

ITB REFERENCE: 2023/ITB/037


**FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FRAME AGREEMENTS FOR THE SUPPLY OF:
LOT 1: MEDIUM THERMAL SYNTHETIC (FLEECE) BLANKET, RECYCLED
AND
LOT 2: HIGH THERMAL SYNTHETIC (FLEECE) BLANKET, RECYCLED**


QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DATE: 19/01/2024

No.	Questions	Answers
1	Could you please provide a brief specification regarding the preferred weight and size of the blankets?	<p>In accordance with the Annex A.1 and Annex A.2 related to technical specifications:</p> <p>LOT 1: Medium Thermal Blanket Weight: Minimum 400g/m² maximum 700g/m² weight determined by total weight/total surface. Size: 150 x 200cm +3%/-1%. Measured on a flat stabilized sample, without folds</p> <p>LOT 2: High Thermal Blanket Weight: Minimum 500g/m² maximum 1000g/m² weight determined by total weight/total surface. Size: 150 x 200cm +3%/-1%. Measured on a flat stabilized sample, without folds.</p>
2	Is there any specific lab approved by UNHCR from which we can send our samples for testing and get the certificates?	There are no specific laboratories recommended by UNHCR. Bidders need to ensure that certificates are issued by an internationally recognized laboratory.
3	We manufacture blankets made from acrylic yarns that have been recycled. As a result, we would like to know whether this would be acceptable in the tender?	The material composition of the blankets shall be 100% recycled polyester.
4	Can we go through INTERTEX LAB which is internationally recognized lab?	INTERTEK is acceptable. Bidders need to ensure all tests are performed as required in the technical specifications.
5	Does the bidder (who is not manufacturer of blankets) has to get product tested on his end or the supplier from whom he is procuring the product can share the test report to bidder?	If the Bidder is not the Manufacturer, they need to provide the same information on the manufacturing company/ companies that they are procuring the item from. Bidders must provide the relevant Laboratory Certificates of each product/sample offered which need to be issued by an internationally recognized laboratory and can be provided by the manufacturing company.

6	Please let us know if it is acceptable to get our blankets tested at SGS India and subsequently submit the lab test reports issued to us from SGS India?	Local offices of SGS are acceptable.
7	<p>Could you please advise whether the committee may accept 100% Virgin polyester blankets?</p> <p>Could you please advise whether the committee may accept 70% Recycled Polyester + 30% Recycled Cotton blanket?</p> <p>Could you please advise whether the committee may accept partially recycled blankets such as 85% Recycled Polyester + 15% Virgin Polyester?</p>	The material composition of the blankets shall be 100% recycled polyester.
8	<p>How will the order qty be shipped throughout the year?</p> <p>Is the qty spread out and through how many shipments?</p> <p>Are the shipments sent to one or multiple locations?</p>	<p>The estimated annual requirement of UNHCR is for 2,200,000 high thermal and 2,000,000 for medium thermal blankets, however this is an estimated figure, it does not represent a commitment. Quantities may vary and will depend on the actual needs and funds available regulated by the issuance of individual Purchase Orders against the Frame Agreement.</p> <p>The main five shipping destinations of the past three years were: (1) Dubai, UAE UNHCR Global Stockpile, (2) Nairobi, Kenya UNHCR Global Stockpile, (3) Amman, Jordan (4) Juba, South Sudan (5) Gaziantep, Turkey.</p>
9	<p><i>Material Content:</i></p> <p>There is requirement of the Blanket made with 100% recycled polyester.</p> <p>MTB & HTB: Outer layers will be knitted and will be made with 100% recycled polyester, but can we use non-woven fabric as central layer of blanket made with recycled polyester as well as other recycled materials like cotton, wool, acrylic and PET etc. (from post-consumer waste)? More importantly the product quality and integrity will not be compromised & this will encourage the zero waste policy.</p>	Based on the specification we cannot accept it, as we want a mono-material blanket, made of 100% recycled polyester only.

10	<p><i>Finishing:</i> It requires whipped seam at 10mm from the edge with minimum of 10 stitches / 10 cm. Can we go with whipped seam at 5 mm minimum from the edge with more number of stitches like 20-35 stitches / 10 cm which is more secured, durable and strengthened? This is more innovative way of stitching as well.</p>	<p>This is acceptable as the minimum number of stitches is 10. Any innovative finishing needs to ensure that quality is not compromised.</p>
11	<p><i>Tertiary Packaging:</i> We can comply the given requirement. What if we eliminate the plastic wrapping, even quality will not be compromised, and cargo will still be safe? This will reduce the single used plastic in the packaging as well.</p>	<p>It is acceptable. Bidders may offer cost-efficient and sustainable packaging solutions considering that products are protected and safe from any damage including water and moisture during handling, transportation, and storage.</p>
12	<p><i>Marking of the Bale:</i> It requires the marking on all side of bale. Can we apply the marking on 2 sides of bale which is also clearly visible and prominent? Coz other sides of bale has stitches where marking couldn't be applied, please see attached bale picture for more clarification. This is a more sustainable way as well because less paper & ink will be used.</p> 	<p>This is acceptable as long as the marking is clearly visible.</p>

		
13	<p><i>Secondary Packaging Medium Thermal Blanket:</i></p> <p>Bale Dimension: Should we go with the bale dimension (L80 x W53 x H55 +/- 20%) to optimize container loading? Load-ability file is enclosed here.</p> <p>Pack Factor: Can we pack 22 pcs per bale instead of 20 pcs per bale for palletized loading in 40' HC Container as 10% load-ability will be increased?</p> <p>With the above-mentioned bale dimension and optimized loading 40FT HC load - ability can be increased.</p> <p>Please confirm if this is acceptable.</p>	<p>The bidder can propose alternative loading capacity.</p> <p>Final number of pieces per bale will be informed to all successful bidders.</p>
14	<p><i>Secondary Packaging High Thermal Blanket</i></p> <p>Bale Dimension: Should we go with the bale dimension (L80 x W53 x H55 +/- 20%) to optimize container loading? Load-ability file is enclosed here.</p> <p>Pack Factor: Can we pack 17 pcs per bale instead of 15 pcs per bale for palletized loading in 40' HC Container as 10% load-ability will be increased?</p> <p>With the above-mentioned bale dimension and optimized loading 40FT HC load - ability can be increased.</p>	<p>The bidder can propose alternative loading capacity.</p> <p>Final number of pieces per bale will be informed to all successful bidders.</p>

	Please confirm if this is acceptable.	
15	<p>We will make laboratory tests with a sample that is the same as specified in the technical specifications of the tender, but the only difference is color.</p> <p>Available samples are ecru. However, we will send dark uniform color samples which are in the production process to UNHCR GSM Dubai Warehouse. In case of award, production will be the same as the samples which we will send to UNHCR. Could you please advise whether the technical evaluation committee may accept these laboratory results?</p>	The sample to be sent for laboratory tests shall be the same as specified in the technical specifications including the color.
16	<p>The factory informed that they require 60 days to prepare the sample and lab report after the release of the Q&A.</p> <p>We therefor kindly ask you to allow an extension of 60 days for the submission of the tender 2023/ITB/037.</p>	<p>We can extend the deadline with 30 days, the current submission deadline is 08 March 2024 with an extension until 08 April 2024 there is still sufficient time left for the factory.</p> <p>NEW CLOSING DATE AND TIME OF SUBMISSION OF SAMPLES AND BIDS IS 08 APRIL 23:59 HRS CET.</p>