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***Answers to the questions from the interested suppliers  
in open competition "Expert Services" ID. No RBR 2017/10***

RB Rail AS presents the following answers to the questions received until 7 June 2017 from the interested suppliers:

No	Question	Answer
1.	Could you possibly indicate the scope of the project that the frame contract will serve? And the possible extent of services per service type (approximate hours, or other measurable unit)?	Please note, that the scope of any assignment under framework agreement is unknown at this moment. RB Rail AS envisages that average scope of a specific assignment would be in the range from 2 to 20 man-days. However, the exact number of needed man-days to implement a specific assignment may vary depending on the specific task.
2.	Also, we would like to know e.g. the extent of "civil construction design", the planned extent of "road design" and what "Architecture" might be related to, e.g. how many stations / transfer hubs are foreseen under the scope of the project?	Please note, that the extent of expert services to be procured through the open competition "Expert Services" covers the overall area of Global Rail Baltica project in all Baltic countries. The number of objects to be covered through expert service assignments is unknown at this moment, and this would depend on actual Rail Baltica implementation activities that RB Rail AS is managing. Please also see the answer to Question No 1.
3.	Will experts be able to work remotely only with the available data or some fields of expertise will require participation on the ground?	Considering the conditions of a specific assignment for expert services the experts will be able to work remotely and in some cases, clearly specified in assignment orders, will be required to be present for the provision of expert services at the particular sites.
4.	What will their mission include? Just consulting services or project development?	Please see Section 2 of Terms of reference, Annex No 3 to the open competition "Expert Services" Regulation (page 31).
5.	There will be a pool of up to approximately 90 external experts in 32 fields of expertise.	Experts will not be divided in any other way but only by their field of expertise.

	Will they be somehow divided between involved countries or project sectors?	Up to 3 expert service providers are envisaged to be procured for every field of expertise.
6.	Will expert groups and corporate entities such as consulting agencies get any preferences in competition over individuals if they have the same competence?	There are no preferences over any form of participation in the open competition "Expert services" as Tenderer (see Section 4 "Tenderer" of the open competition "Expert Services" Regulation). The selection and evaluation of the proposals for every field of expertise is based on the qualification, experience and the proposed hourly rates of an individual expert.
7.	What is the goal of that initiative? To provide additional competence or to find and involve into the project the best experts?	Please see Section 2 of Terms of reference, Annex No 3 to the open competition "Expert Services" Regulation (page 31).
8.	When does the competition end?	The open competition "Expert services" shall be completed in accordance with the procedures set out by Public Procurement Law of Republic of Latvia. It is expected to enter into framework agreements with selected Tenderers within less than two months after the date of proposals' submission (29 June 2017).
9.	According to the clause 14.1. of the Framework agreement "only in exceptional cases experts included in the Agreement can be replaced <...>". What are those exceptional cases? If the expert leaves the company, will this situation be considered as exceptional case?	All exceptional cases related to the replacement of experts shall be investigated individually and replacement would be implemented by following the conditions set in the draft framework agreement (Annex No 4 to the open competition "Expert Services" Regulation) and in accordance with Public Procurement Law of Republic of Latvia.

Procurement commission  
chairman

Aigars Kivliņš