



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Directorate L. Economic analysis, perspectives and evaluations
L.4. Evaluation of measures applicable to agriculture; studies

Brussels, 26 May 2009
AGRI L.4/MZ D (2009) / 123718
D69\DF1\Certification schemes\ Q&A10

Subject: Request for additional information related to the Open Call for Tender "Inventory of certification schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs marketed in the EU Member States". Tender N° AGRI-2009-EVAL-01

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed the answer of the European Commission to the questions raised by a potential tenderer.

In view of improving the quality of the tenders and to ensure that all additional information is evenly distributed amongst the participants in the tendering process, this letter will be made available to all interested parties.

QUESTION:

Two institutions from different countries sent me proposals for participating in their consortia - can I sign in (participate in) both proposals - as an "external expert" from my country? Or is it then a "conflict of interest"?

ANSWER:

Yes, it is possible. The appearance of an external expert, or other service provider in more than one offer does not create a conflict of interest. Moreover, an external expert, or other service provider, appearing in more than one offer, will not lead to the exclusion of these offers, provided, of course, that all conditions (e.g. exclusion and selection criteria) specified in the related tender documents are respected.

Please note that all the information, questions or observations of all nature which are in this note, do not engage the Commission in any way. Such engagement may only occur after the completion of the corresponding market procedure, by signature of the contract.

[signed]
Leo MAIER
Head of Unit