

A. General

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Procuring Entity named in the Bid Data Sheet (**BDS**) shall select an individual, sole proprietorship, 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**.
- 1.2. BCDA 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**. BCDA intends to apply a portion or the whole of the funds to payments for this Project.
- 1.3. 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.
- 1.4. If the **BDS** indicates that the Project will be completed in phases, each phase must be completed to BCDA’s satisfaction prior to the commencement of the next phase.
- 1.5. Consultants must familiarize themselves with 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 BCDA before submitting a bid and to attend the pre-bid conference specified in **ITB** Clause 7.
- 1.6. The Consultants’ costs of preparing their bids and negotiating the contract, including a visit to BCDA, are not reimbursable as a direct cost of the project.
- 1.7. Consultants shall not be under a declaration of ineligibility for corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, or coercive practices issued by BCDA in accordance with **ITB** Clause 3.1.

2. Conflict of Interest

- 2.1. BCDA’s policy requires that Consultants provide professional, objective, and impartial advice and at all times hold BCDA’s interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and strictly avoid situations where a conflict of interest shall arise with their other projects or their own interests. Consultants shall not be hired for any project that would be in conflict with their prior or current obligations to other entities, or that may place them in a position of not being able to carry out the Project in the best interest of BCDA. Without

limitation on the generality of this rule, Consultants shall not be hired under the circumstances set forth below:

- (a) If a Consultant combines the function of consulting with those of contracting and/or supply of equipment;
 - (b) If a Consultant 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 Consultant includes relevant information on such relationships along with a statement in the Technical Proposal cover letter to the effect that the Consultant 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 Consultant selected to undertake the Project shall contain an appropriate provision to such effect; or
 - (c) If there is a conflict among consulting projects, the Consultant (including its personnel and subcontractors) and any subsidiaries or entities controlled by such Consultant shall not be recruited for the relevant project. The duties of the Consultant depend on the circumstances of each case. While continuity of consulting services may be appropriate in particular situations where no conflict exists, a Consultant cannot be recruited to carry out a project that, by its nature, shall result in conflict with a prior or current project of such Consultant. Examples of the situations mentioned are when a Consultant 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 Consultant assisting BCDA in privatization of public assets shall not purchase, nor advise purchasers, of such assets; or a Consultant hired to prepare Terms of Reference (TOR) for a project shall not be recruited for the project in question.
- 2.2. Consultants shall not be related to the Head of BCDA, members of the BAC, the TWG, and the BAC Secretariat, the head of the PMO or the end-user unit, and the project consultants, by consanguinity or affinity up to the third civil degree. The prohibition shall apply as follows:
- (a) If the Consultant is an individual or sole proprietorship, then to himself;
 - (b) If the Consultant is a partnership, then to all its officers and members;
 - (c) If the Consultant is a corporation, then to all its officers, directors and controlling stockholders; or

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

Relationship of the nature described above or a failure to comply with the provisions of this clause will result in the rejection of the Consultant's bid.

- 2.3. Subject to the provisions of **ITB** Clause 2, any previous or ongoing participation by the Consultant, its professional staff, or its affiliates or associates under a contract with BCDA in relation to this Project may result in the rejection of its bid. Consultants should clarify their situation in that respect with BCDA before preparing its bid.
- 2.4. Failure by a Consultant to fully disclose potential conflict of interest at the time of Bid submission, or at a later date in the event that the potential conflict arises after such date, shall result in BCDA's seeking the imposition of the maximum administrative, civil and criminal penalties up to and including imprisonment.
- 2.5. Consultants 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 rules and regulations of the Civil Service Commission.
- 2.6. Fairness and transparency in the selection process require that Consultants do not derive unfair competitive advantage from having provided consulting services related to the Project in question. To this end, BCDA shall make available to all the short listed consultants together with the Bidding Documents all information that would in that respect give each Consultant a competitive advantage.

3. Corrupt, Fraudulent, Collusive, and Coercive Practices

- 3.1. BCDA 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, BCDA:
 - (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 GOP, 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 Republic Act 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 BCDA, 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 BCDA 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 BCDA, 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;

- (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, BCDA 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, BCDA reserves 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 51.

4. Consultant’s Responsibilities

4.1. The Consultant or its duly authorized representative shall submit a sworn statement in the form prescribed in Section VII. Bidding Forms as required in **ITB** Clause 10.2(c).

4.2. The Consultant 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 this Project, if any; and
- (d) Having complied with its responsibility to inquire or secure Supplemental/Bid Bulletin/s as provided under **ITB** Clause 8.3.
- (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 Head of BCDA 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 the Act in relation to other provisions of Republic Act 3019; and
- (j) Complying with existing labor laws and standards, if applicable.

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

- 4.3. It shall be the sole responsibility of the prospective bidder to determine and to satisfy itself by such means as it considers necessary or desirable as to all matters pertaining to this Project, including: (a) the location and the nature of the contract, project, or work; (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 the contract, project, or work.
- 4.4. BCDA shall not assume any responsibility regarding erroneous interpretations or conclusions by the Consultant out of the data furnished by BCDA.

- 4.5. Before submitting their bids, the Consultants are deemed to have become familiar with all existing laws, decrees, ordinances, acts and regulations of the GOP which may affect the contract in any way.
- 4.6. The Consultant shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of his bid, and BCDA will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.
- 4.7. Consultants should note that BCDA will only accept bids only from those that have paid the nonrefundable fee for the Bidding Documents at the office indicated in the Request for Expression of Interest.

5. 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.

6. Subcontracts

- 6.1. Unless otherwise specified in the **BDS**, the Consultant may subcontract portions of the Consulting Services to an extent as may be approved by BCDA and stated in the **BDS**. However, subcontracting of any portion shall not relieve the Consultant from any liability or obligation that may arise from the contract for this Project.
- 6.2. Subcontractors must comply with the eligibility criteria and the documentary requirements specified in the **BDS**. In the event that any subcontractor is found by BCDA to be ineligible, the subcontracting of such portion of the Consulting Services shall be disallowed.
- 6.3. The Consultant may identify the subcontractor to whom a portion of the Consulting Services will be subcontracted at any stage of the bidding process or during contract implementation. If the Consultant opts to disclose the name of the subcontractor during bid submission, the Consultant shall include the required documents as part of the technical component of its bid.

B. Contents of Bidding Documents

7. Pre-Bid Conference

- 7.1. If so specified in the **BDS**, a pre-bid conference shall be held at the venue and on the date indicated therein, to clarify and address the Consultants' questions on the technical and financial components of this Project.
- 7.2. Consultants are encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference to ensure that they fully understand BCDA's requirements. Non-attendance of

the Consultant will in no way prejudice its bid; however, the Consultant is expected to know the changes and/or amendments to the Bidding Documents discussed during the pre-bid conference.

- 7.3. Any statement made at the pre-bid conference shall not modify the terms of the Bidding Documents unless such statement is specifically identified in writing as an amendment thereto and issued as a Supplemental/Bid Bulletin.

8. Clarifications and Amendments to Bidding Documents

- 8.1. Consultants who have purchased the Bidding Documents may request for clarifications on any part of the Bidding Documents for an interpretation. Such a request must be in writing and submitted to BCDA at the address indicated in the **BDS** at least ten (10) calendar days before the deadline set for the submission and receipt of bids.
- 8.2. Supplemental/Bid Bulletins may be issued upon BCDA'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.
- 8.3. Any Supplemental/Bid Bulletin issued by the BAC shall also be posted on the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of BCDA concerned, if available. It shall be the responsibility of all Consultants who secure 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 informed and allowed to modify or withdraw their bids in accordance with **ITB** Clause 20.

C. Preparation of Bids

9. Language of Bids

The Bid, as well as all correspondence and documents relating to the bid exchanged by the Consultant and BCDA, shall be written in English. Supporting documents and printed literature furnished by the Consultant may be in another language provided they are accompanied by an accurate translation in English certified by the appropriate embassy or consulate in the Philippines, in which case the English translation shall govern, for purposes of interpretation of the bid.

10. Documents Comprising the Bid: Technical Proposal

- 10.1. 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 Consultant.
- (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.

10.2. The Technical Proposal shall contain the following information/documents:

- (a) Bid security as prescribed in **ITB** Clause 15. If the Bidder opts to submit the bid security in the form of:
 - (i) a bank draft/guarantee or an irrevocable Letter of Credit issued by a foreign bank, it shall be accompanied by a confirmation from a Universal or Commercial Bank; or
 - (ii) a surety bond accompanied by a certification coming from an authorized Insurance Commission that a surety or insurance company is authorized to issue such instrument.
- (b) Information indicated in the paragraphs below must be provided by the Consultant and each partner and/or subcontractor, if any, following the formats described in Section VI. Terms of Reference:
 - (i) A brief description of the organization and outline of recent experience of the Consultant and each partner and/or subcontractor on projects of a similar and related nature as required in form **TPF 2. Consultant's References**. For each project, the outline should indicate *inter alia*, 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 and/or subcontractors, but can be claimed by the individuals themselves in their CVs. Consultants should be prepared to substantiate the claimed experience if so requested by BCDA.

- (ii) A concise, complete, and logical description of how the Consultant's team shall carry out the services to meet all requirements of the TOR.
- (iii) 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.
- (iv) Manning Schedule (**TPF 9. Manning Schedule**) 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.
- (v) An organization chart indicating relationships amongst the Consultant and any partner and/or subcontractor, the BCDA and other parties or stakeholders, if any, involved in the project.
- (vi) Comments, if any, on the TOR (**TPF 4. Comments and Suggestions of Consultant on the Terms of Reference and on Data, Services, and Facilities to be Provided by BCDA**) to improve performance in carrying out the Project. Innovativeness shall be appreciated, including workable suggestions that could improve the quality/effectiveness of the Project. In this regard, unless the Consultant clearly states otherwise, it shall be assumed by BCDA that work required to implement any such improvements, are included in the inputs shown on the Consultant's Staffing Schedule.
- (vii) A list of facilities requested by the Consultant to be provided by BCDA 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.

- (viii) 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 7. Format of Curriculum Vitae (CV)** for Proposed Professional Staff.
- (ix) Only one CV for each consultant involved in the Project may be submitted for each position.
- (x) BCDA requires that each expert confirm that the content of his/her 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:
 - (x.1) is proposed for a domestic position but is not a Filipino citizen;
 - (x.2) failed to state nationality on the CV; or
 - (x.3) the CV is not signed in accordance with paragraph (x) above.
- (c) Sworn statement in accordance with Section 25.2(b)(iv) of the IRR of RA 9184 and using the form prescribed in Section VII. Bidding Forms.
- (d) Additional requirements specified in the **BDS**.

11. Documents Comprising the Bid: Financial Proposal

- 11.1. All information provided in a Consultant's Financial Proposal shall be treated as confidential. The Financial Proposal must be submitted in hard copy using the format shown in Financial Proposal Forms.
- 11.2. The Financial Proposal requires completion of four (4) forms, particularly, FPF 1, FPF 2, FPF 3 and FPF 4. FPF 1. Financial Proposal Submission Form should form the covering letter of the Financial Proposal. Forms FPF 2. Summary of Costs, FPF 3. Breakdown of Remuneration Costs, and FPF 4. Breakdown of Reimbursable Expenses, relate to the costs of consulting services under two distinct categories, namely: (a) Remuneration; and (b) Reimbursable Expenditures.
- 11.3. 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.

- 11.4. 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.
- 11.5. The Consultant shall be subject to Philippine taxes on amounts payable by BCDA under the contract through mandated withholding by local tax authorities of specified percentages of such amounts or otherwise. The **BDS** details the taxes payable.
- 11.6. 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, the subcontractors, and its personnel (other than Philippine Nationals or permanent residents of the Philippines).
- 11.7. 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 approved budget for the contract (ABC) shall not be considered.

12. Alternative Bids

Consultants shall submit only one bid and shall not associate with any other entity other than those already provided in its eligibility documents and allowed by BCDA.

13. Bid Currencies

- 13.1. All bid prices shall be quoted in Philippine Pesos unless otherwise provided in the **BDS**. However, for purposes of bid evaluation, bids denominated in foreign currencies shall be converted to Philippine currency based on the exchange rate prevailing on the day of the bid opening.
- 13.2. If so allowed in accordance with **ITB** Clause 13.1, BCDA 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 Pesos at the exchange rate as published in the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP) reference rate bulletin on the day of the bid opening.
- 13.3. Unless otherwise specified in the **BDS**, payment of the contract price shall be made in Philippine Pesos.

14. Bid Validity

- 14.1. 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.
- 14.2. In exceptional circumstances, prior to the expiration of the bid validity period, BCDA may request Consultants to extend the period of validity of their bids. The request and the responses shall be made in writing. The bid security described in **ITB** Clause 15 should also be extended corresponding to, at least, the extension of the bid validity period. A Consultant may refuse the request without forfeiting its bid security, but his bid shall no longer be considered for further evaluation and award. A Consultant granting the request shall not be required or permitted to modify its bid.

15. Bid Security

- 15.1. The bid security, issued in favor of BCDA, in the amount stated in the **BDS** shall be equal to the percentage of the ABC in accordance with the following schedule:

Form of Bid Security	Amount of Bid Security (Equal to Percentage of the ABC)
a) Cash or cashier's/manager's check issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank.	Two percent (2%)
b) Bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank: Provided, however, that it shall be confirmed or authenticated by a Universal or Commercial Bank, if issued by a foreign bank.	
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) Any combination of the foregoing.	Proportionate to share of form with respect to total amount of security

For biddings conducted by LGUs, the Consultant may also submit bid securities in the form of cashier's/manager's check, bank draft/guarantee, or irrevocable letter of credit from other banks certified by the BSP as authorized to issue such financial statement.

- 15.2. The bid security should be valid for the period specified in the **BDS**. Any bid not accompanied by an acceptable bid security shall be rejected by BCDA as non-responsive.
- 15.3. No bid securities shall be returned to the Consultants after the opening of bids and before contract signing, except to those that failed or declared as post-disqualified, upon submission of a written waiver of their right to file a motion for reconsideration and/or protest. Without prejudice on its forfeiture, bid securities shall be returned only after the bidder with the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bid has signed the contract and furnished the performance security, but in no case later than the expiration of the bid security validity period indicated in **ITB** Clause 15.2.
- 15.4. Upon signing and execution of the contract pursuant to **ITB** Clause 30, and the posting of the performance security pursuant to **ITB** Clause 31, the Consultant's bid security will be discharged, but in no case later than the bid security validity period as indicated in **ITB** Clause 15.2.
- 15.5. The bid security may be forfeited:
- (a) if a 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 11.7;
 - (iii) fails to submit the requirements within the prescribed period or a finding against their veracity as stated in **ITB** Clause 27.2; or
 - (iv) any other reason stated in the **BDS**.
 - (b) if the successful Consultant:
 - (i) fails to sign the contract in accordance with **ITB** Clause 30;
 - (ii) fails to furnish performance security in accordance with **ITB** Clause 31; or
 - (iii) any other reason stated in the **BDS**.

16. Format and Signing of Bids

- 16.1. Consultants shall submit their bids through their duly authorized representative using the appropriate forms provided in Section VII. Bidding Forms on or before the deadline specified in the **ITB** Clause 18 in two (2) separate sealed bid envelopes, and which shall be

submitted simultaneously. The first shall contain the technical proposal and the second shall contain the financial proposal.

- 16.2. Forms as mentioned in **ITB** Clause 16.1 must be completed without any alterations to their format, and no substitute form shall be accepted. All blank spaces shall be filled in with the information requested.
- 16.3. The Consultant shall prepare an original of the first and second envelopes as described in **ITB** Clauses 10 and 11. In addition, the Consultant shall submit copies of the first and second envelopes. In the event of any discrepancy between the original and the copies, the original shall prevail.
- 16.4. The bid, except for unamended printed literature, shall be signed, and each and every page thereof shall be initialed, by the duly authorized representative/s of the Consultant.
- 16.5. Any interlineations, erasures, or overwriting shall be valid only if they are signed or initialed by the duly authorized representative/s of the Consultant.

17. Sealing and Marking of Bids

- 17.1. Unless otherwise indicated in the **BDS**, Consultants shall enclose their original technical proposal described in **ITB** Clause 10, in one sealed envelope marked “ORIGINAL - TECHNICAL PROPOSAL”, and the original of their financial proposal in another sealed envelope marked “ORIGINAL - FINANCIAL PROPOSAL”, sealing them all in an outer envelope marked “ORIGINAL BID”.
- 17.2. Each copy of the first and second envelopes shall be similarly sealed duly marking the inner envelopes as “COPY NO. ___ - TECHNICAL PROPOSAL” and “COPY NO. ___ – FINANCIAL PROPOSAL” and the outer envelope as “COPY NO. ___”, respectively. These envelopes containing the original and the copies shall then be enclosed in one single envelope.
- 17.3. The original and the number of copies of the bid as indicated in the **BDS** shall be typed or written in indelible ink and shall be signed by the bidder or its duly authorized representative/s.
- 17.4. 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 BCDA’s BAC identified in **ITB** Clause 8.1;

- (d) bear the specific identification of this bidding process indicated in the Request for Expression of Interest; and
- (e) bear a warning “DO NOT OPEN BEFORE...” the date and time for the opening of bids, in accordance with **ITB** Clause 18.

17.5. If bids are not sealed and marked as required, BCDA will assume no responsibility for the misplacement or premature opening of the bid.

D. Submission of Bids

18. Deadline for Submission of Bids

Bids must be received by BCDA’s BAC at the address and on or before the date and time indicated in the **BDS**.

19. Late Bids

Any bid submitted after the deadline for submission and receipt of bids prescribed by BCDA, pursuant to **ITB** Clause 18, shall be declared “Late” and shall not be accepted by BCDA.

20. Modification and Withdrawal of Bids

20.1. The Consultant may modify its bid after it has been submitted; provided that the modification is received by BCDA prior to the deadline prescribed for submission and receipt of bids. The Consultant shall not be allowed to retrieve its original bid, but shall be allowed to submit another bid equally sealed, properly identified, linked to its original bid marked as “TECHNICAL MODIFICATION” or “FINANCIAL MODIFICATION” 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.

20.2. A Consultant may, through a letter of withdrawal, withdraw its bid after it has been submitted, for valid and justifiable reason; provided that the letter of withdrawal is received by BCDA prior to the deadline prescribed for submission and receipt of bids.

20.3. Bids requested to be withdrawn in accordance with **ITB** Clause 20.1 shall be returned unopened to the Consultants. A Consultant may also express its intention not to participate in the bidding through a letter which should reach and be stamped by the BAC before the deadline for submission and receipt of bids. A Consultant that withdraws its bid shall not be permitted to submit another bid, directly or indirectly, for the same contract.

20.4. No bid may be modified after the deadline for submission of bids. No bid may be withdrawn in the interval between the deadline for

submission of bids and the expiration of the period 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 15.5, and the imposition of administrative, civil, and criminal sanctions as prescribed by R.A. 9184 and its IRR.

E. Evaluation and Comparison of Bids

21. Process to be Confidential

- 21.1. Members of the BAC, including its staff and personnel, as well as its Secretariat and TWG, are prohibited from making or accepting any kind of communication with any Consultant regarding the evaluation of their bids until the issuance of the Notice of Award, unless otherwise allowed in the **BDS** or in the case of **ITB** Clause 22.
- 21.2. Any effort by a bidder to influence BCDA in BCDA's decision in respect of bid evaluation, bid comparison or contract award will result in the rejection of the Consultant's bid.

22. Clarification of Bids

To assist in the evaluation, comparison and post-qualification of the bids, BCDA may ask in writing any Consultant for a clarification of its bid. All responses to requests for clarification shall be in writing. Any clarification submitted by a Consultant in respect to its bid and that is not in response to a request by BCDA shall not be considered.

23. Bid Evaluation

- 23.1. For the evaluation of bids, numerical ratings shall be used. 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.
- 23.2. For complex or unique undertakings, such as those involving new concepts/technology or financial advisory services, participating short listed consultants may be required, at the option of BCDA, 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.
- 23.3. The entire evaluation process, including the submission of the results thereof to the Head of BCDA for approval, shall be completed in not more than twenty-one (21) calendar days after the deadline for receipt of bids. The bid with the highest rank shall be identified as the Highest Rated Bid. The Head of BCDA 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.

- 23.4. All participating short listed consultants shall be furnished the results (ranking and total scores only) of the evaluation after the approval by the Head of BCDA of the ranking. Said results shall also be posted in the PhilGEPS and the website of BCDA, if available, for a period of not less than seven (7) calendar days.

24. Opening and Evaluation of Technical Proposals

- 24.1. BCDA shall conduct a detailed evaluation of bids 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.
- 24.2. The BAC evaluates the Technical Proposals on the basis of their compliance with the requirements under **ITB** Clause 10 and responsiveness to the TOR using the following criteria:
- (a) Quality of personnel to be assigned to the Project which covers suitability of key staff to perform the duties for the Project 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/impending projects and attention to be given by the consultant. The suitability 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 approach, and the quality of interpretation of project problems, risks, and suggested solutions.
- 24.3. The BAC shall assign numerical weights 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**.
- 24.4. 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 18;

- (b) failure to submit any of the technical requirements provided under this ITB and TOR;
- (c) the Consultant that submitted a Bid or any of its partner and/or subcontractor belongs to one of the Conflict of Interest cases as described in **ITB** Clauses 2.1(a) to 2.1(b) 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.

25. Opening and Evaluation of Financial Proposals

- 25.1. Financial Proposals shall be opened on the date indicated in the **BDS**.
- 25.2. 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**.

26. Negotiations

- 26.1. Negotiations shall be held at the address indicated in the **BDS**. The aim is to reach agreement on all points.
- 26.2. 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 BCDA;
 - (e) Unless otherwise indicated in the **BDS**, discussion on the Financial Proposal submitted by the Consultant; and
 - (f) Provisions of the contract.
- 26.3. Having selected the Consultant on the basis of, among other things, an evaluation of the proposed key professional staff, BCDA expects to negotiate a contract on the basis of the experts named in the bid. Before contract negotiations, BCDA shall require assurances that the experts shall be actually available. BCDA shall not consider substitutions during contract negotiations other than for reasons of

death or illness unless both parties agree that undue delay in the selection process makes such substitution unavoidable or that such changes are critical to meet the objectives of the Project. If this is not the case and if it is established that key staff were offered in the bid without confirming their availability, the Consultant may be disqualified. Once the contract has been awarded, no replacement shall be allowed until after fifty percent (50%) of the personnel's man-months have been served, except for justifiable reasons. 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.

- 26.4. 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. BCDA 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 paid to getting the most the Consultant can offer within the available budget and to clearly defining the inputs required from BCDA to ensure satisfactory implementation of the Project.
- 26.5. 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, BCDA and the Consultant shall initial the agreed contract. If negotiations fail, BCDA shall invite the Consultant whose Bid received the second highest score to negotiate a contract. If negotiations still fail, BCDA shall repeat the process for the next-in-rank Consultant until the negotiation is successfully completed.

27. Post Qualification

- 27.1. BCDA shall determine to its satisfaction whether the Consultant that is evaluated as having submitted the Highest Rated Bid (HRB) complies with and is responsive to all the requirements and conditions specified in the Eligibility Documents and **ITB** Clauses 10 and 11.
- 27.2. Within a non-extendible period of three (3) calendar days from receipt by the Consultant of the notice from the BAC that it is the HRB, the Consultant shall submit the following documentary requirements:
 - (a) Tax clearance per Executive Order 398, Series of 2005;
 - (b) Latest income and business tax returns in the form specified in the **BDS**;

- (c) Certificate of PhilGEPS Registration; and
- (d) Other appropriate licenses and permits required by law and stated in the **BDS**.

Failure of the Consultant declared as HRB to duly submit the requirements under this Clause or a finding against the veracity of such, shall be ground for forfeiture of the bid security and disqualification of the Consultant for award.

- 27.3. The determination shall be based upon an examination of the documentary evidence of the Consultant's qualifications submitted pursuant to **ITB** Clauses 10 and 11, as well as other information as BCDA deems necessary and appropriate, using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion.
- 27.4. 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 Highest Rated and Responsive Bid (HRRB), and recommend to the Head of BCDA the award of contract to the said Consultant at its submitted price or its calculated bid price, whichever is lower, subject to **ITB** Clause 29.3.
- 27.5. A negative determination shall result in rejection of the Consultant's bid, in which event BCDA shall proceed to the next HRB to make a similar determination of that Consultant's capabilities to perform satisfactorily. 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 contract award.
- 27.6. Within a period not exceeding seven (7) calendar days from the date of receipt of the recommendation of the BAC, the Head of BCDA shall approve or disapprove the said recommendation. In the case of GOCCs and GFIs, the period provided herein shall be fifteen (15) calendar days.

28. Reservation Clause

- 28.1. Notwithstanding the eligibility, short listing, or post-qualification of a Consultant, BCDA reserves the right to review its qualifications at any stage of the procurement process if it has reasonable grounds to believe that a misrepresentation has been made by the said Consultant, or that there has been a change in the Consultant's capability to undertake this Project from the time it submitted its eligibility requirements. Should such review uncover any misrepresentation made in the eligibility and bidding requirements, statements or documents, or any changes in the situation of the Consultant which will affect its capability to undertake the project so that it fails the preset eligibility or bid evaluation criteria, BCDA shall consider the said Consultant as ineligible and shall

disqualify it from submitting a bid or from obtaining an award or contract.

28.2. Based on the following grounds, BCDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding at any time prior to the contract award, or not to award the contract, without thereby incurring any liability, and make no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of the bidding:

- (a) if there is prima facie evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of BCDA, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition;
- (b) if BCDA's BAC is found to have failed in following the prescribed bidding procedures; or
- (c) for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the GOP as follows:
 - (i) If the physical and economic conditions have significantly changed so as to render the project no longer economically, financially or technically feasible as determined by the head of BCDA;
 - (ii) If the project is no longer necessary as determined by the Head of BCDA; and
 - (iii) If the source of funds for the project has been withheld or reduced through no fault of BCDA.

28.3. In addition, BCDA may likewise declare a failure of bidding when:

- (a) No bids are received;
- (b) All prospective bidders are declared ineligible;
- (c) All bids fail to comply with all the bid requirements or fail post-qualification; or
- (d) The bidder with the HRRB refuses, without justifiable cause to accept the award of contract, and no award is made.

F. Award of Contract

29. Contract Award

- 29.1. Subject to **ITB** Clause 27, BCDA shall award the contract to the Bidder whose bid has been determined to be the HRRB.
- 29.2. Prior to the expiration of the period of bid validity, BCDA shall notify the successful Consultant in writing that its bid has been accepted, through a Notice of Award received personally or sent by registered mail or electronically, receipt of which must be confirmed in writing within two (2) days by the Consultant with the HRRB and submitted personally or sent by registered mail or electronically to BCDA.
- 29.3. Notwithstanding the issuance of the Notice of Award, award of contract shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) Submission of the valid JVA, if applicable, within ten (10) calendar days from receipt by the Consultant of the notice from the BAC that the Consultant has the HRRB;
 - (b) Posting of the performance security in accordance with **ITB** Clause 31;
 - (c) Signing of the contract as provided in **ITB** Clause 30; and
 - (d) Approval by higher authority, if required.

30. Signing of the Contract

- 30.1. At the same time as BCDA notifies the successful Bidder that its bid has been accepted, BCDA shall send the Contract Form to the Bidder, which contract has been provided in the Bidding Documents, incorporating therein all agreements between the parties.
- 30.2. Within ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the Notice of Award, the successful Bidder shall post the required performance security and sign and date the contract and return it to BCDA.
- 30.3. BCDA shall enter into contract with the successful Bidder within the same ten (10) calendar day period provided that all the documentary requirements are complied with.
- 30.4. The following documents shall form part of the contract:
 - (a) Contract Agreement;
 - (b) Bidding Documents;
 - (c) Winning bidder's bid, including the Technical and Financial Proposals, and all other documents/statements submitted;

- (d) Performance Security;
- (e) Notice of Award of Contract; and
- (f) Other contract documents that may be required by existing laws and/or specified in the **BDS**.

31. Performance Security

- 31.1. Unless otherwise provided in the **BDS**, to guarantee the faithful performance by the winning Consultant of its obligations under the contract, it shall post a performance security within a maximum period of ten (10) calendar days from the receipt of the Notice of Award from BCDA and in no case later than the signing of the contract.
- 31.2. The performance security shall be denominated in Philippine Pesos and posted in favor of BCDA in an amount equal to the percentage of the total contract price in accordance with the following schedule:

Form of Performance Security	Amount of Performance Security (Equal to Percentage of the Total Contract Price)
(a) Cash or cashier's/manager's check issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank.	Five percent (5%)
(b) Bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank: Provided, however, that it shall be confirmed or authenticated by a Universal or Commercial Bank, if issued by a foreign bank.	
(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; and/or	Thirty percent (30%)
(d) Any combination of the foregoing.	Proportionate to share of form with respect to total amount of security

- 31.3. Failure of the successful Consultant to comply with the above-mentioned requirement shall constitute sufficient ground for the annulment of the award and forfeiture of the bid security, in which event BCDA shall initiate and complete the post qualification of the second HRB. The procedure shall be repeated until the HRRB is identified and selected for contract award. However if no Consultant passed post-qualification, the BAC shall declare the bidding a failure and conduct a re-bidding with re-advertisement.

32. Notice to Proceed

- 32.1. Within three (3) calendar days from the date of approval of the contract by the appropriate government approving authority, BCDA shall issue its Notice to Proceed to the Consultant.
- 32.2. The date of the Consultant's receipt of the Notice to Proceed will be regarded as the effective date of the contract, unless otherwise specified in the **BDS**.