

# *Section II. Instructions to Bidders*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. GENERAL.....	6
1. Scope of Bid .....	6
2. Source of Funds.....	6
3. Corrupt, Fraudulent, Collusive, and Coercive Practices .....	6
4. Conflict of Interest .....	7
5. Eligible Bidders.....	9
6. Bidder’s Responsibilities.....	10
7. Origin of Goods.....	12
8. Subcontracts .....	12
B. CONTENTS OF BIDDING DOCUMENTS .....	13
9. Pre-Bid Conference .....	13
10. Clarification and Amendment of Bidding Documents.....	13
C. PREPARATION OF BIDS .....	14
11. Language of Bid.....	14
12. Documents Comprising the Bid: Eligibility and Technical Components.....	14
13. Documents Comprising the Bid: Financial Component .....	16
14. Alternative Bids.....	17
15. Bid Prices .....	17
16. Bid Currencies.....	19
17. Bid Validity .....	19
18. Bid Security.....	20
19. Format and Signing of Bids .....	22
20. Sealing and Marking of Bids.....	22
D. SUBMISSION AND OPENING OF BIDS .....	23
21. Deadline for Submission of Bids .....	23
22. Late Bids .....	23
23. Modification and Withdrawal of Bids.....	23
24. Opening and Preliminary Examination of Bids .....	24
E. EVALUATION AND COMPARISON OF BIDS .....	26
25. Process to be Confidential.....	26

26.	Clarification of Bids .....	26
27.	Domestic Preference .....	26
28.	Detailed Evaluation and Comparison of Bids .....	27
29.	Post-Qualification.....	28
30.	Reservation Clause.....	29
F.	AWARD OF CONTRACT .....	30
31.	Contract Award .....	30
32.	Signing of the Contract .....	31
33.	Performance Security .....	31
34.	Notice to Proceed .....	32
35.	Protest Mechanism.....	37

## A. General

### 1. Scope of Bid

- 1.1. The Procuring Entity named in the **BDS** invites bids for the supply and delivery of the Goods as described in Section VII. Technical Specifications.
- 1.2. The name, identification, and number of lots specific to this bidding are provided in the **BDS**. The contracting strategy and basis of evaluation of lots is described in **ITB** Clause 28.

### 2. Source of Funds

The Procuring Entity has a budget or has received funds from the Funding Source named in the **BDS**, and in the amount indicated in the **BDS**. It intends to apply part of the funds received for the Project, as defined in the **BDS**, to cover eligible payments under the contract.

### 3. Corrupt, Fraudulent, Collusive, and Coercive Practices

- 3.1. Unless otherwise specified in the **BDS**, the Procuring Entity as well as the bidders and suppliers shall observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of the contract. In pursuance of this policy, the Procuring Entity:
  - (a) defines, for purposes of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:
    - (i) “corrupt practice” means behavior on the part of officials in the public or private sectors by which they improperly and unlawfully enrich themselves, others, or induce others to do so, by misusing the position in which they are placed, and includes the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of anything of value to influence the action of any such official in the procurement process or in contract execution; entering, on behalf of the government, into any contract or transaction manifestly and grossly disadvantageous to the same, whether or not the public officer profited or will profit thereby, and similar acts as provided in RA 3019.
    - (ii) “fraudulent practice” means a misrepresentation of facts in order to influence a procurement process or the execution of a contract to the detriment of the Procuring Entity, and includes collusive practices among Bidders (prior to or after bid submission) designed to establish bid prices at artificial, non-competitive levels and to deprive the Procuring Entity of the benefits of free and open competition.
    - (iii) “collusive practices” means a scheme or arrangement between two or more Bidders, with or without the knowledge of the



Procuring Entity, designed to establish bid prices at artificial, non-competitive levels.

(iv) “coercive practices” means harming or threatening to harm, directly or indirectly, persons, or their property to influence their participation in a procurement process, or affect the execution of a contract;

(v) “obstructive practice” is

(aa) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing of evidence material to an administrative proceedings or investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede an administrative proceedings or investigation of the Procuring Entity or any foreign government/foreign or international financing institution into allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the administrative proceedings or investigation or from pursuing such proceedings or investigation; or

(bb) acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the inspection and audit rights of the Procuring Entity or any foreign government/foreign or international financing institution herein.

(b) will reject a proposal for award if it determines that the Bidder recommended for award has engaged in any of the practices mentioned in this Clause for purposes of competing for the contract.

3.2. Further, the Procuring Entity will seek to impose the maximum civil, administrative, and/or criminal penalties available under applicable laws on individuals and organizations deemed to be involved in any of the practices mentioned in **ITB** Clause 3.1(a).

3.3. Furthermore, the Funding Source and the Procuring Entity reserve the right to inspect and audit records and accounts of a bidder or supplier in the bidding for and performance of a contract themselves or through independent auditors as reflected in the **GCC** Clause 3.

#### **4. Conflict of Interest**

4.1. All Bidders found to have conflicting interests shall be disqualified to participate in the procurement at hand, without prejudice to the imposition of appropriate administrative, civil, and criminal sanctions. A Bidder may be considered to have conflicting interests with another Bidder in any of the events described in paragraphs (a) through (c) below and a general conflict of

interest in any of the circumstances set out in paragraphs (d) through (g) below:

- (a) A Bidder has controlling shareholders in common with another Bidder;
- (b) A Bidder receives or has received any direct or indirect subsidy from any other Bidder;
- (c) A Bidder has the same legal representative as that of another Bidder for purposes of this bid;
- (d) A Bidder has a relationship, directly or through third parties, that puts them in a position to have access to information about or influence on the bid of another Bidder or influence the decisions of the Procuring Entity regarding this bidding process;
- (e) A Bidder submits more than one bid in this bidding process. However, this does not limit the participation of subcontractors in more than one bid;
- (f) A Bidder who participated as a consultant in the preparation of the design or technical specifications of the Goods and related services that are the subject of the bid; or
- (g) A Bidder who lends, or temporarily seconds, its personnel to firms or organizations which are engaged in consulting services for the preparation related to procurement for or implementation of the project, if the personnel would be involved in any capacity on the same project.

4.2. In accordance with Section 47 of the IRR of RA 9184, all Bidding Documents shall be accompanied by a sworn affidavit of the Bidder that it is not related to the Head of the Procuring Entity (HoPE), members of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), members of the Technical Working Group (TWG), members of the BAC Secretariat, the head of the Project Management Office (PMO) or the end-user unit, and the project consultants, by consanguinity or affinity up to the third civil degree. On the part of the Bidder, this Clause shall apply to the following persons:

- (a) If the Bidder is an individual or a sole proprietorship, to the Bidder himself;
- (b) If the Bidder is a partnership, to all its officers and members;
- (c) If the Bidder is a corporation, to all its officers, directors, and controlling stockholders;
- (d) If the Bidder is a cooperative, to all its officers, directors, and controlling shareholders or members; and

- (e) If the Bidder is a joint venture (JV), the provisions of items (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this Clause shall correspondingly apply to each of the members of the said JV, as may be appropriate.

Relationship of the nature described above or failure to comply with this Clause will result in the automatic disqualification of a Bidder.

## 5. Eligible Bidders

- 5.1. Unless otherwise provided in the **BDS**, the following persons shall be eligible to participate in this bidding:
  - (a) Duly licensed Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships;
  - (b) Partnerships duly organized under the laws of the Philippines and of which at least sixty percent (60%) of the interest belongs to citizens of the Philippines;
  - (c) Corporations duly organized under the laws of the Philippines, and of which at least sixty percent (60%) of the outstanding capital stock belongs to citizens of the Philippines;
  - (d) Cooperatives duly organized under the laws of the Philippines; and
  - (e) Persons/entities forming themselves into a Joint Venture (JV), *i.e.*, a group of two (2) or more persons/entities that intend to be jointly and severally responsible or liable for a particular contract: Provided, however, that Filipino ownership or interest of the JV concerned shall be at least sixty percent (60%).
- 5.2. Foreign bidders may be eligible to participate when any of the following circumstances exist, as specified in the **BDS**:
  - (a) When a Treaty or International or Executive Agreement as provided in Section 4 of RA 9184 and its IRR allow foreign bidders to participate;
  - (b) Citizens, corporations, or associations of a country, the laws or regulations of which grant reciprocal rights or privileges to citizens, corporations, or associations of the Philippines;
  - (c) When the Goods sought to be procured are not available from local suppliers; or
  - (d) When there is a need to prevent situations that defeat competition or restrain trade.
- 5.3. Government owned or –controlled corporations (GOCCs) may be eligible to participate only if they can establish that they (a) are legally and financially autonomous, (b) operate under commercial law, and (c) are not attached agencies of the Procuring Entity.



- 5.4. Unless otherwise provided in the **BDS**, the Bidder must have completed a Single Largest Completed Contract (SLCC) similar to the Project and the value of which, adjusted, if necessary, by the Bidder to current prices using the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) consumer price index, must be at least equivalent to a percentage of the ABC stated in the **BDS**.

For this purpose, contracts similar to the Project shall be those described in the **BDS**, and completed within the relevant period stated in the Invitation to Bid and **ITB** Clause 12.1(a)(ii).

- 5.5. The Bidder must submit a computation of its Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC), which must be at least equal to the ABC to be bid, calculated as follows:

NFCC = [(Current assets minus current liabilities) (15)] minus the value of all outstanding or uncompleted portions of the projects under ongoing contracts, including awarded contracts yet to be started, coinciding with the contract to be bid.

The values of the domestic bidder's current assets and current liabilities shall be based on the latest Audited Financial Statements submitted to the BIR.

For purposes of computing the foreign bidders' NFCC, the value of the current assets and current liabilities shall be based on their audited financial statements prepared in accordance with international financial reporting standards.

If the prospective bidder opts to submit a committed Line of Credit, it must be at least equal to ten percent (10%) of the ABC to be bid. If issued by a foreign universal or commercial bank, it shall be confirmed or authenticated by a local universal or commercial bank.

## 6. Bidder's Responsibilities

- 6.1. The Bidder or its duly authorized representative shall submit a sworn statement in the form prescribed in Section VIII. Bidding Forms as required in **ITB** Clause 12.1(b)(iii).
- 6.2. The Bidder is responsible for the following:
- (a) Having taken steps to carefully examine all of the Bidding Documents;
  - (b) Having acknowledged all conditions, local or otherwise, affecting the implementation of the contract;
  - (c) Having made an estimate of the facilities available and needed for the contract to be bid, if any;
  - (d) Having complied with its responsibility to inquire or secure Supplemental/Bid Bulletin(s) as provided under **ITB** Clause 10.4.

- (e) Ensuring that it is not “blacklisted” or barred from bidding by the GOP or any of its agencies, offices, corporations, or LGUs, including foreign government/foreign or international financing institution whose blacklisting rules have been recognized by the GPPB;
- (f) Ensuring that each of the documents submitted in satisfaction of the bidding requirements is an authentic copy of the original, complete, and all statements and information provided therein are true and correct;
- (g) Authorizing the HoPE or its duly authorized representative/s to verify all the documents submitted;
- (h) Ensuring that the signatory is the duly authorized representative of the Bidder, and granted full power and authority to do, execute and perform any and all acts necessary and/or to represent the Bidder in the bidding, with the duly notarized Secretary’s Certificate attesting to such fact, if the Bidder is a corporation, partnership, cooperative, or joint venture;
- (i) Complying with the disclosure provision under Section 47 of RA 9184 and its IRR in relation to other provisions of RA 3019;
- (j) Complying with existing labor laws and standards, in the case of procurement of services; Moreover, bidder undertakes to:
  - (i) Ensure the entitlement of workers to wages, hours of work, safety and health and other prevailing conditions of work as established by national laws, rules and regulations; or collective bargaining agreement; or arbitration award, if and when applicable.

In case there is a finding by the Procuring Entity or the DOLE of underpayment or non-payment of workers’ wage and wage-related benefits, bidder agrees that the performance security or portion of the contract amount shall be withheld in favor of the complaining workers pursuant to appropriate provisions of Republic Act No. 9184 without prejudice to the institution of appropriate actions under the Labor Code, as amended, and other social legislations.

- (ii) Comply with occupational safety and health standards and to correct deficiencies, if any.

In case of imminent danger, injury or death of the worker, bidder undertakes to suspend contract implementation pending clearance to proceed from the DOLE Regional Office and to comply with Work Stoppage Order; and



- (iii) Inform the workers of their conditions of work, labor clauses under the contract specifying wages, hours of work and other benefits under prevailing national laws, rules and regulations; or collective bargaining agreement; or arbitration award, if and when applicable, through posting in two (2) conspicuous places in the establishment's premises; and
- (k) Ensuring that it did not give or pay, directly or indirectly, any commission, amount, fee, or any form of consideration, pecuniary or otherwise, to any person or official, personnel or representative of the government in relation to any procurement project or activity.

Failure to observe any of the above responsibilities shall be at the risk of the Bidder concerned.

- 6.3. The Bidder is expected to examine all instructions, forms, terms, and specifications in the Bidding Documents.
- 6.4. It shall be the sole responsibility of the Bidder to determine and to satisfy itself by such means as it considers necessary or desirable as to all matters pertaining to the contract to be bid, including: (a) the location and the nature of this Project; (b) climatic conditions; (c) transportation facilities; and (d) other factors that may affect the cost, duration, and execution or implementation of this Project.
- 6.5. The Procuring Entity shall not assume any responsibility regarding erroneous interpretations or conclusions by the prospective or eligible bidder out of the data furnished by the procuring entity. However, the Procuring Entity shall ensure that all information in the Bidding Documents, including bid/supplemental bid bulletin/s issued, are correct and consistent.
- 6.6. Before submitting their bids, the Bidder is deemed to have become familiar with all existing laws, decrees, ordinances, acts and regulations of the Philippines which may affect this Project in any way.
- 6.7. The Bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of his bid, and the Procuring Entity will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.
- 6.8. The Bidder should note that the Procuring Entity will accept bids only from those that have paid the applicable fee for the Bidding Documents at the office indicated in the Invitation to Bid.

## **7. Origin of Goods**

Unless otherwise indicated in the **BDS**, there is no restriction on the origin of goods other than those prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, subject to **ITB** Clause 27.1.

## **8. Subcontracts**