contractor shall continue the performance of this contract to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this clause.

c. Except with respect to defaults of sub-contractors, the Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs if the failure to perform the contract arises out of causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the contractor. If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a sub-contractor, and if such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both the Contractor and sub-contractor, without the fault or negligence of either of them, the

Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs for failure to perform unless the supplies or services to be furnished by the sub-contractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit the Contractor to meet the required delivery schedule.

d. If this contract is terminated as provided in paragraph a. of this clause, HQ SACT, in addition to any other rights provided in the clause, may require the Contractor to transfer title and deliver to HQ SACT in the manner and to the extent directed by the Contracting Officer:

(1) Any completed supplies and

(2) Such partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, die, jigs, Fixtures, plans, drawings, information and contract rights (hereinafter called "Manufacturing materials") as the Contractor has specifically produced or Specifically acquired for the performance of such part of this contract as has been terminated; and the Contractor shall, upon direction of the Contracting Officer, protect and preserve property in the possession of the Contractor in which HQ SACT has an interest. Payment for completed supplies delivered to and accepted by HQ SACT shall be at the contract price. Payment for manufacturing materials delivered to and accepted by HQ SACT and for the protection and preservation of property shall be in an amount agreed upon by the Contractor and Contracting Officer; failure to agree such amount shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this contract entitled "Dispute". HQ SACT may withhold from amounts otherwise due the Contractor for such completed supplies or manufacturing materials such sum as the Contracting Officer determines to be necessary to protect HQ SACT against loss because of outstanding liens or claims of former lien holders.

e. If, after notice of termination of this contract under the provisions of this clause, it is determined for any reason that the Contractor was not in default under the provisions of this clause, or that the default was excusable under the provisions of this clause, the rights and obligations of the parties shall, if the contract contains a clause providing for termination for convenience of HQ SACT, be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to such clause. If, after such notice of termination of this contract under the provisions of this clause, it is determined for any reason that the Contractor was not in default under the provisions of this clause, and if this contract does not contain a clause providing for termination for convenience of HQ SACT the contract shall be equitably adjusted to compensate for such termination and the contract modified accordingly; failure to agree to any such adjustment shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this contract entitled "Disputes".

f. Both parties are under duty of good faith. The contract includes not only the specific terms, but also law and customary practice applicable in the place where the contract is to be carried out and to the Type of Trade to which the contract relates.

20. Limitation of Liability. Except as otherwise provided by an express or implied warranty, the Contractor will not be liable to HQ SACT for consequential damages resulting from any defects or deficiencies in accepted items

21. Export Control. Contractor warrants that, if applicable all necessary technical assistance agreements (TAA), export control or other associated arrangements shall be valid prior to

contract award. Should a Contractor require export pre-approval HQ SACT legal staff will be provided a preview of said companies request PRIOR to the companies submission to a Government entity. Upon validation of request by HQ SACT Legal staff, subject agreement or request may be submitted to appropriate authority. (Please note: There are no specified time delays regarding TAA, aor export control request being processed. However, experience has shown request can take anywhere from 30 days to 90 days depending on complexity of request, and administrative preparedness).

22. Risk of Loss. Unless the contract specifically provides otherwise, risk of loss or damage to the supplies provided under this contract shall remain with the Contractor until, and shall pass to HQ SACT upon: 1) Delivery of the supplies to a carrier, if transportation is f.o.b. origin; or 2) Delivery of the supplies to HQ SACT at the destination specified in the contract, if transportation is f.o.b. destination.

23. Authorization to Perform. The Contractor warrants that he and his sub- contractors have been duly authorized to operate and do business in the country or countries in which this contract is to be performed; that he and his sub-contractors have obtained all necessary licenses and permits required in connection with the contract; that he and the sub-contractors will fully comply with all the laws, decrees, labour standards and regulations of such country or countries during the performance of this contract; and that no claim for additional moneys with respect to any authorizations to perform will be made upon HQ SACT.

24. Performance. Candidates/contractors who accept HQ SACT issued contracts, shall, at a minimum, serve in a designated capacity for no less than 180 calendar days from commencement of contract period of performance. Contracts' with performance periods having less than 180 days in totality shall require contractors to serve a minimum of 50% of estimated performance period. Should a candidate vacate the contract in less time than described, HQ SACT reserves the right to cancel the contract in whole or part. Replacement candidates, if acceptable to HQ SACT, shall be reviewed by HQ SACT for compliance, and, or technical acceptance per the original Statement of Work and final acceptance by HQ SACT Contracting Officer.

25. Travel. In accordance with AFM Section 24, Contractor Travel, travel by contractors in support of the HQ SACT mission will only be performed when a member of the approved International HQ SACT Peacetime Establishment is unable to perform the mission. Once contractor travel has been established under a contract and a contractor is tasked to travel, the HQ SACT Contractor Travel Request form must be filled out and approved prior to any travel being conducted. The in-house Travel Agency will set the Transport Ceiling Cost and at that time the contractor may elect to book their transportation with the in-house travel agency. (Please refer to Clause Number 7 above).

Transport tickets purchased through the in-house travel agency will be reimbursed by the HQ SACT entity directly to the in-house travel agency, and the applicable travel line of the contract will be charged. These costs will not be invoiced by, or paid to, the contractor company. When transport tickets are purchased through another source only the ceiling cost allocated by the in-house travel agency will be reimbursed to the contractor company. Per Diem is based on the NATO Group One subsistence allowance, which covers meals, lodging, incidental expenses and any applicable overhead and/or fees. Per Diem Reimbursement will only be

made at these rate amounts. NATO Group III daily subsistence allowances are posted on HQ SACT website at <http://www.act.nato.int/contracting>.

26. Proposed Candidates. No proposals shall be accepted or considered for candidates already assigned to an existing contract with HQ SACT, without the prior permission of the Contracting Officer. .

27. Partial awards will be allowed when determined in the best interests of NATO. The Contracting Awards Board and the Contracting Officer, when deemed prudent and necessary have the authority to make this determination. Partial bidding shall be consistent with released solicitation.

28. Competition. HQ SACT reserves the right to engage in Full and Open Competition after exclusion of sources.

29. Contractor Notice Regarding Delay. In the event the Contractor encounters difficulty in meeting performance requirements, or when he anticipates difficulty in complying with the contract delivery schedule or date, he shall immediately notify the Contracting Officer in writing, giving pertinent details; provided, however, that this data shall be informational only in character and that this provision shall not be construed as a waiver by HQ SACT of any delivery schedule or date, or of any rights or remedies provided by law or under this contract.

30. Notice and Assistance regarding Patent and Copyright Infringement

a. The Contractor shall report to the Contracting Officer, promptly and in reasonable written detail, each notice or claim of patent or copyright infringement based on the performance of this contract of which the Contractor has knowledge.

b. In the event of any claim or suit against HQ SACT on account of any alleged patent or copyright infringement arising out of the performance of this contract or out of the use of any supplies furnished or work or services performed hereunder, the Contractor shall furnish to HQ SACT, when requested by the Contracting Officer, all evidence and information in possession of the Contractor pertaining to such suit or claim. Such evidence and information shall be furnished at the expense of HQ SACT except where the Contractor has agreed to indemnify HQ SACT.

c. This clause shall be included in all sub-contracts.

31. Health, Safety and Accident Prevention. If the Contracting Officer notifies the Contractor in writing of any non-compliance in the performance of this contract, with safety and health rules and requirements prescribed on the date of this contract by applicable national or local laws, ordinances and codes, and the Contractor fails to take immediate corrective action, the Contracting Officer may order the Contractor to stop all or part of the work until satisfactory corrective action has been taken. Such an order to stop work shall not entitle the Contractor to an adjustment of his contract price or other reimbursement for resulting increased costs, or to an adjustment of the delivery or performance schedule.

32. Patent Indemnity. If the amount of this contract is in excess of \$1,000,000 , the Contractor shall indemnify HQ SACT and its officers, agents and employees against liability, including

costs, for infringement of any letters patent (except letters patent issued upon an application which is now or may hereafter be kept secret or otherwise withheld from issue by order of the government which issued the letters patent) arising out of the manufacture or delivery of supplies under this contract, or out of the use or disposal by or for the account of HQ SACT of such supplies. The foregoing indemnity shall not apply unless the Contractor shall have been informed as soon as practicable by HQ SACT of the suit or action alleging such infringement and shall have been given such opportunity as is afforded by applicable laws, rules, or regulations to participate in the defence thereof; and further, such indemnity shall not apply to:

- a. An infringement resulting from compliance with specific written instructions of the Contracting Officer directing a change in the supplies to be delivered or in the materials or equipment to be used or directing a manner of performance of the Contract not normally used by the Contractor;
- b. An infringement resulting from an addition to, or change in, such supplies or components furnished which addition or change was made subsequent to delivery or performance by the Contractor; or
- c. A claimed infringement which is settled without the consent of the Contractor, unless required by a court of competent jurisdiction.

33. Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software

- a. Ownership of Work Product. HQ SACT is and shall be the sole and exclusive owner of all right, title, and interest throughout the world in and to all the results and proceeds of the Research performed under this Agreement, including but not limited to inventions, derivative works, documents, reports, summaries, raw data, algorithms, charts, graphs, research results, methods, models, maps or drawings, tools, software (including source code), and other works which are created due to or as part of the Research by the Foundation, and including all patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets and other Work Product (all of the above-described results and proceeds of the Research are herein referred to as "Work Product") and shall be deemed to be work made for hire. Accordingly, Sponsor may modify, protect, publish, incorporate into other documents, share with others, or otherwise use without restriction all aspects of the Work Product as HQ SACT deems fit in its sole discretion. The Foundation will not in any way use, license, or allow third parties to use the Work Product or any portion thereof without the express prior written consent of Sponsor.
- b. Technical data and software delivered under this contract shall be marked with the number of this contract, name of Contractor and the rights transferred to HQ SACT.

34. Software Releases and Updates.

- a. All software implemented on or delivered with the supplies shall be at the start of acceptance, the most recent versions or releases as available.
- b. The Contractor shall for a duration of minimum five (5) years after acceptance, and upon their availability, offer to HQ SACT all software changes, fixes and new releases. These shall be offered at no cost when they are offered free of charge on the commercial market.

35. Inconsistency between English Version and Translation of Contract. In the event of inconsistency between any terms of this contract and any translation thereof into another language, the English language meaning shall control

36. Contract Effective Date (CED). The effective date of the contract is the date of last signature by the contracting parties, or a specific date set forth in the Contract.

37. Enforcement. Failure by either party to enforce any provision of this contract will not be deemed a waiver of future enforcement of that or any other provision. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this contract shall not affect the other provisions hereof, and this contract shall be construed in all respects if such invalid or unenforceable provisions were omitted

38. Order of Precedence. Any inconsistencies in the solicitation or contract shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order: (1) Special Terms and Conditions;

(2) General Terms and Conditions and Purchase Order terms; (3) solicitation provisions if this is a solicitation; (4) the specification/statement of work; (5) other HQ SACT documents, exhibits and attachments; (6) addenda to this solicitation or contract, including any license agreements for computer software, or other Contract agreements.

39. Entire Agreement. This contract sets for the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior agreements or representations, oral or written, regarding such subject matter. HQ SACT shall not be bound by, and specifically objects to any term, condition, or other provision inconsistent with or in addition to any provision of this contract that is submitted by Contractor in any correspondence or any document unless HQ SACT specifically agrees to such provision in a written instrument signed by an authorized representative of HQ SACT.