

Assessment EMA - Offer by Malta - Malta		
Criterion/Special issues	Information provided in the Offer	Commission assessment
<p>1) The assurance that the agency can be set up on site and take up its functions at the date of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the Union</p> <p><i>This criterion concerns in particular the availability of appropriate office premises in time for the Agency to be able to take up its functions at the new location at the withdrawal date. This should include the necessary logistics and sufficient space for offices, meeting rooms and off-site archiving, high-performing telecommunication and data storage networks as well as appropriate physical and IT security standards.</i></p>		
1.1 Necessary logistics and sufficient space (a total of 27,000 m <sup>2</sup> of office space) for...	"The Government of Malta is offering a bespoke state-of-the art premises which will be tailored for the European Medicines Agency. The new building will provide the European Medicines Agency with an environment that responds to their present and future projections. [...] a building to host over 1,000 employees and 40,000 visitors per year, with an office area of at least 30,000 square metres ." (p. 7)	The offer indicates proposed premises (of at least 30,000 m <sup>2</sup> ).
1.1.1 ...offices, to host 890 members of staff. EMA has 18,500 m <sup>2</sup> in offices and open-plan with capacity for 1,300 office work stations and adequate internal meeting rooms	See 1.1	The offer provides general information on a building project to host over 1,000 employees, without indicating the availability of a number of offices, work stations, internal meeting rooms.
1.1.2 ...meeting rooms, a total of 6,000 m <sup>2</sup> . These meeting rooms should have internet 4G connection, audio and video conference facilities, broadcasting and recording equipment and a voting system per seat. EMA has:		The offer does not provide information on meeting rooms and conference facilities.
1.1.2.1 five rooms with 70-120 seats		The offer does not provide information on the meeting rooms of any sizes.
1.1.2.2 two rooms with 35 seats		The offer does not provide information on the meeting rooms of any sizes.
1.1.2.3 ten rooms with 4-24 seats		The offer does not provide information on the meeting rooms of any sizes.
1.1.3 ...one enclosed lounge of 500 m <sup>2</sup> and another lounge for 50 persons, both lounges with desk/work stations and storage facilities		The offer does not provide information on the availability of any lounges.
1.1.4 ...an auditorium for around 300 people		The offer does not provide information on the availability of an auditorium.
1.1.5 ...a 250 m <sup>2</sup> reception area, with disability access as well as with adequate security structure in the vicinity		The offer does not provide information on the availability of a reception area.
1.1.6 ...archiving facilities:		
1.1.6.1 EMA's off-site archive is 600 m <sup>2</sup> and 9m high		The offer does not provide information on the availability of off-site archiving facilities.

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1.1.6.2 On site, EMA has an archive room of approx. 30 m <sup>2</sup> as well as on-floor filing rooms on floors 1 and 5-10 of 5 m <sup>2</sup> each		The offer does not provide information on the availability of on-site archiving facilities.
1.2 Appropriate physical security standards		
1.2.1 Access control systems		The offer does not provide information on the availability of access control systems.
1.2.2 Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)		The offer does not provide information on the availability of Closed Circuit Television.
1.3 Appropriate IT systems and security standards	"Malta is ranked as a top player in Europe for IT [...]it has a number of Tier 3 data servers which can be used by EMA ." (p. 2 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer does not provide information on the availability of appropriate IT systems and security standards, except for the availability of Tier 3 data servers.
1.3.1 Centralised Uninterruptible Power Supply		The offer does not provide information on the availability of Centralised Uninterruptible Power Supply.
1.3.2 WiFi throughout the premises		The offer does not provide information on the availability of WiFi.
1.3.3 Technical rooms, main and secondary equipment rooms, IT build and IT store rooms		The offer does not provide information on the availability of technical rooms.
1.3.4 A telecommunications network with high capacity digital network and with high-speed connectivity		The offer does not provide information on the availability of a telecommunications network
1.3.5 High-performing data storage networks		The offer does not provide information on the availability of data storage networks.
1.3.6 A main and a backup data centre for disaster recovery, both to be accessible from EMA premises via a fast high volume internet or fibre connection. Security and operational IT standards apply		The offer does not provide information on the availability of data centres.
1.4 Availability	"It is planned that the location will be ready by 6 months prior to the deadline of 1 April 2019 so the EMA can start the relocation process much earlier and hit full operation by April 2019. In case of need for earlier availability of premises, guaranteed arrangements of currently vacant offices as well as meeting rooms in proximity of the airport are in place." (p. 2 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer indicates the availability of the building 6 months prior to the deadline of 1 April 2019. The offer also indicates the availability of temporary premises for earlier availability.
1.5 Other		
<b>GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF CRITERION 1</b>		The offer indicates proposed premises (of at least 30,000 m <sup>2</sup> ) to be tailored to EMA needs, without providing information on any of the individual EMA requirements. According to the offer, the building would be available 6 months prior to the deadline of 1 April 2019.

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<b>2) The accessibility of the location</b> <i>This criterion concerns the availability, frequency and duration of flight connections from the capitals of all EU Member States to the airports close to the location, the availability, frequency and duration of public transportation connections from these airports to the location, as well as the quality and quantity of accommodation facilities. In particular, the criterion implies the capacity to allow for the continuation of the volume and intensity of current meeting activities of the Agency.</i>		
<b>2.1 Flight connections from the capitals of all EU Member States to the airports close to the location</b>		
<b>2.1.1 Availability</b>	The offer indicates the availability of direct flights to 16 EU capitals. (p. 15 and annex 2 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer indicates direct flights to 16 EU capitals.
<b>2.1.2 Frequency</b>	The offer indicates the frequency of connecting and direct flights: from once a week to Luxembourg to 19 times per week to Paris. (p. 17)	The offer indicates a frequency of connecting and direct flights per week, varying between 1 and 19.
<b>2.1.3 Duration</b>	The offer indicates the duration of direct flight connections to EU capitals : from 1h25min. to Rome to 3h50min. to Dublin or Stockholm. (annex 2 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer indicates that the duration of direct flights varies between 1h25min. and 3h50min.
<b>2.2 Public transportation connections from these airports to the location</b>		
<b>2.2.1 Availability</b>	<i>"The proposed location is 20 minutes away from the airport. A shuttle service will be introduced and a bus service is available."</i> (p. 2 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer indicates the availability of public transportation between the proposed premises and the airport.
<b>2.2.2 Frequency</b>		The offer does not provide information on the frequency of public transportation connection between the proposed premises and the airport.
<b>2.2.3 Duration</b>	see 2.2.1	The offer indicates that travelling time between the proposed premises and the airport by public transportation is 20 minutes.
<b>2.3 Accommodation facilities</b>		
<b>2.3.1 Quality</b>	<i>"In Malta one may find a vast selection of hotels, ranging from internationally branded hotels to the small family run boutique hotels."</i> (p. 2 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer indicates the availability of a vast selection of hotels, ranging from internationally branded hotels to the small family run boutique hotels.
<b>2.3.2 Quantity (daily peak hotel capacity needed of 350 rooms)</b>	<i>"The hotel industry in Malta counts an annual capacity exceeding 66 million bedrooms and 40,500 bed places on a daily bases."</i> (p. 19)  <i>"Hospitality services have also been carefully planned for EMA visitors to provide accommodation services within walking distance from the Agency."</i> (p. 2 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer indicates an availability of 40,500 bed places on a daily basis.
<b>2.4 Other</b>	<i>"The Malta International Airport (MIA) welcomes over four and a half million passengers annually, and links three continents with over 90 airports directly to Malta. Airport activity at this level makes MIA one of the best connected in its class."</i> (p. 13)	The offer indicates that the Malta International Airport receives over half a million passengers annually and links three continents, making it one of the best connected.

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<b>GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF CRITERION 2</b>		<p>The offer indicates the availability of direct flights between Malta and 16 EU capitals, with a frequency ranging from 1 to 19 flights per week and a duration ranging from 1h25min. to 3h50min.</p> <p>The offer indicates the availability of public transportation connections between the proposed location and the airport, with a duration of 20 minutes, without providing specific information on the frequency of these connections.</p> <p>The offer indicates the availability of 40,500 hotel beds, ranging from internationally branded hotels to the small family run boutique hotels.</p>
<p><b>3) The existence of adequate education facilities for the children of agency staff</b></p> <p><i>This criterion concerns the availability of multi-lingual, European-oriented schooling that can meet the needs for education facilities for the children of the current staff as well as the capacity to meet also the future education needs.</i></p>		
<p><b>3.1 Availability of multi-lingual, European-oriented schooling that can meet the needs for education facilities for the children of the current staff as well as the future education needs. As of September 2016, EMA's 890 members of staff have 648 children aged 0 to 18, of which...</b></p>	<p><i>"State schools provide for bilingual education at all levels. [...] The sociolinguistic situation in Malta is one of diffused societal bilingualism, with the presence of two official languages, Maltese and English. There are educational establishments that provide for international education in Malta catering for language requirements such as French, German, Italian and Spanish. Arrangements can also be made for support in other languages. It is important to note that in Malta, International Baccalaureate courses are also offered . " (p. 3 of letter from the Prime Minister)</i></p> <p><i>"St Edwards's College has developed its teaching programs and methodologies to cater for the needs of both Maltese and International students. This school in fact caters for preprimary, primary, secondary and upper-secondary educational needs (ages 3 – 19) The languages of instruction in all learning systems is French and Italian as part of the languages curriculum, in addition to English and Maltese . " (p. 26)</i></p> <p><i>"St Martin's College has developed a European-oriented education system based on professional research and extensive experience. The School caters for secondary and upper secondary needs (ages 10 – 19) while its junior school, Chiswick House School (ages 6 months – 10 years) provides kindergarten facilities in addition to a primary level education. The language of instruction at Chiswick House School and St Martin's College is English, with French, German and Italian forming part of the language curriculum, in addition to Maltese. The College also runs a bilingual program in conjunction with the Italian embassy ." (p. 27)</i></p>	

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3.1.1 ... 117 in nursery/day care; 96 in pre-school; 231 in primary school;	See 3.1	The offer indicates the availability of bilingual (in Maltese and English) education at all levels, and of international education (in Maltese, English, French, German and Italian) for pre-primary, primary, secondary schooling. The offer does not provide information on the capacity in the European languages or the number of available places.
3.1.2 ... 149 in second level;	<p><i>"The Verdala International School was established specifically to cater for the needs of Malta's expatriate community. In fact the vast majority of pupils in the school are non-Maltese and all lessons are delivered in the English language. Spanish is part of the curriculum in addition to English and Maltese. Students can benefit from a holistic educational syllabus that is recognized worldwide. The School offers the international general Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) and the IBDp . "</i> (p. 25)</p> <p><i>"St. Edward's College offers the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP). The IBDP includes three subjects at higher level and another 3 subjects at standard level. "</i> (p. 25)</p> <p><i>"The Verdala International School is a member of the European Council of International Schools and the Mediterranean Association of International Schools. It is also accredited by the Middle States Association of Schools and colleges in the United States, enabling us to offer a US High school diploma. In addition, it is also authorised to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma program to Grades 11 and 12 and the IGCSE program and testing to Grades 9 and 10 ."</i> (p. 26)</p>	The offer indicates the availability of international education (in Maltese, English, French, German and Italian) in second level. The offer does not provide information on the capacity in the European languages or the number of available places.
3.1.3 ... 55 in third level/university	<p><i>"The University of Malta is the highest teaching institution in Malta. It is publicly funded and is open to all those who have the requisite qualifications [...] A basic Foundation Studies Course enables international high school students who have completed their secondary or high school education overseas but who do not have the necessary entry requirements to qualify for admission to an undergraduate degree course at the University of Malta. All lectures are delivered in English and all examinations, other than those which form part of language courses are also in English ."</i> (p. 28)</p> <p><i>"Established in 2001, the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST) is Malta's leading vocational education and training institution ."</i> (p. 28)</p> <p><i>"The IMO International Maritime Law Institute [...]is an international centre for the training of specialists in maritime law ."</i> (p. 30)</p> <p><i>"Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies is an institution of higher learning with a unique focus on the Mediterranean region. It offers Master degrees in Diplomatic Studies and a Joint Masters Programme with George Mason University in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security ."</i> (p. 30)</p>	The offer indicates the availability of third level education in English.
3.2 Other	<i>"There are no fees imposed for all European citizens at all stages of the education system from child care centres to tertiary education. "</i> (p. 25)	

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<b>GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF CRITERION 3</b>		The offer indicates the existence of bilingual (in Maltese and English) kindergartens and of international education (in Maltese, English, French, German and Italian) of all school levels, without indicating the capacity in the European languages or the number of available places. The offer indicates the existence of third level education in English. The offer also indicates that there are no fees imposed in Malta for all European citizens at all stages of the education system from child care centres to tertiary education.
<b>4) Appropriate access to the labour market, social security and medical care for both children and spouses</b> <i>This criterion concerns the capacity to meet the needs of the children and spouses of the current as well as of future staff for social security and medical care as well as the availability to offer job opportunities for these.</i>		
<b>4.1 Capacity to meet the needs of the children and spouses of the current as well as of future staff. For all members of staff and extended family members, there is the need for...</b>	<p>"All personnel of EMA and their families will benefit from world-class healthcare and education at no cost." (p. 1 of letter from the Prime Minister)</p> <p>"EMA staff and their families can benefit from free medical treatment at government funded hospitals and clinics through the EU system on coordination of social security benefits in kind. Malta also ranks amongst the top six in the EU for the overall quality of healthcare. The Government's health centre system works in side by side with a thriving private sector, with three main private hospitals in Malta which provide a wide range of medical services. Private health insurance in Malta is extremely inexpensive [...]. EMA employees do not need to pay VAT on medical care, medicines, food and education." (p. 4 of letter from the Prime Minister)</p>	
<b>4.1.1 ... social security</b>	See 4.1	The offer provides general information on access for children and spouses of EMA staff to social security.
<b>4.1.2 ... medical care</b>	see 4.1	The offer indicates access of children and spouses of EMA staff to medical care, including free treatment at government funded hospitals and clinics, and on the availability private hospitals.

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<b>4.2 Job opportunities for children and spouses of current and future staff</b>	<i>"The versatility of the Maltese economy provides ample employment opportunities at practically all levels. There is high capacity of opportunities particularly in the financial, IT, aviation, high-end manufacturing, gaming, healthcare and educational sectors in view of the extensive increase in these sectors in the past years. Malta provides a 15 % tax rate for partners and spouses of EMA employees who have senior management roles in creativity and innovation. Malta's lowest unemployment rate in the EU registered in 2016, diverse labour market and multilingual communication with English as an official language provides an ideal framework to facilitate job provisions for families of EMA staff members ."</i> (p. 4 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer provides general information on sectors of the Maltese economy that provide job opportunities and indicates multilingual communication in English in the workforce in Malta. The offer does not provide information on the availability of registered job vacancies.
<b>4.3 Other</b>		
<b>GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF CRITERION 4</b>		The offer indicates access of children and spouses of EMA staff to social security and medical care, as well as on sectors of the Maltese economy that provide job opportunities in multilingual communication (in Maltese and English), without specifying the availability of registered job vacancies.
<b>5) Business continuity</b> <i>This criterion is relevant given the critical nature of the services provided by the Agencies and the need therefore to ensure continued functionality at the existing high level. The criterion relates to the timeframe required to fulfil the four criteria above. It concerns amongst other things the ability to allow the Agencies to maintain and attract highly qualified staff from the relevant sectors, notably in case not all current staff should choose to relocate. Furthermore, it concerns the capacity to ensure a smooth transition to the new locations and hence to guarantee the business continuity of the Agencies which should remain operational during the transition.</i>		
<b>5.1 Timeframe required to fulfil the four criteria above</b>	<i>"It is planned that the location will be ready by 6 months prior to the deadline of 1 April 2019 so the EMA can start the relocation process much earlier and hit full operation by April 2019 ."</i> (p. 2 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer indicates a general timeframe for making the new premises available to EMA 6 months before 1 April 2019.

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<b>5.2 Ability to allow EMA to maintain and attract highly qualified staff from the relevant sectors</b>	<p><i>"The human resources and physical facilities found within the Maltese health system are second to none. These resources will be available for the EMA to tap into. The research community is rapidly growing. A strong, internationally recognised, research platform in the area of genomics has been developed with a particular focus on diabetes, cancer and rare diseases. Malta fosters close links between the scientific, health care and education communities. The smooth interface between research centres, policy makers and clinical practitioners enables rapid and agile policy response ."</i> (p. 3)</p> <p><i>"Combined with Malta's climate and culture, the safe social environment guarantee a pleasant working and living experience which will help EMA to attract highly qualified staff from the relevant sectors ."</i> (p. 4 of letter from the Prime Minister)</p>	<p>The offer indicates the possibility for EMA to recruit relevant staff from Malta's healthcare sector. The offer refers to living and working conditions in Malta in relation to EMA ability to attract staff.</p>
<b>5.3 Smooth transition to the new locations - EMA can remain operational during the transition</b>	<p><i>"The Malta Medicines Authority is honoured to provide personalised support for a seamless transition from London to Malta through a dedicated office."</i> (p. 4)</p>	<p>The offer indicates the Malta Medicines Authority's readiness to provide EMA with personalised support for a seamless transition.</p>
<b>5.4 Other</b>	<p><i>"Malta has established itself as a hub for the pharmaceutical and life sciences sectors in Europe. The island's unique legal framework, strategic location, solid incentives, highly skilled bilingual workforce and independence of the regulator are some of the key success factors which helped Malta reach the present attractive status to host the European Medicines Agency ."</i> (p. 4)</p> <p><i>"The fact that Malta does not have a large pharmaceutical industry allows it to have a role as a neutral broker and provides a serene environment for EMA to operate ."</i> (p. 3)</p> <p><i>"Personalised relocation support, including thorough consideration to housing and schooling for all employees and their dependants, is offered ."</i> (p. 1 of letter from the Prime Minister)</p> <p><i>"A dedicated office will offer its services to EMA personnel to find appropriate logging based on one's needs and expectations from a vast variety of residences available for rent or purchase ."</i> (p. 21)</p>	<p>The offer argues that Malta offers an attractive environment for EMA's activity, acting as a hub for the pharmaceutical and life sciences sectors in Europe, and in being free of a large pharmaceutical industry.</p> <p>The offer indicates the availability of personalised relocation support to be offered to EMA staff, their spouses and children.</p>
<b>GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF CRITERION 5</b>		<p>The offer indicates a general timeframe for making the new premises available to EMA 6 months before 1 April 2019.</p> <p>The offer indicates the possibility for EMA to recruit relevant staff from Malta's healthcare sector and to the living and working conditions in Malta in relation to EMA ability to maintain staff.</p> <p>The offer indicates the Malta Medicines Authority's readiness to provide EMA with personalised support for a seamless transition.</p> <p>The offer indicates the availability of personalised relocation support to be offered to EMA staff, their spouses and children.</p>



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<b>6) Geographical spread</b> <i>This criterion relates to the agreed desirability of geographical spread of the agencies' seats, and to the objective set in December 2003 by the representatives of the Member States, meeting at Head of State or Government level and confirmed in 2008</i>	<i>"The relocation of an established agency to a small Member State will be a symbol that the EU is close to its citizens independent of the size and geographic location of the Member State ." (p. 5 of letter from the Prime Minister)</i>	<b>Malta hosts one EU decentralised agency, the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) in Valletta.</b>
<b>Specific issues</b>		
<b>a) The Member State's plan for...</b>		
<b>... when would the relocation take place</b>	<i>"It is planned that the location will be ready by 6 months prior to the deadline of 1 April 2019 so the EMA can start the relocation process much earlier and hit full operation by April 2019. In case of need for earlier availability of premises, guaranteed arrangements of currently vacant offices as well as meeting rooms in proximity of the airport are in place ." (p. 2 of letter from the Prime Minister)</i>	The offer indicates the possibility for EMA to start the relocation to its new premises 6 months prior to the deadline of 1 April 2019. The offer also indicates that earlier relocation plans can also be accommodated for pursuant to the availability of temporary offices.
<b>... how would the relocation take place</b>	<i>"The Government will provide full institutional support for the work of the EMA. EMA will make use of existing facilities within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to assist the staff of the EMA where necessary and applicable [...] The Government will set up an EMA Relocation Office and cover its cost to help in the settling-in of the EMA staff ." (annex 1 of letter from the Prime Minister)</i>	The offer indicates the availability of institutional support to EMA for its relocation (including the establishment of a Relocation Office).
<b>How would this plan ensure that the Agency remains operational?</b>	See Sections 5.3 and a)	The offer indicates institutional support for EMA in its relocation, as well as support by the Malta Medicines Authority.
<b>GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF SPECIFIC ISSUE a)</b>		<b>The offer indicates the possibility for EMA to start the relocation to its new premises 6 months prior to the deadline of 1 April 2019, with a possibility for an earlier relocation to temporary offices. The offer indicates the availability of institutional support to EMA for its relocation (including the establishment of a Relocation Office) and of individualised support to EMA in its operations by the Malta Medicines Authority.</b>
<b>b) The premises that would be offered to be rented or put at the disposal of the Agency indicated in the offer, including temporary premises</b>	The offer indicates premises in <i>Smart City Malta</i> or another location as agreed by both parties. (p. 11 of letter from the Prime Minister)	The offer indicates proposed premises in <i>Smart City Malta</i> .
<b>How would these premises meet the specific needs of the Agency?</b>	<i>"The Government of Malta is offering a bespoke state-of-the art premises which will be tailored for the European Medicines Agency. The new building will provide the European Medicines Agency with an environment that responds to their present and future projection s." (p. 7)</i>	The offer indicates that the proposed premises will be tailored to EMA needs, without providing information on any of the individual EMA requirements.

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GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF SPECIFIC ISSUE b)		The offer indicates premises in <i>Smart City Malta</i> , to be tailored to the Agency's needs, without providing information on any of the individual EMA requirements.
<b>c) The financial terms for the Agency's use of these premises</b>	<p>"The Government will cover the lease costs (rent, Smart City Malta maintenance costs and deposit) of the agreed European medicines Agencies premises for the first fifteen years of operation starting from 19th April 2019. " (annex 1 of letter from the Prime Minister)</p> <p>"The Government will cover the costs of hiring the Mediterranean Conference Centre for the holding of EMA meeting for a year ." (annex 1 of letter from the Prime Minister)</p>	<p>The offer indicates the intention of the Maltese Government to cover rent, maintenance costs and deposit for the first 15 years of operation, without providing specific information on the financial terms concerning maintenance of the building after that period.</p> <p>The offer also indicates the intention of the Maltese Government to pay for EMA hiring a Conference Centre for one year, without providing details on financial terms.</p>
<b>Would the Member State pay the rent for a given period or indefinitely?</b>	See Section c)	The offer mentions the intention of the Maltese Government to cover rent, maintenance costs and costs for the first 15 years of operation, starting 19 April 2019.
GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF c)		<p>The offer indicates the intention of the Maltese Government to cover rent, maintenance costs and deposit for the first 15 years of operation, starting 19 April 2019, without providing specific information on the financial terms for the Agency's use of the building after that period.</p> <p>The offer also indicates the intention of the Maltese Government to pay for EMA hiring a Conference Centre for one year, without providing details on the financial terms.</p>
<b>d) The terms concerning maintenance of the building</b>	See Section c)	The offer indicates the intention of the Maltese Government to cover the maintenance costs for a period of 15 years, without providing specific information on the financial terms concerning maintenance of the building after that period.
<b>The terms concerning upgrading the building or future extensions of the building</b>		The offer does not indicate the financial terms for upgrading the building or conducting and future extensions.

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<b>GENERAL ASSESSMENT d)</b>		The offer indicates the intention of the Maltese Government to cover the maintenance costs for a period of 15 years, without providing specific information on the financial terms concerning maintenance of the building after that period. The offer does not indicate the financial terms concerning upgrading or extension of the building.
<b>e) Any special conditions offered with regard to all costs and dedicated infrastructures</b>	<i>"The Government shall provide, on a once-only basis, a grant to cover office furniture, telephone and data services as agreed between both parties." (annex 1 of letter from the Prime Minister)</i>	The offer indicates the intention of the Maltese Government to cover, on a once-only basis, office furniture, telephone and data services for EMA.
<b>f) Any benefits that would be granted to the Agency and/or its staff (in addition to those following from Protocol No 7 on the privileges and immunities of the European Union)</b>	<p><i>"The Maltese Government will provide the European Medicines Agency with the same terms and conditions of application of the EU Protocol on privileges and immunities as are applicable abroad to the European Commission Representation, European Asylum Support Office and European Parliament Office in Malta." (p. 7)</i></p> <p><i>"Malta provides a 15 % tax rate for partners and spouses of EMA employees who have senior management roles in creativity and innovation". (p. 4 of letter from the Prime Minister)</i></p> <p>Detailed benefits in the Proposed Draft Privileges and Immunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fiscal and customs treatment of the EMA and its staff, including VAT on personal effects (medical care, medicines, food and education);</li> <li>- Identity Cards;</li> <li>- Social Security;</li> <li>- Seat of the EMA;</li> <li>- Institutional Support.</li> </ul> <p>(annex 1 of letter from the Prime Minister)</p>	The offer indicates benefits that would be granted to the Agency and/or its staff in addition to those following from Protocol No 7 and which include:
<b>Member State's commitment to confirm the conditions offered in a headquarters agreement with EMA</b>	<p><i>"The Maltese Government will provide the European Medicines Agency with the same terms and conditions of application of the EU Protocol on privileges and immunities as are applicable abroad to the European Commission Representation, European Asylum Support Office and European Parliament Office in Malta." (p. 7)</i></p> <p>The offer includes a document entitled "Proposed Draft Privileges and Immunities". (annex 1 of letter from the Prime Minister)</p>	The offer indicates that a headquarters agreement will be signed with EMA.
<b>OTHER POSSIBLY RELEVANT ISSUES MENTIONED IN THE OFFER</b>		
<b>Climate</b>	<i>"The Maltese Islands have favourable climate with a daily average of around 12 hours sunshine in summer going down to 5 to 6 hours in mid-winter. It's also hard to beat 300 days of sunshine in a year." (p. 11)</i>	