**Guidelines  
for the drafting of technical specifications for vehicle tenders   
in the field of external actions**

There is a legal obligation for the European Commission to take the necessary measures to guarantee as wide participation as possible, on equal terms, in competitive tendering for the award of contracts financed by the EU.

**Recommendations for avoiding distorting the competition:**

* **Instead of giving very detailed technical specifications of the required equipment,**
* **Define what the equipment is supposed to do** (e.g. *The off-road intervention vehicle is to be used to transport up to eight persons plus equipment and items of luggage on all types of roads*).
* **Define the general constructional characteristics of the vehicle, e.g.:**
  + - * type of engine (e.g. *Diesel*)
      * maximum fuel consumption (e.g. 7,5 to 8,5 L/100 km in inter-urban cycle)
      * maximum dimensions and weight (should as far as possible not be given as exact figures, use minima or approximates, or make indirect reference to it, for example, by describing the use of the car, e.g. *The internal dimensions to ensure adequate comfort for 8 persons in operational clothing travelling over long distances and should permit the temporary use of maps and writing pads*)
      * colour (indicate, where applicable a reference number or attach a sample to the TS)
      * minimum tools and accessories (as provided by the legislation of the country where the vehicle will be used)
      * the speed
      * type of suspension and tyres (e.g. *The vehicle should be suitable for on- and off-road operation*).
* **Where applicable, indicate the internationally recognised general standards as benchmarks: Examples: (for European Standards):**
  + - * fuel emission: Euro E5
      * transmission, steering and breaking system (e.g. steering system according to manufacturing, installation and test specification of 70/311/EEC, the dimensions of the service and parking brake systems should conform to 71/320/EEC for the vehicle class M1)
      * Lighting, signalling and communication equipment (e.g. according to 76/756/EEC)
* **Specify general requirements for safety, e.g.:**
  + - * The exterior walls, including the sliding door, rear doors and the roof area shall be adequately insulated against heat, cold, noise and condensation from the inside. The materials used for condensation arrangement must be non-flammable.
      * The materials used must be non-polluting and shall not affect the users' health.
* **Warranty:** 
  + - * Specify the minimum requirements for guarantee for engine, accumulators, corrosion, tyres etc.
* **Avoid the following discriminatory practices:**

Too narrow requirements in the technical specifications, such as:

* **Detailed specifications of the engine, or other parts of the car**: (e.g. for the **engine**: 3956cc (4 litre) V6, 24 valve, VVT-i DOHC).
* **Indication of a specific new technology used only by certain cars manufacturers**

The technical specifications must always take into account the homologation requirements applicable in the partner country and also, where applicable, the internationally recognised general standards for manufacture and safety of vehicles (specify the standards in the technical specifications).

It is also necessary to take into account the availability of an after-sales service.

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