PHILIPPINE PORTS AUTHORITY

BAGONG PILIPINAS

PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTING SERVICES



CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE CONDUCT OF FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND FORMULATION OF MASTER PLANS AT SELECTED PORTS

HO-CON-PPDD-26-0001

BID DOCUMENTS

PPA Corporate Bldg., Bonifacio Drive, South Harbor
Port Area, Manila, Philippines 1018

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Glossary of Acronyms, Terms, and Abbreviations

ABC – Approved Budget for the Contract.

BAC – Bids and Awards Committee.

BIR – Bureau of Internal Revenue.

BSP – Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

CDA - Cooperative Development Authority.

DOLE – Department of Labor and Employment.

GCC - General Conditions of Contract.

GFI – Government Financial Institution.

GOCC – Government-Owned and/or –Controlled Corporation.

GoP – Government of the Philippines.

GPPB – Government Procurement Policy Board.

HoPE – Head of Procuring Entity.

HRRB – Highest Rated Responsive Bid.

IRR – Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 12009.

ITB – Instructions to Bidders.

LGUs – Local Government Units.

LoC – Letter of Credit.

MYCA – Multi-Year Contracting Authority.

NGA – National Government Agency.

PhilGEPS - Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System.

Procuring Entity - the organization purchasing Consulting Services, as named in the SCC.

RA No. – Republic Act Number.

SCC - Special Conditions of Contract.

SEC – Securities and Exchange Commission.

UN – United Nations.

WB – World Bank.

Definition of Terms

Bid – a signed offer, proposal, or quotation submitted by a supplier, manufacturer, distributor, contractor, consultant, or service provider in response to the requirements of the Procuring Entity as stated in the Bidding Documents. (IRR of RA No. 12009, Section 5[c]).

Bidder – a supplier, manufacturer, distributor, contractor, consultant, and service provider, whether public or private, who submits a Bid in response to the requirements of the Procuring Entity as stated in the Bidding Documents. (IRR of RA No. 12009, Section 5[d]).

Bidding Documents – the documents issued by the Procuring Entity as the basis for Bids, furnishing all information necessary to prospective bidder to prepare a Bid for the Goods, Infrastructure Projects, and Consulting Services required by the Procuring Entity. (IRR of RA No. 12009, Section 5[e]).

Consultant - refers to a citizen, or any corporate body or commercial company duly organized and registered under the laws where it is established, habitually established in business and engaged in providing Consulting Services.

Consulting Services – refer to services for Infrastructure Projects and other types of projects or activities of the government requiring adequate external technical and professional expertise that are beyond the capability or capacity of the government to undertake such as, but not limited to: (i) advisory and review services; (ii) pre-investment or feasibility studies; (iii) design; (iv) construction supervision; (v) management and related services; and (vi) other technical services or special studies. (IRR of RA No. 12009, Section 5[i])

Contract – refers to the agreement entered into between the Procuring Entity and the Supplier or Manufacturer or Distributor or Service Provider for procurement of Goods and Services; Contractor for Procurement of Infrastructure Projects; or Consultant or Consulting Firm for Procurement of Consulting Services; as the case may be, as recorded in the Contract Form signed by the parties, including all attachments and appendices thereto and all documents incorporated by reference therein.

Contract Price - the price payable to the Supplier under the Contract for the full and proper performance of its contractual obligations.

Effective Date of the Contract – the date indicated in the contract. However, the Consultant shall commence performance of its obligations only upon receipt of the Notice to Proceed.

Framework Agreement – is a procurement strategy which shall be in the nature of an option contract between the Procuring Entity and the bidder that stipulates the terms and conditions to be applied in subsequent contracts for the procurement of Goods, Infrastructure Projects, and Consulting Services with a single or multiple contractor, manufacturer, supplier, distributor, consultant, and service provider to expand the pool of prospective bidders, take advantage of economies of scale, minimize the administrative burden of conducting separate procurement activities, and generate time and money savings. (IRR, Sections 16.1 and 16.2).

Foreign-funded Procurement or Foreign-Assisted Project– refers to the acquisition of Goods, Consulting Services, and the contracting for Infrastructure Projects by the Government of the Philippines which are wholly or partly funded by foreign loans or grants pursuant to a Treaty or International or Executive Agreement.

Goods – refer to (i) all items, supplies, and materials, whether in the nature of equipment, furniture, stationery, materials for construction, or personal property of any kind, needed in the transaction of public businesses or in the pursuit of any government undertaking, project or activity; or (ii) general support services which pertain to all types of services except Consulting Services and Infrastructure Projects, such as the repair and maintenance of equipment and furniture, as well as trucking, hauling, janitorial, security, and related or analogous services. (IRR of RA No. 12009, Section 5[n])

Infrastructure Projects – include the construction, improvement, rehabilitation, demolition, repair, restoration, or maintenance of roads and bridges, railways, airports, seaports, communication facilities, civil works components of information technology projects, irrigation, flood control and drainage, water supply, sanitation, sewerage and solid waste management systems, shore protection, energy/power and electrification facilities, national buildings, school buildings, hospital buildings, and other related construction projects of the government. Also referred to as "civil works" or "works;" (IRR of RA No. 12009, Section 5[r])

Online submission – pertains to the submission of the short-listing documents and bids for Consulting Services through electronic means or through the e-bidding facility of the PhilGEPS.

Project – refers to a specific or identified procurement covering Goods, Infrastructure Projects or Consulting Services. A Procurement Project shall be described, detailed, and scheduled in the Project Procurement Management Plan prepared by the agency which shall be consolidated in the procuring entity's Annual Procurement Plan.

Supplier – refers to a citizen, or any corporate body or commercial company duly organized and registered under the laws where it is established, habitually established in business and engaged in the manufacture or sale of the merchandise or performance of the general services covered by his bid. Supplier as used in these Bidding Documents may likewise refer to a manufacturer, distributor, contractor, consultant, or service provider.

Verified Report – refers to the report submitted by the Implementing Unit to the HoPE setting forth its findings as to the existence of grounds or causes for termination and explicitly stating its recommendation for the issuance of a Notice to Terminate.

Section I. Request for Expression of Interest

BAGONG PILIPINAS

PHILIPPINE PORTS AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR THE CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE CONDUCT OF FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND FORMULATION OF MASTER PLANS AT SELECTED PORTS

The Philippine Ports Authority, through the Corporate Budget for CY 2026, intends to apply the sum of **P41,906,555.00** being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the **Consultancy Services for the Conduct of Feasibility Studies and Formulation of Master Plans at Selected Ports (HO-CON-PPDD-26-0001).** Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the opening of the financial proposals.

The Philippine Ports Authority now calls for the submission of Short-Listing Documents for the engagement of the services of a consulting firm to conduct feasibility studies and formulate master plans for selected ports in accordance with the Guidelines on the Procurement of Consulting Services for Government Projects, to cover the following selected ports:

1. Luneta Ferry Terminal, Manila
2. Manila International Cruise Terminal, Brgy, Tambo, Parañaque, Metro Manila
3. Anilao, Mabini, Batangas
4. Mainaga, Mabini, Batangas
5. Mulanay, Quezon
6. San Vicente, Brgy. Poblacion, San Vicente, Palawan
7. Codon, Catanduanes
8. Pulupandan, Negros Occidental
9. Brgy. Poblacion, Munipality of Alicia, Zamboanga Sibugay
10. Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Lanao del Norte

Short-listing documents of interested consultants must be duly received by the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat on or before **13 October 2026 at 2:00 p.m.,** at the BAC Office, 5th Floor, PPA Building, A. Bonifacio Drive, South Harbor, Port Area, Manila. Applications for eligibility will be evaluated based on a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Philippine Ports Authority BAC and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Thursday.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be acquired by interested Bidders on **02 October 2026** from the given address below and upon payment of the applicable fee for the Bidding Documents, pursuant to the latest Guidelines issued by the GPPB, in the amount of **Twenty Five Thousand (P25,000.00) Pesos.** It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity, provided that Bidders shall pay the applicable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.

The BAC shall draw up the short list of consultants from those who have submitted Expression of Interest, including the short-listing documents, and have been determined as eligible in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act (RA) No. 12009, otherwise known as the "New Government Procurement Act," and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). The short list shall consist of not more than **FIVE (5)** prospective bidders who will be entitled to submit bids manually. The criteria and rating system for short listing are:

a) Applicable experience of the consultant and members in case of joint ventures, considering both the overall experiences of the firms or, in the case of new firms, the individual experiences of the principal and key staff, including the times when employed by other consultants (50%).

b) Qualification of personnel who may be assigned to the job vis-à-vis extent and complexity of the undertaking (30%); and

c) Current workload relative to capacity (20%)

Bidding will be conducted through competitive selection using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA 12009. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, cooperatives, and partnerships or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.

The Philippine Ports Authority shall evaluate bids to determine the Highest Rated bid using the Quality-Cost Based Evaluation (QCBE) procedure. The weight to be allocated for the Technical Proposal is 85% (with a minimum qualifying mark of 70%) and 15% for the Financial Proposal. The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Instructions to Bidders.

Short-Listing Documents must be received by the Philippine Ports Authority's BAC at the address indicated in the Request for Expression of Interest on or before the date and time indicated in the Short-Listing Data Sheet (SDS).

The contract shall be completed within **Twelve (12) months** from the receipt of the winning bidder of the Notice to Proceed (NTP).

All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause 16.

The certification as to the current workload relative to capacity shall be made in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders in relation to TPF 5 therein.

The Philippine Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declared a failure of bidding, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award in accordance with Section 70 RA No. 12009 and its IRR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further information, please refer to:

BAC Secretariat, Philippine Ports Authority
5th Floor, PPA Bldg., A. Bonifacio Drive,
South Harbor, Port Area, Manila
Telephone Nos. 527-47-35
527-83-56 to 83 loc. 539
PPA Website: **www.ppa.com.ph**
PhilGEPS Website: **www.philgeps.gov.ph**

October 1, 2026.

MARK JON S. PALOMAR
Chairperson, PPA Head Office Bids and Awards Committee for the Procurement of Engineering Projects (HO-BAC-EP/CON)

- **Cost of Short-Listing Documents: P 1,000.00**

Section II. Instructions to Bidders

A. General

1) Scope of Bid

1.1 The Procuring Entity named in the **BDS** shall select an individual, sole proprietorship, cooperative, partnership, corporation, or a joint venture (JV) (hereinafter referred to as "Consultant") from among those short-listed, in accordance with the evaluation procedure specified in the **BDS**. The identification number shall be specified in the **BDS**.

1.2 Consultants are invited to submit bids composed of a technical proposal and a financial proposal for Consulting Services required for this Project described in the **BDS**. Bids shall be the basis for contract negotiations and ultimately for a signed contract with the selected Consultant.

1.3 If the **BDS** indicates that the Project will be completed in phases, each phase must be completed to the Procuring Entity's satisfaction prior to the commencement of the next phase.

2) Source of Funds

The Procuring Entity has received financing (hereinafter called "funds") from the source indicated in the **BDS** (hereinafter called the "Funding Source") toward the cost of the Project named in the **BDS**. The Procuring Entity intends to apply a portion or the whole of the funds to payments for this Project.

3) Requirements Prior to Bidding

3.1 Consultants must familiarize themselves with the local conditions and take them into account in preparing their bids. To obtain firsthand information on the project and on the local conditions, Consultants are encouraged to visit the Procuring Entity before submitting a bid and to attend the pre-bid conference specified in **ITB** Clause 9. The Consultants' costs of preparing their bids and negotiating the contract, including a visit to the Procuring Entity, are not reimbursable as a direct cost of the project.

3.2 Consultants shall not be under a declaration of ineligibility for corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, or obstructive practices issued by the Funding Source or the Procuring Entity in accordance with **ITB** Clause 4.1.

4) Corrupt, Fraudulent, Collusive, Coercive, and Obstructive Practices

4.1 Unless otherwise specified in the **BDS**, the Procuring Entity as well as the Consultants 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 following terms under existing laws, rules, and regulations:

i) "corrupt practice" means an act by which officials in the public or private sectors 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 No. 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

a) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing of evidence material to administrative proceedings or investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede 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

b) 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) Undertakes to reject a proposal for award upon *prima facie* determination that the Consultant recommended for award has engaged in any of the prohibited practices mentioned in this Clause for purposes of competing for the contract.

4.2 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 4.1(a).

4.3 Furthermore, the Funding Source and the Procuring Entity reserve the right to inspect and audit records and accounts of a Consultant in the bidding for and

performance of a contract themselves or through independent auditors as reflected in the **GCC** Clause 52.

5) Conflict of Interest

5.1 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 (i) below:

a) A Bidder has controlling shareholders or beneficial owners 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 legally authorized 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 the bid of another bidder or influence the decisions of the Procuring Entity regarding this bidding process. This will include a firm or an organization that lends, or temporarily seconds, its personnel to firms or organizations that 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;

e) 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;

f) 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;

g) If a Bidder combines the function of consulting with those of contracting and/or supply of equipment for the same Project;

h) If a Bidder is associated with, affiliated to, or owned by a contractor or a manufacturing firm with departments or design offices offering services as consultants unless such Bidder includes relevant information on such relationships along with a statement in the Technical Proposal cover letter to the effect that the Bidder shall limit its role to that of a consultant and disqualify itself and its associates from work in any other capacity that may emerge from the Project (including bidding for any part of the future project). The contract with the Bidder selected to undertake the Project shall contain an appropriate provision to such effect; or

i) If there is a conflict among consulting projects, the Bidder (including its personnel) and any subsidiaries or entities controlled by such Bidder shall not be recruited for the relevant project. The duties of the Bidder depend

on the circumstances of each case. While continuity of consulting services may be appropriate in particular situations where no conflict exists, a Bidder cannot be recruited to carry out a project that, by its nature, shall result in conflict with a prior or current project of such Bidder. Examples of the situations mentioned are when a Bidder engaged to prepare engineering design for an infrastructure project shall not be recruited to prepare an independent environmental assessment for the same project; similarly, a Bidder assisting a Procuring Entity in privatization of public assets shall not purchase, nor advise purchasers, of such assets; or a Bidder hired to prepare the Terms of Reference (TOR) for a project shall not be recruited for the project in question.

5.2 All Bidding Documents shall be accompanied by a sworn affidavit of the Bidder that it is not related, by consanguinity or affinity up to the third civil degree, to the Head of the Procuring Entity (HoPE), Procurement Agent (if engaged), the head of the Project Management Office (PMO), the End-User or Implementing Unit, or any members of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), Technical Working Group (TWG), BAC Secretariat, and the project consultants.[1]

5.3 The Bidder shall also disclose the ultimate beneficial ownership of an entity. Failure to comply with the aforementioned provision shall be a ground for the automatic disqualification of the bid in consonance with Section 59 of the IRR. For this reason, relationship to the aforementioned persons within the third civil degree of consanguinity or affinity shall automatically disqualify the Bidder from participating in the procurement of contracts of the Procuring Entity notwithstanding the act of such persons inhibiting themselves from the procurement process. This Clause shall apply to the following persons and affiliates:

a) In the case of individuals or sole proprietorships, to the Bidders and their spouses;

b) In the case of partnerships, to the partnership itself and its partners;

c) In the case of cooperatives, to the cooperative itself and members of the board of directors, general manager, or chief executive officer;

d) A partnership, joint venture or consortium which is blacklisted or which has blacklisted member/s or partner/s, as well as a person or entity who is a member of a blacklisted joint venture or consortium, are likewise not allowed to participate in any government procurement during the period of suspension or blacklisting; and

e) In the case of corporations, a single stockholder, together with their relatives up to the third civil degree of consanguinity or affinity, and their assignees, holding at least twenty percent (20%) of the shares therein, its chairperson and president, shall be blacklisted after they have been determined to hold the same controlling interest in a previously blacklisted corporation or in two corporations that have been blacklisted; the corporations of which they are part of shall also be blacklisted.

[1] Section 81.1 of the IRR.

5.4 Subject to the provisions of **ITB** Clause 5, any previous or ongoing participation by the Bidder, its professional staff, or its affiliates or associates under a contract with the Funding Source or the Procuring Entity in relation to this Project may result in the rejection of its bid. The Bidder should clarify their situation in that respect with the Procuring Entity before preparing its bid.

5.5 Bidders are discouraged to include officials and employees of the Government of the Philippines (GoP) as part of its personnel. Participation of officials and employees of the GoP in the Project shall be subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations, such as those of the Civil Service Commission.

5.6 Fairness and transparency in the selection process require that all Bidders have an equal opportunity to compete, and that no Bidder derives an unfair advantage from having previously provided consulting services related to the Project. To uphold fairness, the Procuring Entity shall ensure that all information which could provide a competitive advantage is disclosed equally to all short-listed Consultants, together with the Bidding Documents.

6) Eligible Bidders

6.1 Only Bids found to be legally, technically, and financially eligible will be evaluated. For procurement of Consulting Services, the following persons shall be eligible to participate in this bidding:

a) Duly licensed Filipino citizens or 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 or 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%). For this purpose, Filipino ownership or interest shall be based on the contributions of each of the members of the joint venture as specified in their Joint Venture Agreement (JVA); Provided further, That the primary purpose of each member of the joint venture must be similar or related to the requirement of the project to be bid out.

6.2 Foreign Bidders may be eligible to participate if local consultants do not have sufficient expertise, capability, and capacity to render the services required under the project, as determined by the HoPE, in accordance with Section 52.4.3.3 of the IRR.

6.3 GOCCs may be eligible to participate 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.

7) Bidder's Responsibilities

7.1 The Consultant or its duly authorized representative shall submit a sworn statement in the form prescribed in **Section VII.** PBD Related Forms as required in **ITB** Clause 12.2(e).

7.2 Before submitting their bids, the Consultants are deemed to be knowledgeable of all existing laws, decrees, ordinances, acts, and regulations of the Philippines which may affect this Project in any way.

7.3 The Consultant undertook the following responsibilities:

a) Took steps to carefully examine and ensure full understanding and comprehension of the Bidding Documents, its requirements, clauses, and provisions;

b) Acknowledged all conditions, local or otherwise, affecting the implementation of the contract;

c) Made an estimate of the facilities available and needed for this Project, if any;

d) Complied with the responsibility to inquire or secure Supplemental Bid Bulletin(s) as provided under ITB Clause 9.4;

e) Ensured that it is not "blacklisted" or barred from bidding by the GoP or any of its agencies, offices, corporations, or local government units (LGUs), including foreign government, or foreign or international financing institution whose blacklisting rules have been recognized by the GPPB; by itself or by relation, membership, association, affiliation, or controlling interest with another blacklisted person or entity;

f) Ensured 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) Authorized the HoPE or its duly authorized representative/s to verify all the documents submitted;

h) Ensured 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 to participate, submit the bid, to sign and execute the ensuing contract, accompanied by the duly notarized Special Power of Attorney, Board or Partnership Resolution, or Secretary's Certificate, whichever is applicable;

i) Complied with the disclosure provision under Sections 81 and 82 of RA No. 12009 and its IRR in relation to other provisions of RA No. 3019;

j) Complied with existing labor laws and standards, in the case of procurement of services. Moreover, the Consultant undertook the responsibility 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, the Consultant 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 RA No. 12009 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 (OSHS) to correct deficiencies, if any.

In case of imminent danger, injury, or death of the worker, the Bidder undertakes to suspend contract implementation pending clearance to resume from the DOLE Regional Office, in compliance with the 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;

k) Ensured that it did not give or pay, directly or indirectly, any commission, amount, fee, or any form of compensation, pecuniary or otherwise, to any person or official, personnel, or representative of the government in relation to any procurement project or activity;

l) Examined all instructions, forms, terms, and specifications in the Bidding Documents;

m) Determined and complied with all matters pertaining to the contract to be bid, including but not limited to: (a) the location and the nature of this Project; (b) climatic conditions; (c) transportation facilities; (c) nature and condition of the terrain, geological conditions at the site communication facilities, requirements, location and availability of construction aggregates and other materials, labor, water, electric power and access roads; and (d) other factors that may affect the cost, duration, and execution or implementation of this Project; and

n) Ensured that all information in the Bidding Documents, including bid or supplemental bid bulletin/s issued, is correct and consistent. 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.

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

7.4 Further, the Consultant shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its 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.

In case of failure of bidding, the Bidding Documents fee may be applied in the re-bidding for the same Project.

7.5 Furthermore, the Consultant should be aware that the Procuring Entity will accept bids from those that have paid the applicable fee for the Bidding Documents at the office indicated in the Request for Expression of Interest.

8) Origin of Associated 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.

B. Contents of Bidding Documents

9) Pre-Bid Conference

9.1 If so specified in the **BDS**, a pre-bid conference shall be held either at the Procuring Entity's physical address and/or online through videoconferencing, webcasting, or similar technology, or a combination thereof, on the date indicated therein, to clarify and address the Consultant's questions on the technical and financial components of this Project.

9.2 The pre-bid conference shall be held at least twelve (12) calendar days before the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids, but not earlier than seven (7) calendar days from the determination of the short-listed Consultants.

9.3 Consultants are highly encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference to fully understand the Procuring Entity's requirements. While non-attendance of the Consultant will in no way prejudice its bid, the Consultant is expected to know the changes and/or amendments to the Bidding Documents as provided in the Supplemental Bid Bulletin.

The proceedings of the pre-bid conference shall be recorded and the corresponding minutes prepared not later than five (5) calendar days after the pre-bid conference. The minutes shall be made available to prospective bidders not later than five (5) days upon written request.

9.4 Decisions of the BAC amending any provision of the Bidding Documents shall be issued in writing through a Supplemental Bulletin at least seven (7) calendar days before the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids.

10) Clarifications and Amendments to Bidding Documents

10.1 Short-listed Consultants may request for clarification on and/or interpretation of any part of the Bidding Documents. Such a request must be in writing and submitted to the BAC of the Procuring Entity at the address or through the electronic mail indicated in the **BDS** or through the electronic bidding facility in the modernized PhilGEPS, as may be applicable, at least ten (10) calendar days before the deadline set for the submission and receipt of bids.

10.2 The BAC shall respond to the said request by issuing a Supplemental Bid Bulletin duly signed by the BAC Chairperson. It shall be made available to all

those who have properly secured the Bidding Documents at least seven (7) calendar days before the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids.

10.3 Supplemental Bid Bulletins may also be issued upon the Procuring Entity's initiative for purposes of clarifying or modifying any provision of the Bidding Documents not later than seven (7) calendar days before the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids. Any modification to the Bidding Documents shall be identified as an amendment.

10.4 Any Supplemental Bid Bulletin issued by the BAC shall also be posted in the PhilGEPS, in any conspicuous place in the premises of the Procuring Entity, and on the website or social media platforms of the Procuring Entity, if available, or such other channels as may be authorized by the GPPB. It shall be the responsibility of all prospective bidders, including those who have properly secured the Bidding Documents, to inquire and secure Supplemental Bid Bulletins that may be issued by the BAC. However, Consultants who have submitted bids before the issuance of the Supplemental Bid Bulletin must be accordingly informed by the BAC and be allowed to modify or withdraw their bids prior to the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids in accordance with ITB Clause 21.

C. Preparation of Bids

11) Language of Bids

The eligibility requirements or statements, the bids, and all other documents to be submitted to the BAC must be in English. If the eligibility requirements or statements, the bids, and all other documents submitted to the BAC are in foreign language other than English, it must be accompanied by a translation of the documents in English. The documents shall be translated by the relevant foreign government agency, the foreign government agency authorized to translate documents, or a registered translator in the foreign bidder's country. The Consultant shall cause the authentication of the translated documents and shall be authenticated by the appropriate Philippine foreign service establishment or post or the equivalent office having jurisdiction over the foreign Consultant's affairs in the Philippines. The English translation shall govern, for purposes of interpretation of the bid.

However, for Contracting Parties to the Apostille Convention, the documents shall be authenticated through an apostille by the Competent Authority, as defined in Section 20.9.2 of the IRR, except for countries identified by the DFA that will still require legalization (red ribbon) by the relevant Embassy or Consulate.

12) Documents Comprising the Bid: Technical Proposal

12.1 While preparing the Technical Proposal, Consultants must give particular attention to the following:

a) The Technical Proposal shall not include any financial information. Any Technical Proposal containing financial information shall be declared non-responsive.

b) For projects on a staff-time basis, the estimated number of professional staff-months specified in the BDS shall be complied with. Bids shall,

however, be based on the number of professional staff-months estimated by the Bidder.

c) Proposed professional staff must, at a minimum, have the experience indicated in the BDS, preferably working under conditions similar to those prevailing in the Republic of the Philippines.

d) No alternative professional staff shall be proposed, and only one Curriculum Vitae (CV) may be submitted for each position.

12.2 The Technical Proposal shall contain the following information/documents:

a) Technical Proposal Submission Form shall be the cover letter of the Technical Proposal, using the form prescribed in Section VII. PBD Related Forms (TPF 1).

b) PhilGEPS Certificate of Registration (Platinum Membership) in accordance with Section 20 of the IRR.

c) Bid security as prescribed in ITB Clause 16, and validity period under ITB Clause 15.

d) Information indicated in the paragraphs below must be provided by the Consultant and each partner, if any, following the formats described in the Technical Proposal Forms:

i) A brief description of the organization and outline of recent experience of the Consultant and each partner, if any, on projects of a similar and related nature as required in form TPF 2. Consultant's References. For each project, the outline should indicate among other things, the project, contract amount and the Consultant's involvement. Information should be provided only for those projects for which the Consultant was legally contracted by itself or as one of the major participating consultants within an association. Whenever applicable, the experience of individual experts from projects completed independently or when associated with consultants other than the one with whom the individual is currently associated with cannot be claimed as the experience of the current consultant or any one of its partners but can be claimed by the individuals themselves in their CVs. Consultants should be prepared to substantiate the claimed experience if so requested by the Procuring Entity.

ii) Comments, if any, on the TOR (TPF 3. Comments and Suggestions of Consultant on the Terms of Reference and on Data, Services, and Facilities) to improve performance in carrying out the Project. Innovativeness shall be appreciated, including workable suggestions that could improve the quality or effectiveness of the Project. In this regard, unless the Consultant clearly states otherwise, it shall be assumed by the Procuring Entity that the work required to implement any such improvements is included in the inputs shown on the Consultant's Staffing Schedule. It shall include a list of facilities requested by the Consultant to be provided by the Procuring Entity, if any, in addition to those shown on the Data Sheet that may include support facilities such as counterpart staff,

office space, local transportation, equipment, domestic administrative support, etc. that would be needed to carry out the Project.

iii) A concise, complete, and logical description of how the Consultant's team shall carry out the services to meet all requirements of the TOR using TPF 4. Description of the Methodology and Work Plan for Performing the Project.

iv) An organization chart of the key and support staff indicating their tasks in the project using TPF 5. Team Composition and Task.

v) The name, age, nationality, background employment record, and professional experience of each nominated expert including ongoing projects, with particular reference to the type of experience required for the tasks assigned should be presented in the CV format shown in TPF 6. Format of Curriculum Vitae (CV) for Proposed Professional Staff. Only one duly notarized CV for each consultant involved in the Project may be submitted for each position.

vi) The Procuring Entity requires that each expert confirm that the content of its CV is correct, and the experts themselves should sign the certification of the CV. In addition, the expert should submit a signed written commitment stating that the expert shall work for the Project once awarded the contract. A zero rating shall be given to a nominated expert if the expert:

1. is proposed for a domestic position but is not a Filipino citizen;
2. failed to state nationality on the CV; or
3. the CV is not signed in accordance with paragraph (v) above.

vii) A Time Schedule (TPF 7. Time Schedule for Professional Personnel) indicating clearly the estimated duration in terms of person-months (shown separately for work in the field and in the home office) and the proposed timing of each input for each nominated expert, including domestic experts, if required, using the format shown. The schedule shall also indicate when experts are working in the project office and when they are working at locations away from the project office.

viii) A work plan showing in graphical format (bar chart) the timing of major activities, anticipated coordination meetings, and deliverables such as reports required under the TOR using TPF 8. Activity (Work) Schedule.

e) Omnibus Sworn statement[2] and using the form prescribed in Section VII. Philippine Bidding Document .

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[2] Section 54.3 of the IRR.

13) Documents Comprising the Bid: Financial Proposal

13.1 All information provided in the Consultant's Financial Proposal shall be treated as confidential. The Financial Proposal must be submitted manually or through online submission using the format shown in the Financial Proposal Forms.

13.2 The Financial Proposal requires the completion of six (6) forms, particularly FPF 1, FPF 2, FPF 3, FPF 4, FPF 5, and FPF 6. FPF 1. Financial Proposal Submission Form should form the covering letter of the Financial Proposal. Form FPF 2. Summary of Costs FPF 3. Breakdown of Price per Activity, FPF 4. Breakdown of Remuneration per Activity, FPF 5. Reimbursables per Activity, and FPF 6. Miscellaneous Expenses, relate to the costs of Consulting Services under two distinct categories, namely: (a) Remuneration; and (b) Reimbursable Expenditures.

13.3 Remuneration is divided into billing rate estimates for international and domestic consultants. Reimbursable expenditures are divided into per diem rates for international and domestic consultants and costs for other reimbursable expenditure items required to perform the Consulting Services.

13.4 The list of experts and their respective inputs, identified in Financial Proposal Forms, must match the list of experts and their respective inputs shown in Technical Proposal Forms.

13.5 The Consultant shall be subject to Philippine taxes on amounts payable by the Procuring Entity under the contract through mandated withholding by local tax authorities of specified percentages of such amounts or otherwise. The **BDS** details the taxes payable.

13.6 The Financial Proposal should clearly estimate, as a separate amount, the local taxes (including social security), duties, fees, levies, and other charges imposed under the applicable law, on the Consultants, and its personnel (other than Philippine Nationals or permanent residents of the Philippines).

13.7 Unless otherwise provided in the **BDS**, total calculated bid prices, as evaluated and corrected for minor arithmetical corrections, such as computational errors, which exceed the ABC, shall not be considered.

14) Bid Currencies

14.1 All bid prices shall be quoted in Philippine Peso unless otherwise provided in the **BDS**. However, for purposes of bid evaluation, bids denominated in foreign currencies, which shall be tradeable or acceptable by the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP), shall be converted to Philippine currency based on the exchange rate prevailing on the day of the bid opening.[3]

14.2 If so allowed in accordance with **ITB** Clause 14.1, the Procuring Entity, for purposes of bid evaluation and comparing the bid prices, will convert the amounts in various currencies in which the bid price is expressed to Philippine Peso at the exchange rate as published in the BSP reference rate bulletin on the day of the bid opening.

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[3] RA No. 8183, An Act to Assure Uniform Value to Philippine Coin and Currency.

14.3 Unless otherwise specified in the **BDS**, payment of the contract price shall be made in Philippine Peso.

15) Bid Validity

15.1 Bids shall remain valid for the period specified in the **BDS** which shall not exceed one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of the opening of bids.

15.2 Should it become necessary to extend the validity of the bids and the bid securities beyond one hundred twenty (120) calendar days, the Procuring Entity concerned shall request in writing all those who submitted bids for such extension before the expiration date therefor. The bid security described in **ITB** Clause 16 should also be extended corresponding to the extension of the bid validity period at the least. Consultants, however, shall have the right to refuse to grant such extension without forfeiting their bid security. A Consultant granting the request shall not be required or permitted to modify its bid.

16) Bid Security

16.1 The Consultant, at its option, shall submit a bid security in the form and amount as stated in the **BDS**, which may include the following:

Form of Bid Security	Amount of Bid Security (Not less than the required percentage of the ABC)
a) Cash or cashier's or manager's check issued by a bank. *For biddings conducted by LGUs, the Cashier's or Manager's check may be issued by other banks certified by the BSP as authorized to issue such financial instrument.*	Two Percent (2%)
b) Bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable Letter of Credit issued by a bank: Provided, however, that it shall be confirmed or authenticated by a local bank, if issued by a foreign bank. *For biddings conducted by LGUs, Bank Draft/Guarantee, or Irrevocable Letter of Credit may be issued by other banks certified by the BSP as authorized to issue such financial instrument.*	Five Percent (5%)
c) Surety bond callable upon demand issued by a surety or insurance company duly certified by the Insurance Commission as authorized to issue such security.	Five Percent (5%)
d) Bid Securing Declaration	Percentage not applicable

The bid security shall be denominated in Philippine Peso and posted in favor of the Procuring Entity.

16.2 The bid security should be valid for the period specified in the **BDS**. Any bid not accompanied by an acceptable bid security shall be considered as non-responsive and rejected by the Procuring Entity.

16.3 In no case shall the bid security be returned later than the expiration of the bid validity period indicated in the Bidding Documents, unless it has been extended in accordance with Section 57.2 of the IRR. In case the Consultant is required to extend its bid validity for grounds as provided in the IRR, the Consultant may, at its discretion, substitute a Bid Securing Declaration for the extended period as a replacement for its bid security; Provided, That the option to substitute is indicated in the **BDS**.

16.4 Upon signing and execution of the contract pursuant to **ITB** Clause 32, and the posting of the performance security pursuant to **ITB** Clause 33, the bid security of the successful Consultant will be discharged, but in no case later than its validity period as indicated in **ITB** Clause 16.2.

16.5 The bid security may be forfeited based on any of the following grounds, as provided under Rule VIII, X, XI, and XXI of the IRR:

a) if the Consultant:

i) Withdraws its bid during the period of bid validity specified in **ITB** Clause 15.2;

ii) Does not accept the correction of errors pursuant to **ITB** Clause 13.7;

iii) Has a finding against the veracity of any of the documents submitted as stated in **ITB** Clause 28.2;

iv) Submits eligibility requirements containing false information or falsified documents;

v) Submits bids that contain false information or falsified documents, or the concealment of such information in the bids to influence the outcome of eligibility screening or any other stage of the public bidding;

vi) Allows the use of one's name, or uses the name of another for purposes of participating in any procurement activity;

vii) Enters into an agreement with other bidder/s which call upon one to refrain from bidding for procurement contracts, or which call for withdrawal of bids already submitted, or which are otherwise intended to secure an undue advantage to any of the bidders;

viii) Refuses or fails to post the required performance security within the prescribed time;

ix) Refuses to clarify or validate in writing its bid during post-qualification within a period of seven (7) calendar days from receipt of the request for clarification;

x) Has any documented attempt by a Bidder to unduly influence the outcome of the bidding in its favor;

xi) Commits other acts that tend to defeat the purpose of the Competitive Bidding, Competitive Dialogue, Unsolicited Offer with Bid Matching, and Limited Source Bidding, such as habitually withdrawing from bidding or submitting late bids or patently insufficient bids, for at least three (3) times within a year, except for valid reasons; or

b) if the winning Consultant:

i) Fails to sign the contract in accordance with **ITB** Clause 32;

ii) Fails to furnish performance security in accordance with **ITB** Clause 33; or

iii) Any other reason stated in the **BDS.**

17) Format and Signing of Bids

17.1 Consultants shall submit their bids through their duly authorized representative using the appropriate forms provided in Section VII. PBD Related Forms on or before the deadline specified in the **ITB** Clause 19 in two (2) separate sealed bid envelopes which shall be submitted simultaneously, whether through manual or online submission. The first shall contain the technical proposal, including the eligibility requirements, and the second shall contain the financial proposal.

17.2 Forms as mentioned in **ITB** Clause 17.1 must be completed without any alterations to their format, and no substitute form shall be accepted.

17.3 Each and every page of the Technical Proposal Submission Form and the Financial Proposal Submission Form under Section VII hereof shall be signed by the duly authorized representative/s of the Consultant. Failure to do so shall be a ground for the rejection of the bid.

17.4 Any insertions, erasures, or overwriting shall be valid only if they are signed or initialed by the duly authorized representative/s of the Consultant.

18) Sealing and Marking of Bids

18.1 Consultants shall enclose their technical proposal, described in **ITB** Clause 12, in a sealed envelope marked "TECHNICAL PROPOSAL", and the financial proposal in another sealed envelope marked "FINANCIAL PROPOSAL", sealing them all in an outer envelope marked "BID".

18.2 The bid as indicated in the **BDS** shall be typed or written in ink and shall be signed by the Consultant or its duly authorized representative/s.

18.3 All envelopes shall:

a) contain the name of the contract to be bid in capital letters;

b) bear the name and address of the Consultant in capital letters;

c) be addressed to the Procuring Entity's BAC in accordance with **ITB** Clause 18;

d) bear the specific identification of this bidding process indicated in the **ITB** Clause 1.1; and

e) bear a warning "DO NOT OPEN BEFORE..." the date and time for the opening of bids, in accordance with **ITB** Clause 19.

18.4 For manually submitted bid envelopes that are not properly sealed and marked as required in the Bidding Documents, the same shall be accepted; Provided, That the Consultant or its duly authorized representative shall acknowledge such condition of the bid as submitted. On the other hand, unsealed or unmarked bid envelopes, or bids that cannot be opened or corrupted in case of online submission, shall be rejected.

The BAC shall assume no responsibility for misplaced or lost contents of the improperly sealed or marked bid, or for its premature opening.

D. Submission and Opening of Bids

19) Deadline for Submission of Bids

Bids must be received by the Procuring Entity's BAC at the address indicated in the Request for Expression of Interest or through the e-bidding facility of the PhilGEPS on or before the date and time indicated in the **BDS.**

20) Late Bids

Bids, including the eligibility requirements, submitted after the deadline shall be rejected by the BAC. The BAC shall record in the Minutes of the Meeting the submission and opening of bids, the Consultant's name, its representative, and the time the late bid was submitted.

21) Modification and Withdrawal of Bids

21.1 Consultants may modify their bids before the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids.

a) For manual submission and receipt of bids, the Consultants shall not be allowed to retrieve their original bid but shall only be allowed to submit the bid modification by sending another bid, equally sealed, properly identified, linked to their original bid, and marked as a "modification" thereof, and stamped "received" by the BAC. Bid modifications received after the applicable deadline shall not be considered and shall be returned to the Consultant unopened.

b) For online submission of bids, the Consultants shall not be allowed to retrieve their original bid but shall only be allowed to submit the bid modification, modify their bid, they shall not be allowed to retrieve their original bid equally secured, properly identified labelled as a "modification" of the one previously submitted. The time indicated in the latest bid receipt page generated shall be the official time of submission. Bids modification submitted after the applicable deadline shall not be accepted.

21.2 Consultants may withdraw their bids in writing before the deadline for submission and receipt of bids. Withdrawal of bids after the applicable deadline shall be subject to appropriate sanctions as prescribed in the IRR.

Consultants may also express their intention not to participate in the bidding in writing, which should be received by the BAC before the deadline for submission and receipt of bids. Consultants that withdraw their bids shall no longer be allowed to submit another bid for the same contract, directly or indirectly.

21.3 No bid may be modified after the deadline for submission and receipt of bids. Further, no bid may be withdrawn in the interval between the deadline for submission and receipt of bids, and the expiration of bid validity specified by the Consultant on the Financial Bid Form. Withdrawal of a bid during this interval shall result in the forfeiture of the Consultant's bid security, pursuant to ITB Clause 16.5, and the imposition of administrative sanctions as prescribed by RA No. 12009 and without prejudice to the imposition of civil and criminal sanctions as provided under applicable laws.

21.4 Consultants participating in more than one bid or associating with any other entity other than those already provided in its short-listing documents and allowed by the Procuring Entity shall be disqualified.

E. Evaluation and Comparison of Bids

22) Opening and Preliminary Examination of Bids

22.1 Only bids from short-listed Consultants shall be opened and considered for award of contract. These short-listed Consultants, whether single entities or JVs, should confirm in their Technical Proposal Submission Form that the information contained in the submitted short-listed documents remains correct as of the date of bid submission.

22.2 The BAC shall open the bids in public, immediately after the deadline for submission and receipt of bids, as specified in the **BDS**. In case the bids cannot be opened as scheduled due to justifiable reasons, the BAC shall take custody of the submitted bids and reschedule the opening of bids on the next working day or at the soonest possible time, through the issuance of a notice of postponement to be posted on the PhilGEPS website and the website of the Procuring Entity concerned.

22.3 All technical envelopes shall be resealed. Those rated "passed" shall be secured for the detailed technical bid evaluation, while those rated "failed" will be secured for purposes of possible filing of a request for reconsideration unless the Consultant waives its right to file a request for reconsideration, in which case, the envelope shall be returned to the Consultant immediately.

22.4 The Procuring Entity shall prepare the minutes of the proceedings of the bid opening that shall include, as a minimum: (a) names of Consultants, their bid price (per lot, if applicable, and/or including discount, if any), bid security, findings of preliminary examination, and whether there is a withdrawal or modification; and (b) attendance sheet. The BAC members shall sign the abstract of bids as read.

22.5 The Consultants or their duly authorized representatives may attend the opening of bids. The BAC shall ensure the integrity, security, and confidentiality of all submitted bids. The Abstract of Bids, as read, and the minutes of the bid opening shall be made available to the public, upon written request and payment of a specified fee to recover the cost of materials.

23) Process to be Confidential

23.1 The members of the BAC, its staff and personnel, the BAC Secretariat, and the TWG, as well as the Observers, are prohibited from making or accepting any communication with any Consultant regarding the evaluation of their bids until the approval by the HoPE of the ranking of short-listed Consultants, unless otherwise allowed in the **BDS** or in the case of **ITB** Clause 23.

23.2 Any effort by a bidder to influence the Procuring Entity in the Procuring Entity's decision in respect of bid evaluation, bid comparison, or contract award will result in the rejection of the bid.

24) Clarification of Bids

From submission and receipt of bids until the approval by the HoPE of the ranking of short-listed bidders, those that have submitted their bids are prohibited from making any communication with any BAC member, including its staff and personnel, as well as its Secretariat and TWG, regarding matters connected to their bids. However, the BAC, through its Secretariat, may ask the Consultant in writing for clarification of its bid. All responses to requests for clarification shall be in writing.

25) Bid Evaluation

25.1 For the evaluation of bids, numerical ratings shall be used to determine the Highest Rated Bid (HRB). In order to eliminate bias in evaluating the bids, it is recommended that the highest and lowest scores for each Consultant for each criterion shall not be considered in determining the average scores of the Consultants, except when the evaluation is conducted in a collegial manner.

25.2 For complex or unique undertakings, such as those involving new concepts or technology, or financial advisory services, participating short-listed Consultants may be required, at the option of the Procuring Entity concerned, to make an oral presentation to be presented by each Consultant, or its nominated Project Manager or head, in case of consulting firms, within fifteen (15) calendar days after the deadline for submission of Technical Proposals.

25.3 The entire evaluation process, including the submission of the results thereof to the HoPE for approval, shall be completed in not more than twenty-one (21) calendar days after the deadline for receipt of proposals. The bid with the highest rank shall be identified as the HRB. The HoPE shall approve or

disapprove the recommendations of the BAC within two (2) calendar days after receipt of the results of the evaluation from the BAC.

25.4 All participating short-listed Consultants shall be furnished with the results of the evaluation, which shall reflect the ranking and total scores only, after the approval of the HoPE of the ranking. Said results shall also be posted in the PhilGEPS and the website of the Procuring Entity, if available, for a period of not less than seven (7) calendar days.

26) Evaluation of Technical Proposal

26.1 The BAC shall then conduct a detailed evaluation of technical proposal following the procedures specified in the **BDS** depending on the evaluation procedure identified in the Request for Expression of Interest and **ITB** Clause 1.1.

26.2 The BAC evaluates the Technical Proposals on the basis of their compliance with the requirements under **ITB** Clause 12 and responsiveness to the TOR using the following criteria:

a) Quality of personnel to be assigned to the Project, which covers the suitability of key staff to perform the duties of the particular assignments, and general qualifications and competence including education and training of the key staff;

b) Experience and capability of the Consultant which include records of previous engagement and quality of performance in similar and in other projects; relationship with previous and current clients; and, overall work commitments, geographical distribution of current or impending projects and attention to be given by the Consultant. The experience of the Consultant to the Project shall consider both the overall experiences of the firm and the individual experiences of the principal and key staff including the times when employed by other consultants; and

c) Plan of approach and methodology with emphasis on the clarity, feasibility, innovativeness and comprehensiveness of the plan of approach, and the quality of interpretation of project problems, risks, and suggested solutions.

26.3 The BAC shall assign numerical weights, and the minimum required technical score to each of the above criteria which shall be indicated in the **BDS**. A Bid shall be rejected at this stage if it does not respond to important aspects of the TOR or if it fails to achieve the minimum Technical Score (St) indicated in the **BDS**.

26.4 Technical Proposals shall not be considered for evaluation in any of the following cases:

a) late submission, *i.e.*, after the deadline set in the **ITB** Clause 19);

b) failure to submit any of the technical requirements provided under this ITB and TOR;

c) the Consultant that submitted a bid or the Consultant that submitted a bid or any of its partners belongs to one of the conflict of interest cases as

described in ITB Clauses 5.1(a) to (i) and failed to make a proper statement to that effect in the cover letter; or

d) the Technical Proposal included any cost of the services.

27) Opening and Evaluation of Financial Proposals

27.1 Financial Proposals shall be opened on the date indicated in the **BDS**.

27.2 The Financial Proposals opened shall be evaluated based on the evaluation procedure indicated in **ITB** Clause 1.1 using the corresponding procedure provided in the **BDS**.

28) Negotiations

28.1 Negotiations with the Consultant that submitted the HRB shall be held at the address indicated in the **BDS**. The aim is to reach agreement on all points.

28.2 Negotiations shall cover the following:

a) Discussion and clarification of the TOR and Scope of Services;

b) Discussion and finalization of the methodology and work program proposed by the Consultant;

c) Consideration of appropriateness of qualifications and pertinent compensation, number of man-months and the personnel to be assigned to the job, taking note of over-qualified personnel to be commensurate with the compensation of personnel with the appropriate qualifications, number of man-months and schedule of activities (manning schedule);

d) Discussion on the services, facilities, and data, if any, to be provided by Procuring Entity concerned;

e) Unless otherwise indicated in the **BDS**, discussion on the Financial Proposal submitted by the Consultant; and

f) Provision of the contract.

Except for meritorious reasons, negotiations with the Consultant shall be completed within ten (10) calendar days.

28.3 Having selected the Consultant on the basis of, among other things, an evaluation of the proposed key professional staff, the Procuring Entity expects to negotiate a contract on the basis of the experts named in the bid. Before contract negotiations, the Procuring Entity shall require assurances that the experts shall be actually available. There should be no replacement of key personnel before the awarding of contract, except for any delay caused by the Procuring Entity, or for justifiable reason as may be determined by the BAC, such as, illness, death, or resignation; Provided, That it is duly supported by relevant certificates. The BAC shall immediately consider negotiation with the next-ranked consultant if an unjustifiable replacement of personnel by the first ranked firm is made. Once the contract has awarded, no replacement shall be allowed by the HoPE until after fifty percent (50%) of the personnel's man-months have been served, except for justifiable reasons as may be determined

by the Procuring Entity. Violators shall be fined an amount equal to the refund of the replaced personnel's basic rate, which should be at least fifty percent (50%) of the total basic rate for the duration of the engagement.

28.4 Negotiations shall include a discussion of the technical proposal, the proposed methodology (work plan), staffing and any suggestions made by the Consultant to improve the TOR. The Procuring Entity and Consultant shall then work out the final TOR, staffing, and bar charts indicating activities, staff, periods in the field and in the home office, staff-months, logistics, and reporting. The agreed work plan and final TOR shall then be incorporated in Appendix I and form part of the contract. Special attention shall be made to maximizing the value offered by the Consultant within the available budget and to clearly defining the input required by the Procuring Entity to ensure satisfactory implementation of the Project.

28.5 The amount indicated in the financial proposal shall be made as the basis for negotiations and the total contract amount shall not exceed the amount indicated in the financial proposal and the ABC as stated in the Bidding Documents" for quality-based evaluation procedure.

28.6 The financial negotiations shall include a clarification of the Consultant's tax liability in the Philippines, if any, and the manner in which it shall be reflected in the contract; and shall reflect the agreed technical modifications in the cost of the services. The negotiations shall conclude with a review of the draft form of the contract. To complete negotiations, the Procuring Entity and the Consultant shall affix their initials in the agreed contract. If negotiations fail, the Procuring Entity shall invite the Consultant whose bid received the second highest score to negotiate a contract. If negotiations still fail, the Procuring Entity shall repeat the process for the next-in-rank Consultant until the negotiation is successfully completed.

29) Post-Qualification

29.1 The BAC shall determine to its satisfaction whether the Consultant that is evaluated as having submitted the HRB complies with and is responsive to all the requirements and conditions specified in the Short-listing Documents and **ITB** Clauses 12 and 13. The Consultant, within five (5) calendar days from receipt of notice from the BAC that it submitted the HRB, shall submit all the eligibility documents supporting its PhilGEPS Certificate of Registration (Platinum Membership), its latest income and business tax returns filed for the preceding quarter which should not be earlier than two (2) quarters from the date of submission and receipt of bid, and other appropriate licenses and permits required by law and stated in the **BDS**.

29.2 Failure to submit any of the post-qualification requirements on time, or a finding against the veracity thereof, shall disqualify the Consultant for award; Provided, That in the event that a finding against the veracity of any of the documents submitted is made, it shall cause the forfeiture of the bid security.

29.3 During post-qualification, the BAC shall verify and validate the veracity, authenticity, and validity of all the eligibility documents supporting the PhilGEPS Certificate of Registration (Platinum Membership), and all the other statements made, and documents submitted by the Consultant with the HRB, using non-discretionary criteria, as stated in the Bidding Documents.

29.4 The determination shall be based upon an examination of the documentary evidence of the Consultant's qualifications submitted pursuant to **ITB** Clauses 12 and 13, as well as other information as the Procuring Entity deems necessary and appropriate, using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion, which shall be completed within a period of twelve (12) calendar days from the completion of the negotiation with the Consultant that submitted the HRB. In exceptional cases, the post-qualification period may be extended by the HoPE, but in no case shall it exceed thirty (30) calendar days.

29.5 If the BAC determines that the Consultant with the HRB passes all the criteria for post-qualification, it shall declare the said bid as the Consultant with the HRRB and recommend to the HoPE the award of contract to the said Bidder at bid price or its negotiated price, whichever is lower, and subject to compliance with **ITB** Clause 31.3.

29.6 If the BAC determines that the bidder with the HRB fails the criteria for post-qualification, it shall immediately notify the said bidder in writing of its post-disqualification and the grounds for it.

29.7 Immediately after the BAC has notified the first Consultant of its post-disqualification, and notwithstanding any pending request for reconsideration thereof, the BAC shall initiate and complete the same post-qualification process on the Consultant with the second HRB. If the second Consultant passes the post-qualification and provided that the request for reconsideration of the first Consultant has been denied, the second Consultant shall be post-qualified as the Consultant with the HRB. If the second Consultant, however, fails the post-qualification, the procedure for post-qualification shall be repeated for the Consultant with the next HRB, and so on, until the HRRB is determined for award, subject to the procedure of Notice and Execution of Award.

In case of post-disqualification of the Consultant with the HRB, the BAC shall be given the same fresh period to conduct the post-qualification of the next HRB until a Consultant is post-qualified or failure of bidding is declared based on Section 64 of the IRR.

29.8 Within a period not exceeding ten (10) calendar days from the determination by the BAC of the HRRB and the recommendation of the award, the HoPE or its duly authorized representative shall approve or disapprove the said recommendation.

29.9 In case of approval, HoPE or its duly authorized representative shall immediately issue the Notice of Award to the Consultant with the HRRB.

In the event that the approving authority shall disapprove the resolution on the award of the contract, such disapproval shall be based only on valid, reasonable, and justifiable grounds as enumerated under Section 70 of the IRR to be expressed in writing. A copy of the decision disapproving the resolution shall be furnished to the BAC and the Consultant. A request for reconsideration may filed by the Consultant with the HoPE within three (3) calendar days from receipt of the notice of disapproval. The HoPE shall resolve with finality the request for reconsideration within seven (7) calendar days from the filing thereof and furnish the bidder a copy of the resolution immediately from its promulgation. In no case shall the request for reconsideration stay or delay the bidding process. However, the request for reconsideration must first be resolved before any award is made.