



General Secretariat (SG)

7 July 2020

Ref: **DM 20/1010**
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To Member States of ITU Council

Subject: **Question and Answer opportunity for clarifications on the Report by the Appraisal Committee to select the ITU External Auditor (Doc C20/49)**

Dear Councilor,

Reference is made to Resolution 94 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and to Document [C20/49](#) which was presented to and discussed at the virtual consultation of Councilors held from 9 to 12 June 2020.

During the discussion on 11 June 2020, various questions were asked, specifically regarding the feedback relating to the Appraisal Committee's evaluation process and ranking of the Supreme Audit Institution bidders, and whether this information would be shared with Council Member States. In accordance with the established procedures at ITU, following the signature of the contract by a successful bidder, letters of regret are sent to all unsuccessful bidders informing them individually that their bid has not been retained.

The letter also informs bidders they may request a de-brief in regards to the assessment of their specific bid. The scope of the debriefing is to identify the technical, commercial and other weaknesses of the bidder's proposal. Any information about the other bidders and details related to their proposals will not be disclosed.

During the virtual consultation with Councilors, the Appraisal Committee's Chairperson explained that the review of all the candidates' merits by the Appraisal Committee was done based on pre-established technical and financial criteria and that the recommended bidder received the highest total score of all seven bidders. As such, it follows that this was a selection process and not an election process. However, as some Councilors believed further clarifications were required, it was agreed that, the ITU secretariat, in consultation with the Appraisal Committee, would provide additional information to further assist the Council Member States in arriving at a decision on the recommendation provided in Document C20/49.

The virtual consultation concluded that further consideration of the report contained in Document C20/49 be postponed to the next physical meeting of the Council. In the event the Secretary-General became certain that a physical meeting would not be possible before the end of the year 2020, then an alternative course of action would have to be considered in order to have a decision in 2020 and to not unduly penalize the seven bidding Supreme Audit Institutions, awaiting the decision.

In this respect, I invite you to submit to proc@itu.int by 31 August 2020 any queries which have not already been addressed in Document C20/49 or during the virtual consultation of Councilors. The ITU secretariat will share all questions received with the Appraisal Committee for clarification and, subject to the principle of confidentiality, responses will be made available on the Council website by 30 September 2020.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for supporting the selection process.

(signed)

Yours faithfully,

Dr Elsayed Azzouz
Chair of the Council