ADDENDUM No 1

To : All Bidders

Procurement of Hearing Aids

Please refer to this Ministry’s Invitation for Bids issued on 10 March 2020 concerning above subject.

2. Following queries from bidders, the under-mentioned clarifications are brought to the attention all bidders:

Query 1

1. That “no hearing aid manufacturer can deliver 85dB FOG in 2cc coupler/ear simulator, limitation attributed to 1. Power requirement of 85dB gain receiver that can be served by a 13 or 312 size battery & 2. The distortions that can occur due to smaller size of the hearing aid”.

2. That “it is unlikely that any current day hearing aid with a FOG of 85 dB can deliver a frequency response of 6300 Hz.”.

Reply 1

We hereby re-insert and maintain our technical demands. Please note that the specifications, including this aspect, have been prepared with regards to ALL hearing aids available on the market worldwide and with due attention to technological advancements.

- 85 dB gain can be provided by a 13 size battery.
- Distortions can be limited by necessary functions in the hearing aid with size of the hearing not being an issue of primary interest here.
- Please note that we have given a range of frequency response to be able to give chance to all bidders, unlikely not meaning it does not exist, and here also, the reasons given about the power of the receiver and frequency of the receiver with response to the diaphragm displacement have been considered with due current-day technologies available in fully digital hearing aids.

Query 2

That “Additional marks will be given to products having a higher range than 85 dB” & that “whether a hearing aid with full on gain of 85 dB is required or hearing aid with higher capacity”.
Reply 2

Kindly note that we are now using a weightage system to ensure that all beneficiaries are given the best available products corresponding to the needs and hearing severity of each. This is where the “additional marks” comes in as we all know, hearing aid sales is a highly competitive field today and we owe it to patients with hearing aids to provide the best hearing device that technically speaking, we possibly can. So, hearing aids have to meet the minimum criteria level given (85dB) and if possibility is as per bidder, they can bid devices with higher capacity too.

Query 3

Whether the Ministry would consider the bid with prices adjustable to rate of exchange.

Reply 3

Price quoted shall be fixed and firm. Currency fluctuation will be not be considered.

3. Sample/s of hearing aids of each of the two categories (i.e. for Mild-Moderate and Severe-Profound) mentioned at page 48 – Price Schedule, MUST is submitted along with the bid.

4. Only two categories of Hearing Aids are needed: Mild-Moderate (940 units) and Severe-Profound (625 units) Hearing Loss Group.

5. Closing date for submission of bids has been re-scheduled for Wednesday 29 July 2020 at the same time and place.

Permanent Secretary

13 July 2020