



Procurement Report

DESCRIPTION:

RFP2026/8– APPOINTMENT OF FSCA-REGISTERED CREDIT RATING AGENCY(IES) TO PROVIDE SECURITY-LEVEL CREDIT RATINGS FOR A PERIOD OF 5 YEARS

REQUESTING DEPARTMENT:

INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION REQUIRED:

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

ESTIMATED CONTRACT VALUE:

R6 270 000.00 (VAT EXCLUSIVE)



BAC Meeting Date

20 April 2026

Bid Adjudication Committee (BAC) Submission

RFP2026/8: Appointment of FSCA-registered credit rating agency(ies) to provide security-level credit ratings for a period of 5 years

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this submission is to request the Bid Adjudication Committee (BAC) to adjudicate and approve the award of RFP2026/8, for the Appointment of FSCA-registered credit rating agency(ies) to provide security-level credit ratings for a period of 5 years, as follows:

Name of Bidding Entity	Services Offered	Contract Duration	Estimated Contract Value (VAT Excl.)
Care Rating South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Appointment of FSCA-registered credit rating agency(ies) to provide security-level credit ratings for a period of 5 years	5 years	R5 700 00.00
10 % Contingency			R570 000.00
Total Bid price (Vat Excl.)			R6 270 000.00
Notes:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The contingency fee will be utilised to cover costs within the scope of the RFP.• There will be 10% contingency as the services offered are based on ROE inflation			



2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Business Case

Sasria SOC Ltd (Sasria) requires independent, high-quality credit ratings to support its investment decision-making, risk management, and regulatory reporting. These ratings are essential for assessing the creditworthiness of instruments across asset classes including but not limited to corporate debt, government bonds, structured products, and money market instruments, unit trusts, Infrastructure assets and Hedge funds.

Sasria outsources its investment administration services and uses credit ratings for its securities (financial instruments). An external service provider supplies instrument-level credit rating data to assist the Actuarial department in calculating the Solvency and Capital Requirements. The Investment department uses this data for internal reporting purposes. The data also enables Sasria to publish consolidated credit ratings in its Annual Financial Statements. It is also a requirement to provide instrument credit ratings in terms of the IFRS 17 disclosure requirement.

The selected provider will support Sasria's actuarial, investment, and finance departments in meeting internal and external reporting requirements, including:

- Solvency and Capital Requirements (SCR) calculations
- IFRS 7 financial disclosures
- Internal risk and performance reporting
- Annual Financial Statement preparation
- Deliver data in a structured format compatible with Sasria's systems.

2.2 Bid Scope

The appointed service provider will be required to deliver structured credit rating data at an instrument level for all securities held within the organisation's investment portfolios, in a format compatible with Sasria's systems.



2.2.1 The bidder will be expected to deliver instrument-level credit ratings across multiple asset classes, including but not limited to;

- Corporate debt
- Government bonds including public finance instruments
- Structured products
- Money market instruments
- Unit trust funds
- Infrastructure assets
- Hedge Funds

2.2.2 The Service Provider shall ensure:

- Data timeliness (e.g., ratings updates provided within agreed SLAs following material events or on a scheduled basis);
- Accuracy and integrity of ratings and data;
- High system uptime and reliability for data delivery;
- Dedicated support, responsive turnaround times for queries/rating reviews, and documented issue resolution/escalation procedures.

2.2.3 The Service Provider must demonstrate the capability to deliver instrument-level ratings across all of the above asset classes, with comprehensive coverage on both national (South African/domestic) and international rating scales as relevant to Sasria's investment universe.

For detailed tender requirements, see the RFP document attached hereto as **Annexure A**.

2.3 RFP Background

The table below reflects further details for this RFP:

RFP Issue Date	RFP Original Closing Date	Number of Bids Received on time	Number of Late Bids Received
19 March 2026	30 March 2026	3	0



The procurement approach adopted was an approved closed bidding process, limited to the five accredited credit rating suppliers.

Note:

- a) The bids are valid until 29 August 2026.
- b) No late bid was considered for evaluation.
- c) The RFP was a closed tender, which was issued to all specialised service providers. Please refer to **Annexure B** for the approved motivation letter
- d) The RFP was advertised on Sasria Tender Portal only because this was a closed tender advertised to specialised service providers.
- e) All bids were received via Sasria's e-procurement portal (<https://procurement.sasria.co.za/>)
- f) See Tender Register attached hereto as **Annexure C**.

3. EVALUATION PROCESS

3.1 Evaluation Process

The Evaluation Process entailed the following:

3.1.1 Level 1 - Governance Verification: During this level, bid responses are reviewed in terms of compliance with bid requirements such as registration on Central Supplier Database (CSD); confirmation tax compliance; signed Declaration of Interest form, completion of all SBD forms. The three (3) bid responses were received on time, and all qualified and advanced to the next level of the evaluation process i.e., Price and Specific Goals. See Governance Verification Report attached hereto as **Annexure D**.

3.1.2 Level 3 – Price and Specific Goals Evaluation: During this level, bid responses are evaluated in accordance with the Price and Specific Goals criteria. See Price and Specific Goals evaluation report attached hereto as **Annexure E**



3.3 Evaluation Criteria & Weighting

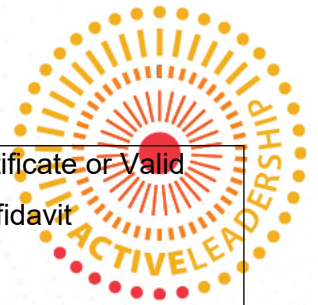
This tender was evaluated in terms of the following criteria:

CRITERIA	Points
1. Technical	100
Minimum Qualifying Score	70
2. Preference points system:	100 Points
2.1 Price	80
2.2 Specific Goals	20

Criteria for Specific Goals

Below is the specific goal(s) allocated for this RFP. Bidders are required to provide valid and sufficient proof as indicated in the table below to claim the preference points indicated.

Specific Goal to be measured	Points allocated out of a maximum 20.00 points	Proof required to allocate points
1. The tenderer is: a) An Exempted Micro Enterprise (EME) or	15.00	Valid Sworn Affidavit or Valid Specialized Entity Sworn Affidavit
b) A Qualifying Small Enterprise (QSE) or	15.00	Valid B-BBEE certificate or Sworn Affidavit for QSE that are at least 51% black owned
c) A Generic enterprise	10.00	Valid B-BBEE certificate
d) A Generic enterprise (Prime Contractor) subcontracting at least 20% of the contract to either a EME or QSE.	15.00	1. Valid B-BBEE certificate and 2. A signed subcontracting agreement (between the Prime Contractor and Subcontracting parties) 3. Sworn Affidavit for EME or QSE that are at least 51% black owned



<p>2. Additional points if the tenderer is at least 51% black Owned</p> <p><i>(a Prime contractors B-BBEE certificate or Affidavit will be used in the case of subcontracting arrangements)</i></p>	<p>5.00</p>	<p>Valid B-BBEE certificate or Valid Sworn Affidavit</p>
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4. SUMMARY OF EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 Price Analysis

The table below depicts the comparison of bidders' prices:

Cost Component		Care Ratings South Africa (Pty) Ltd	S&P Global Limited	Sovereign Africa Ratings (Pty) Ltd
1	Annual Subscription – Year 1	R1 300 000.00	R1 195 154.00	R3 940 000.00
2	R1 300 000.00	R1 100 000.00	R1 278 837.00	R4 137 000.00
3	Annual Subscription – Year 3	R1 100 000.00	R1 368 373.00	R4 343 850.00
4	Annual Subscription – Year 4	R1 100 000.00	R1 464 154.00	R4 561 042.50
5	Annual Subscription – Year 5	R1 100 000.00	R1 566 649.00	R4 789 094.62
Total Bid Price (VAT Excl.)		R5 700 000.00	R6 873 167.00	R21 770 987.12

Notes on pricing:



- The recommended bidder is Care Ratings South Africa (Pty) Ltd based on price and specific goals they scored the highest points.
- The price from the second-year decreases by 15.38% and become fixed for yr 3, 4 and 5 for the recommended bidder
- The price for S&P Global Limited increases by 7% annually and the price for Sovereign Africa Ratings (Pty) Ltd increases by 5% annually.
- The contract value of the previous contract was R4 113 711.58. for a period of 4years which is comparable to the recommended bidder's price.

4.2 Price and Specific Goals Scores

Name of Bidding Entity	Price	Price Score 80	Entity Size	Entity Size Score	51% Black Owned	Specific Goals Score 20	Total Consolidated Scores
Care Ratings South Africa (Pty) Ltd	R5 700 000.00	80.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	80.00
S&P Global Limited	R6 873 167.00	63.53	GEN	N/A	N/A	N/A	63.53
Sovereign Africa Ratings (Pty) Ltd	R21 770 987.12	-145.56	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-145.56

Note: All three bidders did not score any specific goals points as they did not submit any certificate but submitted letters and have noted the following:

- Care Ratings South Africa (Pty) Ltd is a recently established entity and remains in an operational growth phase. At this stage, the Company does not yet hold a formal B-BBEE verification certificate. This position is transitional and reflective of early-stage operational scale rather than a lack of commitment. The Company has implemented foundational governance and recruitment structures to support formal verification once operational thresholds and staffing levels permit
- S&P Global Limited indicated that as per Code series reference No 400 of the revised Codes of Good Practice of 2013, imported Goods that are not capital goods or components qualify for exclusion if they meet the following rules (paraphrased): The Revised Codes state that international procurement can be considered as an exclusion to the total measured procurement spend, provided that;
 - Imported capital goods or components for value-added production in South Africa provided that:
 - There is no existing local production of such capital goods or components; and



- Importing such capital goods or components promotes further value-added production within South Africa.
- Given the nature of the suite of solutions as required by the client, with S&P Global Market Intelligence is confident that no local competitor exists that can on its own provide the complete solution with the same reputational credibility.
- Sovereign Africa Ratings (Pty) Ltd they did not submit any document that talks about BBBEE

5. **BUDGET**

The Investment Department has a budget of R1 600 000.00 in this current financial year for the Appointment of FSCA-registered credit rating agency(ies) to provide security-level credit ratings for a period of 5 years. Investment has sufficient budget to cover all the costs for the period of the contract.

6. **ATTACHMENTS**

Annexure A: RFP Document

Annexure B: Closed Tender Memo

Annexure C: Tender Register

Annexure D: Governance Report

Annexure E: Price and Specific Goals Evaluation Report



7. GOVERNANCE ON THE RECOMMENDED BIDDER: CARE RATINGS SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

Checks Conducted	Results
Central Supplier Database	The bidder is registered on the National Treasury CSD, and no irregularities were found on the CSD Registration Report.
Tax Compliance	The CSD report dated 08 April 2026 confirmed that the bidder is Tax Compliant .
National Treasury Database of Restricted Suppliers	The CSD report 08 April 2026 confirmed that the bidder is not listed on the National Treasury Database of Restricted Suppliers.
Declaration of Interest	The bidder and its principals declared that no conflict of interest exist in terms of this project or its association with Sasria in this regard.
Entity Size	N/A
Black Shareholding %	Black Shareholding: N/A Black Women Shareholding: N/A
Shareholders	Care Ratings (Africa) Private Limited – 100%

8. RECOMMENDATION

Based on the evaluation results above, it is recommended that the BAC approves the award of RFP2026/8, for appointment of FSCA-registered credit rating agency(ies) to provide security-level credit ratings for a period of 5 years to **Care Ratings South Africa (Pty) Ltd** at an estimated total contract value of **R6 270 000.00(VAT Excl.)** including 10% of contingency over a period of 5 years.

9. VERIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

The signatories below hereby declare that they have no interest in any of the bidders referenced in this report, which may raise a possible conflict of interest.



Compiled by: Mmabatho Mokwena
Procurement Buyer

Supported by: Kamal Mitha
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