BANKI KUU YA KENYA



CENTRAL BANK OF KENYA

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ADDENDUM NO. 3

TENDER FOR DESIGN, SUPPLY, IMPLEMENTATION, MIGRATION AND COMMISSIONING OF A VIRTUALIZED ENVIRONMENT FOR CENTRAL BANK OF KENYA- RE-ADVERTISEMENT. TENDER REF NO: CBK/067/2026-2027

The above captioned tender was published on **www.tenders.go.ke** and **www.centralbank.go.ke** on 4th November 2026. In response to clarifications sought by prospective bidders, the Bank is hereby issuing Addendum No. 3 in line with Section 75 of the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act 2015 and will form part of the tender document.

S/NO	REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATIONS	BANK'S RESPONSES
1	**We understand that CBK require 800 VMware-licensed CPU cores per site. Additionally, the N+1 redundancy requirement stipulates that, in the event of a single server failure, the remaining servers must continue to provide at least 800 CPU cores and 12 TB of DRAM at each site.** Meeting this N+1 requirement may require additional server capacity, which would increase the total physical CPU core count and consequently the VMware licensing requirement. We kindly request CBK to clarify the following as this is not spelt out clearly in the tender document 1. Whether VMware licensing should cover the entire installed physical CPU core capacity including the additional N+1 redundancy capacity. In that case, the VMWare License as well as physical CPU core will increase beyond 800 Cores per site. 2. If the above is true, the outright purchase cost of VMware license and the servers as well as the	Bidder to respond as requested and maintain an N+1 redundancy in the workload per site. Virtualized environment workload site means cluster. Bidder to structure their proposed configurations and node counts as per the guiding physical core count requested while maintaining N+1

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	recurring subscription/support cost for both VMWare and Server will increase. Hope this understanding is correct. 3. Hope CBK is looking for N+1 redundancy in the form of VMWare clustering with High Availability, so that the balancing of workload is automatic among the nodes (surviving failure) in the cluster and without any manual intervention. 4. To achieve N+1 clustering as required in the tender, will CBK accept one or more nodes in N+1 having dissimilar core configuration and count of processor per node? 5. To achieve N+1 sizing meeting requirement of 800 cores from surviving nodes, various approaches with each approach having different count of nodes can be configured/considered. Higher count of nodes with lower cores per node can come with short delivery period (lead time), but will impact higher power consumption, complexity and higher datacenter footprint. Can CBK spell out the maximum number of nodes per cluster after assessing allowable/available power and datacenter footprint parameters?	
2	**12 TB of DRAM per site, shared equally across nodes, DDR5 RDIMM at 6,400 MT/s or faster, with room for expansion** Does sharing of 12 TB of DRAM per site equally across nodes apply to surviving nodes after failure of a node? To put our query in another way, in a N+1 redundant cluster configuration, should all the nodes cutting across N+1 have same memory capacity per node?	The requirements are very clear and should be looked at wholistically as a solution rather than line items: Refer to: **D3. Compute (per site, Production and DR) : S3 and S4** N+1 sizing: with any one node down, the remaining nodes still provide 800 cores and 12 TB of DRAM at that site And 12 TB of DRAM per site, shared equally across nodes, DDR5 RDIMM at 6,400

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		MT/s or faster, with room for expansion
3	**Virtualization platform (V20):** Licenses cover 800 physical cores per site (Production and DR). plus/additional 384 cores for the existing monitoring workload (208 Production, 176 DR). Kindly clarify 1. Whether the additional VMware licenses required for the existing monitoring workloads (384 cores: 208 Production and 176 DR) should also be considered as part of the N+1 redundancy requirement? 2. Vide pre-bid clarification of previous tender for the same project CBK confirmed that this additional 384 cores will be hosted on existing infrastructure. Is this understanding correct in the current tender also?ction and DR), plus/additional 384 cores for the existing monitoring workload (208 Production, 176 DR).	The ask is clear: Licenses cover 800 physical cores per site (Production and DR), **plus/additional 384 cores** for the **existing monitoring workload (208** **Production, 176 DR).** Bidder to respond as requested.
4	D4. Storage (all-flash array per site) (G25) The proposed storage solution shall support integration with an enterprise Key Management System (KMS) and associated Hardware Security Modules (HSMs) NOTE: The bidder shall provide official manufacturer documentation/Certification We understand that the proposed storage solution must support integration with an enterprise KMS and associated HSMs. We note that CBK has previously procured HSM licenses and support. Kindly provide already implemented HSM/KMS solution deployed details (principal vendor name, model & version, integration protocols and interfaces). This is particularly important because it will help the storage OEM validate compatibility before committing to the proposed solution	Bidder to respond with details of Enterprise Management Systems and its HSMs that their solution supports. This requirement assesses compatibility with major solution providers and continuous planning for the organization.
5	**D4. Storage (all-flash array per site) (G5)** At least 1.5TB cache per array. Different storage vendors achieve 1.5TB cache per array in different approaches. These different	Bidder to respond as requested.

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	approaches are DRAM DIMM, NVDIMM, Dedicated NVMe SSD, PMEM, SCM etc. Kindly confirm CBKs requirement of cache approach.	
6	Racks, Power and network Optics (N1) Racks sized to the total rack units of the supplied equipment at each site, with redundant intelligent power distribution units. We understand CBK want racks of appropriate size to be supplied. Kindly clarify.	Bidder to respond as per the tender request.
7	Racks, Power and network Optics (N2) FC optics fitted on all servers and storage FC Ports. The Bank confirms free SAN and top-of-rack switch ports in Annexure 1; Structured cabling is provided by the bank. We could not see the Annexure 1 as part of the tender document. Kindly provide the same.	Structured cabling is the responsibility of CBK. Ignore the Annexure Comment.
8	Section II - Tender Data sheet (ITT 4.1) The maximum number of members in the Joint Venture (JV) where applicable shall be - **NOT APPLICABLE FOR THIS TENDER.** In various pages of the tender document including the definition of eligible tenderers, Joint Venture (JV) is mentioned. In the eligible tenderer definition, it is clearly mentioned that "The maximum number of JV members shall be specified in the TDS." However, in the TDS sheet ITT 4.1 the maximum number of members in JV is mentioned as not applicable. Does it mean that JV is allowed and there is no restrictions on number of members in the JV?	Joint ventures or Consortium are not allowed.

All other terms and conditions of the tender remain the same.

M.H. TUYA
For. DEPUTY DIRECTOR/HEAD OF PROCUREMENT
16th November 2026