

**Request for Proposal Ref No. LB-MOF-475139-GO-RFP**

**Procurement of provision and installation of IT Hardware to the Lebanese Customs Data  
Center**

**List of Questions & Answers**

**Revised Version**

**Item 3 : Fiber Networking :**

**Question 1:** How many ports should be activated on MDS -9132T, it is enough to have 8 ports or 32 ports?

***Answer 1:*** **8**

**Question 2:** Please advise for the number of **32 Gbps Fibre Channel SW SFP+** needed on each switch?

***Answer 2:*** **4**

**Question 3:** Do you need a redundant Fan & power supply ?

***Answer 3:*** **Yes**

**Item 5 : Palo Alto Firewall 5200 :**

**Question 4:** 5200 is end of sale, replacement is 5400; please advise:

- Firewall throughput?

***Answer 4: 70 Gps***

**Question 5: Threat Prevention throughput?**

***Answer 5: 50 Gps***

**Question 6: Max concurrent sessions ?**

***Answer 6: 48000000***

**Question 7: New sessions per second ?**

***Answer 7: 449000***

**Question 8: Please advise what are the needed licenses?**  
**Advanced Threat Prevention**  
**Advanced URL Filtering**  
**Advanced Wildfire**  
**Dns security and SD WAN**

***Answer 8: Yes***

**Question 9: What are the needed SFP s, SFP + or QSFP needed on each firewall?**

***Answer 9: 8 Ethernet Ports 8 SFP and 4 SFP+***

**Question 10: Needed licenses and warranty duration > 3 years or 5 years?**

*Answer 10: 5 years*

**Item 7: Network**

**Question 11: Nexus switch 9300 ,48 ports is a standalone or a part of the ACI System?**

*Answer 11: ACI System*

**Question 12: What are the needed 48 Ports: Copper or Fiber?**

*Answer 12: Copper*

**Question 13: What are the needed SFP s per switch? Model type and quantities.**

*Answer 13: 9300 4 x 10G/mGig Copper Network Module.*

**Item 10: Router :**

**Question 14: Cisco ASR 1001-X Is end of sale, replacement is C8500L-8S4X, but can we go with a lower model c8300 which gives  
IPv4 Forwarding Throughput: Up to 19.7Gbps  
IPsec Throughput: Up to 18.9Gbps**

*Answer 14: IPv4 Forwarding Throughput: Up to 19.7Gbps è> OK  
IPsec Throughput: Up to 18.9Gbps*

**Item 11 : switch**

**Question 15:** Do you need a cluster of three APIC at each site or only one for Both Sites?

**Answer 15:** *three APIC at each site*

**Question 16:** APIC -CLUSTER M3 is end of sale, we will provide APIC -CLUSTER M4

**Answer 16:** *OK*

**Question 17:** Please advise what are the needed SFPS per 9336c -FX2 switch?

**Answer 17:** *Not available*

**Question 18:** Please clarify

SFPs and Transceivers	10G SFP+ Modules: For server connections and uplinks 50
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Does this means the total number of SFP s on the Nexus switches 9300 ( qty =4 ) and the Nexus 9336c ( qty =4) is 50

**Answer 18:** *Yes*

**Question 19:** With reference to the RFP mentioned above, please provide us with the attached requirements for Windows Sever licenses part.

**Answer 19:** *Not available*

### **1.3.1 List of goods**

**Question 20:** **Hp proliant DL380 gen 10+**  
Gen10+ is not the latest generation and is approaching End of Sale date. Gen11 is currently the latest generation server. Please advise if the project will close before August 2025 to be able to order Gen10+ or confirm that Gen11 should be quoted strictly.

**Answer 20:** *Gen11*

**Question 21:** **HP Nimble storage HDV1 100TB**  
- HPE Nimble is an obsolete / End of Sale appliance. The currently available equivalent appliance is HPE Alletra MP.  
- Kindly advise on the required usable capacity.

**Answer 21:** - *Yes*  
- *Not available*

**Question 22:** **SAN CTX MDS-9132T 16P/32P, 32Gb**  
MDS-9132T is a Dell model switch. Kindly confirm that we can quote equivalent HPE SAN Switches.

**Answer 22:** *Yes*

**Question 23:** **FortiGate 1500d**

FG1500D is end of sale. We can offer the latest model instead.

**Answer 23:**      **Yes**

**Question 24:**              **Pala alto Firewall 5200**

Palo Alto 5200 is end of sale. We can offer the latest model instead.

**Answer 24:**      **Yes 5400**

**Question 25:**              **Vpshare Vmware license with recovery point**

Number of cores will be reliant on the quoted servers (might not be 320 as stated). Kindly advise on the following:

- Number of servers which will run VMware vSphere + Number of Processors in each server + Number of cores in each processor
- Number of Site Recovery VMs
- Required vSphere edition: Standard, Enterprise Plus, VVF, or VCF.

**Answer 25:**      ***Number of servers which will run VMware vSphere 4 2 CPU and 32 Core per CPU SRM standard (50 VM)  
Vsphere Enterprise plus***

**Question 26:**              **Nexus 9300 48port uplinks**

Kindly confirm that we can offer HPE Aruba equivalent switches instead.

**Answer 26:**              ***Yes if we have the same specifications***

**Question 27:**              **Backup software EMC data protection**

Kindly confirm that we can offer equivalent Veeam backup software instead.

**Answer 27:**              **Yes**

**Question 28:** **HPE storeonce4500 104TB**  
**HPE Storeonce 4500 is an end of sale model. Kindly confirm that we can offer the latest model with at least 100TB usable.**

***Answer 28: Yes***

**Question 29:** **Edge Cisco ASR 1001-X router**  
**Routing can be done at the level of the firewall. Kindly confirm.**

***Answer 29: We need a router for futures needs***

**Question 30:** **Core switch ACI Nexus 9336CFX2 two in each site**  
**Kindly confirm that we can offer HPE Aruba equivalent switches instead.**

***Answer 30: Yes if we have the same specifications***

**Question 31:** **Windows Server license**  
**WS license qty will be dependent on the number of cores. Qty may differ from the stated 10. Edition will be dependent on the number of VMs hosted. Kindly advise on the following:**  
**Number of servers which will run Windows Server (physical servers)**  
**+ Number of Physical Processors in each server + Number of physical cores in each processor + Number of Windows Server VMs running on each host**

***Answer 31: Option 2: licensing by virtual machine - applicable on non-Hyper-V Hypervisor  
Hypervisor : Vmware ESXI Enterprise Edition***

No of VMs Running windows server	No of Virtual Cores per VM	windows server edition running on VM (Std/ DC)
4	15 VCPU	DC
16	4	Std

**Question 32:**

**Nagios**

**Kindly advise which Nagios software is required: Nagios XI, Nagios Log Server, Nagios Network Analyzer, or Nagios Fusion.**

**Also advise on which edition is required + number of nodes to be licensed (if applicable).**

**Answer 32:**

***Nagios XI Enterprise (100 nodes)***

**Question 33:**

**Support SERVER 3 Years ProSupport and Next Business Day Onsite Service**

**Vendor back-to-back 24/7 support is recommended for critical environment like that of Lebanese Customs. Please confirm.**

**Answer 33:**

***Not available***

**1.3.2 Technical Specifications**

**Question 34:**

**Processors 2 x Intel gold 6444y 16 core 32T Silver 4310 2.1G, 12C/24T, 10.4GT/s, 18M Cache, Turbo, HT (120W) DDR4-2666**

**Intel 6444Y and 4310 are two different models from different generations (4th and 3rd). Please confirm that Intel 6444Y should be configured as it is compatible with Gen11 servers.**

**Answer 34:**

***Yes***



**Question 35:** Installed memory 12x 64GB RDIMM, 3200MT/s, Dual Rank Total 1024GB

12x 64GB will provide 768GB not 1024. To be clarified.

*Answer 35:* *Not available*

**Question 36:** Storage 3x 1.92TB SSD SATA Read Intensive 6Gbps 512 2.5in Hot-plug AG Drive, 3.5in HYB CARR, 1 DWPD

Unclear why hybrid carrier LFF 3.5" disks are required. A 2.5" inch drive cage with 2.5" disks can be offered instead.

*Answer 36:* *Yes*

**Question 37:** RAID Controller PERC H755 Adapter, Low Profile  
Dell specific RAID controller. Kindly confirm that we can quote the HPE equivalent.

*Answer 37:* *Yes*

**Question 38:** Networking Broadcom Quad Port 25Gb/10GbE BASET Adapter, OCP NIC 3.0

- There is no 25G BaseT adapter. It will either be 10/25G SFP+ or 10G BaseT.

- Specific Broadcom adapter models are vendor specific. Kindly confirm that we can quote equivalent adapter models.

*Answer 38:* *Yes*

**Question 39:** Fiber Card Emulex LPe31002 Dual Port 16Gb Fibre Channel HBA, PCIe Low Profile, V2

16G FC HBA have been replaced by 32G HBA which can negotiate down to 16G. Kindly confirm that we can quote 32G HBAs instead.

**Answer 39:** **Yes**

**Question 40:** **SAS Card HP smart array P440ar**  
P440ar is an obsolete RAID controller for Gen9 servers. If an external controller is required, we can offer a valid equivalent model. Please advise. (we assume the Dell controller above is an equivalent option).

**Answer 40:** **Yes**

**Question 41:** **Licensing Essentials License: Covers basic ACI features.**  
ACI is Cisco proprietary software. Kindly confirm we can offer Aruba Central for management instead.

**Answer 41:** **Yes**

**Question 42:** **Hardware The physical FortiGate 100E appliance**  
100E is significantly different than the 1500D mentioned in the title. Kindly confirm we should quote the equivalent of 1500D.

**Answer 42:** **1500D**

### **1.5 Performance Requirements of the Information System**

**Question 43:** **\*Satisfaction: \* user satisfaction regarding the experience with the system must be at least 4 out of 5**  
Abstract criterion that cannot be objectively or properly quantified / measured.

*Answer 43:* *Not clear*

**Question 44:** **It must function with 24/7 availability**  
24/7 availability is requested here but Next Business Day requested in support section 1.3.2. Kindly confirm that 24/7 support and 100% availability are required.

*Answer 44:* *Yes*

### **C. SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS – SUPPLY & INSTALL ITEMS**

**Question 45:** **2.1 System Analysis, Design and Customization/Development**  
**2.2 Software Customization / Development**  
Kindly confirm that software development, design, or customization are not the responsibility of the hardware provider/bidder.

*Answer 45:* *Yes*

### **3.1 Computing Hardware Specifications**

**Question 46:** **Database Server**  
Kindly advise on the required number of DB Servers

*Answer 46:* *4*

**Question 47:** **3.1.1.3 Processor memory and other storage**  
Server specs mentioned in this section contradict with the specs mentioned in the previous section (1.3.2 Technical Specifications).

Kindly confirm that we should disregard these specs and use the ones mentioned in section 1.3.2.

*Answer 47:* *Yes*

Question 48: Application Server  
Kindly advise on the required number of App Servers

*Answer 48:* *2*

Question 49: Web Server  
Kindly advise on the required number of Web Servers

*Answer 49:* *2*

### 3.3 Ancillary Hardware Specifications

Question 50: 3.3.1 Shared Data Storage Devices  
Requested specs are vendor specific and contradictory with each other and other sections. Kindly confirm that we can quote the latest storage model which provides the amount of usable capacity in the mentioned clarification point # 2.

*Answer 50:* *Yes*

Question 51: 3.3.2 Shared Output and Input Devices

These items are not mentioned in the required list of goods table of section 1.3.1. Kindly confirm that they are not required as part of our offer.

*Answer 51:* *Yes*

Question 52:

**3.3.3 Power Conditioning Devices**

These items are not mentioned in the required list of goods table of section 1.3.1. Kindly confirm that they are not required as part of our offer.

*Answer 52:* *Yes*

Question 53:

**3.3.4 Specialized Furnishing/Equipment**

These items are not mentioned in the required list of goods table of section 1.3.1. Kindly confirm that they are not required as part of our offer.

*Answer 53:* *Yes*

**3.4 Standard Software Specifications**

Question 54:

**All sub sections**

These items are not mentioned in the required list of goods table of section 1.3.1. Kindly confirm that they are not required as part of our offer.

*Answer 54:* *Yes*

### **5.3 Requirements of the Supplier's Technical Team**

**Question 55:**            **All sub sections**  
Software and Database deliverables and related RFP items are not within the scope of the hardware bidder. Kindly confirm.

**Answer 55:**            **Yes**

### **Storage**

**Question 56:**            **What is the required usable storage size?**

**Answer 56:**            **SAN Storage with: 120 (24 + 96) 1.8 TB 10K rpm SAS disks = 216 TB raw storage 1 Tape Drive Library with LTO-7 tapes**

### **Support**

**Question 57:**            **Support : Is the requested support to be : 24 x 7 Vendor support or 24 x 7 local support?**

**Answer 57:**            **Local support**

### **Extension of submission deadline**

**Question 58:**            **Also, we kindly ask you to extend the submission deadline by 2 weeks as of March 17<sup>th</sup> 2025. This will give sometime to share the clarifications with the various vendors to validate and propose the best compliant solution to CUSTOMS.**

***Answer 58:      Submission deadline may not be extended beyond March 17<sup>th</sup> 2025.***