

ANNEX C

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Renewal of VMware licenses

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1 Introduction

The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”) is the international organization setting up the global verification system foreseen under the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (hereinafter referred to as the “Treaty” and/or the “CTBT”), which is the Treaty banning any nuclear weapon test explosion or any other nuclear explosion.

The Treaty provides for a global verification regime, including a network of stations worldwide, a communications system, an International Data Centre, and on-site inspections to monitor compliance. More information can be found under www.ctbto.org.

1.1 Background

One fundamental task of the Commission is to provide States Parties with equal, open, timely, and convenient access to agreed products and services to support their national Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) verification requirements. To meet this task, the International Data Centre (IDC) undertakes a significant portion of the computationally intensive technical work required by most States Parties.

The Commission is in the process of consolidating its virtualization platforms on VMware vSphere and plans to upgrade it from VMware vSphere version 8 to VMware vSphere version 9.

To support this upgrade and the continued operation of its virtualization platform, the Commission requires VMware vSphere Foundation (VVF) licenses.

2 Scope of work

The Commission seeks to engage a Contractor to supply VMware vSphere Foundation (VVF) licenses that support VMware vSphere version 9 and the Commission’s existing VMware vSphere environment.

The supplied VMware vSphere Foundation (VVF) licenses shall support VMware vSphere version 9 and newer for the duration of the subscription and shall also permit continued operation of the Commission’s existing VMware vSphere version 8 environment until the upgrade to version 9 is completed.

The objectives of this engagement are:

- a) to supply all the necessary VMware vSphere Foundation (VVF) licenses to fully license the servers and vCenters specified in Section 2.1;
- b) to ensure that all VMware licenses supplied under the Contract are “co-terminated”;
- c) to provide 24x7 support coverage;

2.1 Description of the current system

The virtualization environment on VMware vSphere is made up of Lenovo SR860 V2 or Lenovo SR860 V3 servers, each with 4 (four) processors. Each Lenovo server has 112 CPU cores and 1536 GB of memory.

Below are the details of the existing VMware vSphere environment, grouped by cluster:

Cluster	Server Model	Num. of servers per cluster	Num. of cores per server	License expiration
A	Lenovo SR860 V2	3	112 cores	31/07/2028
B	Lenovo SR860 V2	5	112 cores	31/07/2028
C	Lenovo SR860 V2	1	112 cores	31/07/2028
		1	112 cores	15/02/2027
D	Lenovo SR860 V3	3	112 cores	15/02/2027
E	Lenovo SR860 V3	2	112 cores	15/02/2027
Total		15 servers	1,680 cores	

All clusters are deployed on VMware vSphere version 8.0 U3 and are managed by two (2) VMware vCenter Server 8 Standard instances, each licensed-on a per-instance basis. The expiry date of these vCenter Server licenses is 31/07/2028.

2.2 Further requirements for VMware licenses

- All VMware licenses shall have subscription periods commencing on the applicable start dates, including 16 February 2027 and 1 August 2028, based on the existing license expiration dates specified in Section 2.1.
- All VMware licenses shall be co-terminated to a common end date of 15 February 2030. Where co-termination to this date is not possible, the Contractor shall propose an alternative licensing and renewal schedule - with individual subscription terms of no less than one (1) year - that aligns as closely as possible with the required end date while ensuring uninterrupted license coverage and support entitlement.

- c) All licenses shall be delivered electronically and made available in the Commission's designated Broadcom licensing portal account, the details of which shall be provided after contract award.

3 Training (Optional)

The Contractor shall provide access to VMware by Broadcom training for three (3) Commission personnel and shall confirm the applicable training entitlements, access platform, delivery mode (Digital Learning or Instructor-Led), validity period, and any certification or examination benefits included.

4 Requirements for the Contractor and its personnel

The Contractor shall be an authorized Broadcom partner or reseller with the required authorization to supply VMware by Broadcom vSphere Foundation (VVF) licenses.

The Contractor shall ensure that all communications with the Commission, verbal and/or written, shall be conducted in the English language.

5 Support and Maintenance

The Contractor shall provide a maintenance support plan that meets or exceeds Broadcom's Premium (24x7) support plan.

The Contractor shall allow the Commission to open cases directly with the manufacturer if it so desires and should provide access to the manufacturer's support portal for the Commission's technicians.

6 Additional items/products/licenses/services

The area of Virtual Machine software is a fast-evolving industry with a continuous supply of new technologies and products. The Contractor shall provide the CTBTO with access to the latest VMware technology (for example, software releases (including major and minor versions, updates, and patches and other associated offerings), etc) and to all relevant and related VMware products. In the event the PTS requests access to any such additional item(s), product(s), license(s) and/or service(s), the Contractor shall provide all technical and commercial information (including price(s), where not included in the Contract already, for the evaluation and review by the Commission for reasonableness of cost) relevant to the product or service to be added to the product and service list. Prices of items previously ordered and/or included in the Contract, shall be the same as approved under the Contract. . The Commission shall have the right, but not the obligation, to order such additional items, products and/or services through the issuance of separate Formal Request for Delivery (FRD) based on the mutually agreed price. The Contractor shall not provide any such

additional items, products and/or services if not requested by the Commission through the FRD.

7 Risk Management

The Contractor shall provide an updated thorough risk assessment plan at the commencement of the Contract to identify potential risks that could impact the successful execution of the implementation activities outlined in this Terms of Reference.

Risks may include, but are not limited to, technical challenges, changes in project requirements/scope, resource constraints, schedule delays, integration difficulties, and third-party software dependencies. The risk assessment plan should be consistently updated, aligning with the delivery of project milestones or significant accomplishments.

Upon the project's satisfactory completion, the Contractor shall conduct a final review of the initially identified risks. Risks that have been effectively mitigated or did not materialize should be officially closed, accompanied by appropriate documentation.

The insights gained from the risk management process should be methodically documented and shared with the client, thereby contributing to the knowledge repository for forthcoming similar projects.