

## Clarification Questions and Responses

### Project Title: Tender for Montserrat (Short-term) Passenger Ferry Service

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Clarification Question	Government of Montserrat (GoM) Response
1. Withholding Tax deduction: May it be expressed in the Cost proposal or it is assumed that the price would finally reflect a withholding Tax over the proposed cost? Means that if the cost proposal is \$100 (example of daily rate) then the invoiced amount would be \$116.67? Or the cost proposal would have to reflect \$116.67 in order to reflect the deduction later?	The withholding tax deduction would apply to the price submitted in the cost proposal. For example, if price submitted is \$100, the 20% withholding tax will be applied and deducted from the price of \$100.
2. Monthly rate for passenger ferry service: Is this the cost of multiplying the daily rate by a 30 days calendar without considering the MOB/DEMOB costs?	The monthly rate is the cost of daily rate by 30 days.
3. Total Cost for 5-month passenger ferry service : Is this the SUM of the 5 month without considering the MOB/DEMOB costs or this box includes as total cost the MOB/DEMOB + the 5 month charter?	In Section 7.2 Cost Proposal - the five (5) month cost should itemize all of the costs for providing the service for a five (5) month period, including mobilization and demobilization and then reflect the total cost. This total cost will be presented in the Form of Tender at Section 9.0.
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4. Port charges. In 8.4 section, it is reported that the Operator will be responsible for the liaison with the Port Authorities for all aspects associated with the embarking and disembarkation of passengers and cargo.  <u>Question:</u> Who will bear the cost of Port charges, the payment of harbour access fees (covering berthing and	The Access Division, Office of the Premier bears the cost of port chargers and harbour fees for both Montserrat and Antigua

<p>traffic dues) for both destinations, Montserrat and Antigua?</p>	
<p>5. Minimum and mandatory vessel's length. It is required in the Stage #2, Section 8.2 a minimum vessel's length at 25 m. However, the usual threshold in the maritime industry is 24 m. Over 24 m, the vessel has to comply with SOLAS Code. Below, the Small Commercial Vessels Code (SCV Code) operating in the Caribbean can be applied.</p> <p>In our case, the vessel is over 24 m (24.25 m) and already complies with SOLAS Code. In addition, she is also complying with the High-Speed Craft Code (HSC Code), which is a more demanding Code. (Chapter X of SOLAS Code).</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Do we apply to the tender despite of our vessel's length?</p>	<p>The procuring entity has decided to adjust the vessel length to greater than 24 metres, and compliant with SOLAS Code</p>
<p>6. Decision deadline date.</p> <p>Time is the essence in your requirement. The submission deadline of the ITT is clearly expressed. But we did not note the date GoM will unveil which company is selected for the service.</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Could we get this important date? With it, we can start working on our Mobilization Outline.</p>	<p>The Government of Montserrat will seek to complete the evaluation of tenders within two (2) months of the deadline, that is by October 9, 2023.</p>
<p><b>24<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b></p>	
<p>7. What is the minimum passenger capacity required for the vessel?</p>	<p>A passenger capacity of 150-200 would be preferable. On review of passenger movement data provided, it will be observed that a vessel with passenger capacity of less than 150 will be required to operate multiple return trips during the peak seasons.</p>
<p>8. Freezing capacity required?</p>	<p>Minimum freezing capacity of 100 cu ft.</p>

9. Estimated daily working hours? Departing time schedule from Montserrat, departing time schedule from Antigua.	Departing time from Montserrat to Antigua is around 6:00am-6:30am and for a single return trip, the departing time from Antigua to Montserrat is around 6:00pm or 8:00pm on some days, based on arrival times of international flights into Antigua.
10. Bunkering location (Where the vessel is going to Bunker)	The vessel bunkers at Little Bay, Montserrat.
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11. After reviewing this Addendum with ADOMS we are unclear as to the meaning of the Solas "Code".  Do you mean Solas Convention?	Code and Convention are used interchangeably.  We will adjust to say Convention and replace “but” with “and”. That is - “..., and SOLAS Convention”.
<b>28<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b>	
12. The tender is for "Montserrat (Short-term) Passenger Ferry Service". Can you clarify if the contract is for the provision of service or is it a daily rental contract? This is to determine if during the time that the boat is not in use, such as Mondays or waiting hours at the port of destination, the operator of the boat can use it for other purpose.	The Tenderer should reflect a monthly hire price for a thirty (30) day period, in addition to daily rate and costing for five (5) months. The vessel will be under the contract for the full period contracted. If the operator would like be released from the contract for additional services then this must requested in writing and approved by the Government of Montserrat (GoM). The GoM’s contract is such that if there is an emergency or additional support is required, GoM may need to call on the operator outside the regular hours for additional runs.
13. In the event that there is merchandise to be transported that does not go with passengers, who will be responsible for loading and unloading the vessel?	The crew along with support from the agents will load and offload the vessel.
14. Confirm: Is there not a minimum number of passengers capacity requested on the vessel?	Ideally the vessel will have between 150 to 200 seats to cover peak travel requirements. If the vessel capacity is less, then it may need to do additional runs to cover the passenger movements required.
15. Can a vessel be replaced once a bid has been done?	Yes, the Operator can replace the vessel but it must be similar in standard to that which was approved. The vessel must also meet the requirements of the SOLAS convention and be approved for international voyages by the Montserrat Port Authority.

<p>16. In the case of unaccompanied cargo or commercial cargo: Is the vessel owner entitled to charge handling?</p>	<p>The vessel owner will not be able to charge under this contract. This will be done by the GoM Agent.</p>
<p>17. Is the owner of vessels entitled to charge additional services as Beverages &amp; Food during the travel or it would be the responsibility of the contractor? May this include alcoholic beverages in moderate consumption?</p>	<p>Yes, the owner of the vessel can charge for on board catering services. We would advise against selling alcohol as this may cause disruption to the service and other passengers.</p>
<p>18. Does the GOM port have the following services: seawash water reception, garbage reception and any other services related to the operation of the vessel? Does it have any cost or GOM will provide this as part of the contract?</p>	<p>There is no vessel Service wash available. There is a garbage reception facility available. This will be provided as part of the contract.</p>
<p>19. Vessel has seawash treatment plant, in the event of not having the port service, which would be the alternative?</p>	<p>There is no Seawash treatment plant but water can be provided if needed by the Port. If this type of service is carried out, outside Montserrat then it would at a cost to the Operator.</p>