

PART A INVITATION TO BID

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED TO BID FOR REQUIREMENTS OF THE (NATIONAL TREASURY)					
BID NUMBER:	RFI002-2024	CLOSING DATE:	27/09/ 2024	CLOSING TIME:	11:00 AM
DESCRIPTION	REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) FOR A GOVERNMENT MARKETPLACE(E-COMMERCE) SOLUTION FOR NATIONAL TREASURY.				
BID RESPONSE DOCUMENTS MAY BE DEPOSITED IN THE BID BOX SITUATED AT (STREET ADDRESS)					
National Treasury					
240 Madiba Street, PRETORIA,0001					
4th Floor Supply Chain Management					
Att: Lebogang Maponya/ Siphesihle Nyandeni/ Lerato Guliwe/ Fikile Maswanganyi					
BIDDING PROCEDURE ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO			TECHNICAL ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO:		
CONTACT PERSON	Supply Chain Management		CONTACT PERSON	Supply Chain Management	
TELEPHONE NUMBER			TELEPHONE NUMBER		
FACSIMILE NUMBER			FACSIMILE NUMBER		
E-MAIL ADDRESS	NTAdministrativeTenders@Treasury.gov.za		E-MAIL ADDRESS	NTAdministrativeTenders@Treasury.gov.za	
SUPPLIER INFORMATION					
NAME OF BIDDER					
POSTAL ADDRESS					
STREET ADDRESS					
TELEPHONE NUMBER	CODE		NUMBER		
CELLPHONE NUMBER					
FACSIMILE NUMBER	CODE		NUMBER		
E-MAIL ADDRESS					
VAT REGISTRATION NUMBER					
SUPPLIER COMPLIANCE STATUS	TAX COMPLIANCE SYSTEM PIN:		OR	CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE No:	MAAA
ARE YOU THE ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES OFFERED?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [IF YES ENCLOSE PROOF]		ARE YOU A FOREIGN BASED SUPPLIER FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES OFFERED?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [IF YES, ANSWER THE QUESTIONNAIRE BELOW]
QUESTIONNAIRE TO BIDDING FOREIGN SUPPLIERS					
IS THE ENTITY A RESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (RSA)?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
DOES THE ENTITY HAVE A BRANCH IN THE RSA?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
DOES THE ENTITY HAVE A PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT IN THE RSA?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
DOES THE ENTITY HAVE ANY SOURCE OF INCOME IN THE RSA?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
IS THE ENTITY LIABLE IN THE RSA FOR ANY FORM OF TAXATION?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
IF THE ANSWER IS "NO" TO ALL OF THE ABOVE, THEN IT IS NOT A REQUIREMENT TO REGISTER FOR A TAX COMPLIANCE STATUS					

SYSTEM PIN CODE FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN REVENUE SERVICE (SARS) AND IF NOT REGISTER AS PER 2.3 BELOW.

PART B

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR BIDDING

1. BID SUBMISSION:
1.1. BIDS MUST BE DELIVERED BY THE STIPULATED TIME TO THE CORRECT ADDRESS. LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR CONSIDERATION.
1.2. ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON THE OFFICIAL FORMS PROVIDED (NOT TO BE RE-TYPED) OR IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED IN THE BID DOCUMENT.
1.3. THIS BID IS SUBJECT TO THE PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK ACT, 2000 AND THE PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, THE GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT (GCC) AND, IF APPLICABLE, ANY OTHER SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT.
1.4. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WILL BE REQUIRED TO FILL IN AND SIGN A WRITTEN CONTRACT FORM (SBD7).
2. TAX COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS
2.1 BIDDERS MUST ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THEIR TAX OBLIGATIONS.
2.2 BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THEIR UNIQUE PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN) ISSUED BY SARS TO ENABLE THE ORGAN OF STATE TO VERIFY THE TAXPAYER'S PROFILE AND TAX STATUS.
2.3 APPLICATION FOR TAX COMPLIANCE STATUS (TCS) PIN MAY BE MADE VIA E-FILING THROUGH THE SARS WEBSITE WWW.SARS.GOV.ZA.
2.4 BIDDERS MAY ALSO SUBMIT A PRINTED TCS CERTIFICATE TOGETHER WITH THE BID.
2.5 IN BIDS WHERE CONSORTIA / JOINT VENTURES / SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE INVOLVED; EACH PARTY MUST SUBMIT A SEPARATE TCS CERTIFICATE / PIN / CSD NUMBER.
2.6 WHERE NO TCS PIN IS AVAILABLE BUT THE BIDDER IS REGISTERED ON THE CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE (CSD), A CSD NUMBER MUST BE PROVIDED.
2.7 NO BIDS WILL BE CONSIDERED FROM PERSONS IN THE SERVICE OF THE STATE, COMPANIES WITH DIRECTORS WHO ARE PERSONS IN THE SERVICE OF THE STATE, OR CLOSE CORPORATIONS WITH MEMBERS PERSONS IN THE SERVICE OF THE STATE."

NB: FAILURE TO PROVIDE / OR COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE PARTICULARS MAY RENDER THE BID INVALID.

SIGNATURE OF BIDDER:

CAPACITY UNDER WHICH THIS BID IS SIGNED:
(Proof of authority must be submitted e.g. company resolution)

DATE:



national treasury

Department:
National Treasury
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI):

RFI002-2024

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) FOR A GOVERNMENT MARKETPLACE(E-COMMERCE) SOLUTION FOR NATIONAL TREASURY.

CLOSING DATE: 27 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 11:00

Legislative framework

- ***The constitution of the Republic of SA, 1996.***
- Section 217. (1) When an organ of state in the national, provincial or local sphere of government, or any other institution identified in national legislation, contracts for goods or services, it must do so in accordance with a system which is *fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective*.
- ***Public Finance Management Act (PFMA and its regulations)***
- ***Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA and its regulations)***
- ***Municipal Systems Act***
- ***Public Procurement Act of 2024***
- ***Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (PPPFA and its regulations)***
- ***Broad - Based Black Economic Empowerment Act 53 of 2003 (B-BBEE)***
- ***Construction Industry Development Board Act No. 38 of 2000 (CIDB)***
- ***Promotion of access to information Act (PAIA) 2 of 2000***
- ***Promotion of Administrative Justice Act (PAJA) 3 of 2000***
- ***The Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act No. 12 of 2004.***
- ***National Treasury Practice and Instruction notes and Circulars.***
- ***SCM: A guide to Accounting Officers (Not an Act – Not a regulation)***
- ***Departmental /Institutional SCM Policy***
- ***Preferential Procurement Regulations Of 2022 (PPR)***

1. Introduction

National Treasury is seeking information from experienced service providers for the development and implementation of a Government Electronic Marketplace system. This system aims to enhance the efficiency, transparency, and accountability of the government's procurement processes. The purpose of this RFI is to gather detailed information about available solutions, industry best practices, potential implementation strategies, and a proposed value chain cost model sustainable to ensure operational efficiencies.

2. Background

The National Treasury is committed to modernizing its procurement processes in alignment with all legislative frameworks. This modernization effort focuses on enhancing transparency, efficiency, and accountability in public procurement. Key initiatives include the adoption of digital procurement platforms, the establishment of stricter regulatory frameworks, and capacity-building for procurement officials. These reforms aim to combat corruption, improve service delivery, and ensure equitable access to government contracts for businesses, including those owned by previously disadvantaged groups.

The Office of the Chief Procurement Officer (OCPO) has a critical mandate to modernize and oversee the South African public sector procurement system. This mandate is rooted in the principles outlined in Section 217 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, which requires that the procurement of goods, services, and construction works across all spheres of government be conducted in a manner that is fair, equitable, transparent, competitive, and cost-effective.

There is a need to introduce a marketplace for government which will enable simplified procurement of commodities from existing contracts and for commodities fitting criteria as defined by the National Treasury. An electronic marketplace being a digital platform that facilitates the buying and selling of goods and services over the internet offering a seamless user experience which integrates with existing government procurement systems.

The National Treasury will own the core marketplace platform, although value-adding services can be taken over by any provider of such proposed solutions. Therefore, we seek information on solutions available in the market that can facilitate end-to-end implementation of a government electronic marketplace.

3. Objectives

The objective of this RFI is to gather information regarding solutions available for the successful implementation of a government marketplace and associated commercial models:

- Identify potential vendors and their capabilities.
- Understand the range of available solutions and technologies.
- Gather information on implementation timelines, costs, and best practices.
- Assess the feasibility of integrating with existing government systems.
- Ensure compliance with regulatory and security requirements.
- Assess the potential service provider's support and implementation processes
- Assess innovative solutions which will save government money and improve transparency
- Identify potential third party value adds on the marketplace solution
- Obtain a clear understanding of potential service providers' commercial models

4. Information Requested

Interested vendors are requested to provide detailed information on the following aspects of their solutions:

4.1 Company Information

- Company profile and history.
- Experience in implementing e-commerce systems, particularly for government or private sector clients.
- Key clients and case studies relevant to this RFI.

4.2 Solution Overview

- Description of the proposed Government Marketplace (e-commerce) solution, including key features and functionalities.
- Technical architecture and technology stack.
- Scalability and flexibility of the solution to accommodate future needs.

4.3 Functional Requirements

- User management and authentication.
- Product and service catalogue management.
- Procurement processes.

- Purchase Order Generation.
- Reporting and analytics capabilities.
- Compliance with all applicable procurement regulations
- Product management
- Payment gateways
- Core platform development
- Integration services
- Service and product catalogue maintenance
- Payment services/gateways
- Search engine optimization
- Business Intelligence Reports
- System Administration

4.4 Non-Functional Requirements

- Performance and load handling capabilities.
- Usability and accessibility features.
- Reliability and uptime guarantee.
- Security measures, including data protection and encryption.
- Compliance with relevant standards and regulations.

4.5 Implementation Approach

- Proposed implementation methodology and timeline.
- Training and support plans for users and administrators.
- Change management and transition strategies.

4.6 Integration Capabilities

- Ability to integrate with existing government systems (e.g., CSD, BAS, Logis, and other government financial systems).
- APIs and web services offered.
- Data migration and management strategies.

4.7 Commercial models

- Pricing models and cost estimates for development of the core solution (NT to own the end product including source code).
- Maintenance service costs/proposal

- Any additional costs (e.g., for development, customization, support, training).
- Cost recovery model, if any

4.8 Innovation

Bidder may include innovative commercial models that introduce other value adds that may be derived from the electronic marketplace that will benefit the ecosystem. Bidder to indicate 3rd parties (if any), in such a model.

4.9 Value Chain Management Model

Prospective suppliers are requested to provide a detailed description of their proposed Value Chain Management Model for the Government Marketplace (e-commerce) system. This model should outline how prospective suppliers will manage all aspects of the e-commerce platform, from supplier onboarding to final delivery and customer support. The following but not limited to components should be covered in your proposal:

- **Supplier Management:**
 - Integration to existing supplier databases
 - Systems for evaluating supplier performance, handling non-compliance, and managing relationships.
 - Strategies for assessing and mitigating risks associated with supplier dependencies, including contingency planning.
- **Product and Service Catalogue Management:**
 - Processes for adding and updating products/services in the marketplace, including quality assurance and standardization.
 - Structuring and managing categories to optimize searchability and relevance for government buyers.
 - Ensuring accurate, complete, and up-to-date product information, including pricing, specifications, and availability.
- **Order Management:**
 - **Order Placement and Processing:** End-to-end process for order creation, approval workflows, and real-time tracking from initiation to completion.

- **Order Fulfilment:** Coordination with suppliers and logistic providers to ensure timely delivery of goods and services.
 - Mechanisms for government buyers to monitor the status of their orders in real time, including notifications and updates.
- **Procurement Processes:**
 - **Purchase Order (PO) Generation:** Automated PO creation, approval, and dispatch to suppliers, with integration into government financial systems.
- **Shipping and Logistics:**
 - **Logistics Integration:** Coordination with logistics providers to manage shipping, including real-time tracking and delivery confirmations.
 - **Delivery Verification:** Processes for verifying receipt of goods/services by government entities, including electronic proof of delivery (ePOD).
- **Payment Processing and Pricing Strategy:**
 - **Payment Gateway Integration:** Secure and compliant payment processing for transactions integrated to government systems.
 - **Invoicing and reconciliation:** Automated invoicing, payment reconciliation, and integration with government financial and accounting systems.
 - **Disbursement management:** Ensuring timely payment to suppliers and management of payment disputes or adjustments.
 - **Commercial model:** A detailed explanation of how the vendor will generate revenue from the platform without requiring government funding, example:
 - **Transaction fees:** Fees charged per transaction, split among the platform operator, suppliers, and other stakeholders.
 - **Commission structure:** Commission rates on sales made through the platform, with clear terms on how these are distributed across the value chain.
 - **Cost-absorption mechanism:** Strategies to ensure the platform remains self-sustaining and covering all operational costs.
- **Returns and Dispute Resolution:**

- **Returns Management:** Policies and procedures for handling returns, replacements, and refunds, ensuring compliance with government regulations.
- **Dispute Resolution:** Mechanisms for resolving disputes between buyers and suppliers, including arbitration and escalation protocols.
- **Data Management and Analytics:**
 - **Data Integration:** Integration of data from various government systems to ensure seamless operation and reporting.
 - **Analytics and Reporting:** Advanced analytics for procurement trends, supplier performance, and customizable reporting dashboards.
 - **Compliance and Audit:** Ensuring data integrity, security, and traceability, with full audit trails and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.
- **Security and Compliance:**
 - **Data Security:** Measures for protecting sensitive government and supplier data, including encryption, access controls, and regular security audits.
 - **Regulatory Compliance:** Adherence to all relevant regulations, including procurement laws, data protection acts, and industry standards.
 - **Risk Management:** Comprehensive risk assessment and management strategies to safeguard the marketplace against fraud, cyber threats, and operational disruptions.

Prospective suppliers should provide examples, case studies, and references that demonstrate their capability to manage each component effectively. The model should be scalable to accommodate future growth and adaptable to evolving government needs.

4.9 Additional Information

- Any additional features or capabilities that would benefit the Government Marketplace (e-commerce) platform.
- References and testimonials from previous clients.

4.10 Submission Guidelines

Respond by submitting a 10–20-page proposal (excluding Additional Information) addressing how your proposed Government Marketplace will be implemented and supported. Interested vendors should submit their responses by **27 September 2024**. Submissions should include:

- A cover letter summarizing the vendor's interest and suitability for the project.
- Contact information for the primary point of contact.
- Supplier Information
- Solution Overview
- Development and Implementation Methodology
- Pricing Structure
- Value Chain Management Model
- Proof of Compliance
- Additional Information

Submissions should be delivered in hard copy to: **Physical Address: National Treasury, 240 Madiba Street, Pretoria**

5. Evaluation and Next Steps

Responses to this RFI will be evaluated based on the vendor's experience, the comprehensiveness of the solution, alignment with the National Treasury requirements, and overall feasibility. Selected vendors may be invited to participate in a subsequent Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

6. Disclaimer

This RFI is for information-gathering purposes only and does not constitute a solicitation or contractual obligation by National Treasury. The National Treasury reserves the right to change or cancel the RFI at any time without any prior notice.

Whilst the intent of the National Treasury is to compare vendor responses and conduct market research on "the implementation of a Government Electronic Marketplace", the National Treasury makes no obligation or undertakings in any way to:

- 5.1. Go out on a tender or
- 5.2. Accept any Request for Information received from vendors or
- 5.3. Include vendors responding to this Request for Information in any future tender invitation or
- 5.4. Any other commitment to suppliers whatsoever, including any intention to form a contract with any supplier for "proposing "the implementation of discretionary and statutory deductions from the government payroll".

The National Treasury may decide only to invite the respondents to RFI to submit Request for Proposals at its own discretion.

6. RFI PACKAGING PROPOSAL

Bid No: **RFI002-2024**

Description: **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI): IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT MARKETPLACE.**

Bid closing date and time: **27 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 11H00AM**

Name and address of the bidder:

In this envelope, the bidder shall only address the RFI aspects of the bid.

The RFI Proposal envelope must contain one original hard copy document, clearly marked “1 Original”, and 1 soft copy in a USB format.

8. CONTACT DETAILS

Supply Chain Management, 4th floor at National Treasury,

Private Bag x 115, Pretoria, 0001

Physical address: 240 Madiba Street (Vermeulen), Pretoria

For General enquiries: NTAdministrativeTenders@Treasury.gov.za

PRICING SCHEDULE
(Professional Services)

NAME OF BIDDER: BID NO: RFI002-2024

CLOSING TIME 11:00 AM ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2024

OFFER TO BE VALID FOR 90 DAYS FROM THE CLOSING DATE OF BID.

ITEM NO	DESCRIPTION	BID PRICE IN RSA CURRENCY INCLUSIVE OF <u>VALUE ADDED TAX</u>
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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FOR A GOVERNMENT MARKETPLACE (E-COMMERCE) SOLUTION FOR NATIONAL TREASURY

Services must be quoted in accordance with the attached terms of reference.

Total cost of the assignment (R inclusive VAT)

R.....

NB: Bidders are also advised to indicate a total cost breakdown for this assignment.

The financial proposal for this assignment should cover for all assignment activities and outputs enumerated above.

2. Period required for commencement with project after acceptance of bid _____

3. Are the rates quoted firm for the full period? Yes/No

4. If not firm for the full period, provide details of the basis on which
Adjustments will be applied for, for example consumer price index.

Any enquiries regarding bidding procedures may be directed to –

Department: National Treasury

Any enquiries regarding technical enquiries may be directed to –

Contact Person: NTAdministrativeTenders@Treasury.gov.za

PLEASE REFER TO THE ATTACHED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

BIDDER'S DISCLOSURE

1. PURPOSE OF THE FORM

Any person (natural or juristic) may make an offer or offers in terms of this invitation to bid. In line with the principles of transparency, accountability, impartiality, and ethics as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and further expressed in various pieces of legislation, it is required for the bidder to make this declaration in respect of the details required hereunder.

Where a person/s are listed in the Register for Tender Defaulters and / or the List of Restricted Suppliers, that person will automatically be disqualified from the bid process.

2. Bidder's declaration

2.1 Is the bidder, or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest¹ in the enterprise, employed by the state? **YES/NO**

2.1.1 If so, furnish particulars of the names, individual identity numbers, and, if applicable, state employee numbers of sole proprietor/ directors / trustees / shareholders / members/ partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise, in table below.

Full Name	Identity Number	Name of State institution

2.2 Do you, or any person connected with the bidder, have a relationship

¹ the power, by one person or a group of persons holding the majority of the equity of an enterprise, alternatively, the person/s having the deciding vote or power to influence or to direct the course and decisions of the enterprise.

with any person who is employed by the procuring institution? **YES/NO**

2.2.1 If so, furnish particulars:

.....

2.3 Does the bidder or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise have any interest in any other related enterprise whether or not they are bidding for this contract? **YES/NO**

2.3.1 If so, furnish particulars:

.....

3 DECLARATION

I, _____ the _____ undersigned,
 (name)..... in
 submitting the accompanying bid, do hereby make the following
 statements that I certify to be true and complete in every respect:

- 3.1 I have read and I understand the contents of this disclosure;
- 3.2 I understand that the accompanying bid will be disqualified if this disclosure is found not to be true and complete in every respect;
- 3.3 The bidder has arrived at the accompanying bid independently from, and without consultation, communication, agreement or arrangement with any competitor. However, communication between partners in a joint venture or consortium² will not be construed as collusive bidding.
- 3.4 In addition, there have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements with any competitor regarding the quality, quantity, specifications, prices, including methods, factors or formulas used to calculate prices, market allocation, the intention or decision to submit or not to submit the bid, bidding with the intention not to win the bid and conditions or delivery particulars of the products or services to which this bid invitation relates.
- 3.4 The terms of the accompanying bid have not been, and will not be, disclosed by the bidder, directly or indirectly, to any competitor, prior to the date and time of the official bid opening or of the awarding of the contract.
- 3.5 There have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements made by the bidder with any official of the procuring

² Joint venture or Consortium means an association of persons for the purpose of combining their expertise, property, capital, efforts, skill and knowledge in an activity for the execution of a contract.

institution in relation to this procurement process prior to and during the bidding process except to provide clarification on the bid submitted where so required by the institution; and the bidder was not involved in the drafting of the specifications or terms of reference for this bid.

- 3.6 I am aware that, in addition and without prejudice to any other remedy provided to combat any restrictive practices related to bids and contracts, bids that are suspicious will be reported to the Competition Commission for investigation and possible imposition of administrative penalties in terms of section 59 of the Competition Act No 89 of 1998 and or may be reported to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) for criminal investigation and or may be restricted from conducting business with the public sector for a period not exceeding ten (10) years in terms of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act No 12 of 2004 or any other applicable legislation.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION FURNISHED IN PARAGRAPHS 1, 2 and 3 ABOVE IS CORRECT.

I ACCEPT THAT THE STATE MAY REJECT THE BID OR ACT AGAINST ME IN TERMS OF PARAGRAPH 6 OF PFMA SCM INSTRUCTION 03 OF 2021/22 ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING ABUSE IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SHOULD THIS DECLARATION PROVE TO BE FALSE.

.....
Signature	Date
.....
Position	Name of bidder

GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

NOTES

The purpose of this document is to:

- (i) Draw special attention to certain general conditions applicable to government bids, contracts and orders; and
- (ii) To ensure that clients be familiar with regard to the rights and obligations of all parties involved in doing business with government.

In this document words in the singular also mean in the plural and vice versa and words in the masculine also mean in the feminine and neuter.

- The General Conditions of Contract will form part of all bid documents and may not be amended.
- Special Conditions of Contract (SCC) relevant to a specific bid, should be compiled separately for every bid (if applicable) and will supplement the General Conditions of Contract. Whenever there is a conflict, the provisions in the SCC shall prevail.

TABLE OF CLAUSES

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General Conditions of Contract

1. Definitions

1. The following terms shall be interpreted as indicated:
 - 1.1 "Closing time" means the date and hour specified in the bidding documents for the receipt of bids.
 - 1.2 "Contract" means the written agreement entered into between the purchaser and the supplier, as recorded in the contract form signed by the parties, including all attachments and appendices thereto and all documents incorporated by reference therein.
 - 1.3 "Contract price" means the price payable to the supplier under the contract for the full and proper performance of his contractual obligations.
 - 1.4 "Corrupt practice" means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of any thing of value to influence the action of a public official in the procurement process or in contract execution.
 - 1.5 "Countervailing duties" are imposed in cases where an enterprise abroad is subsidized by its government and encouraged to market its products internationally.
 - 1.6 "Country of origin" means the place where the goods were mined, grown or produced or from which the services are supplied. Goods are produced when, through manufacturing, processing or substantial and major assembly of components, a commercially recognized new product results that is substantially different in basic characteristics or in purpose or utility from its components.
 - 1.7 "Day" means calendar day.
 - 1.8 "Delivery" means delivery in compliance of the conditions of the contract or order.
 - 1.9 "Delivery ex stock" means immediate delivery directly from stock actually on hand.
 - 1.10 "Delivery into consignees store or to his site" means delivered and unloaded in the specified store or depot or on the specified site in compliance with the conditions of the contract or order, the supplier bearing all risks and charges involved until the supplies are so delivered and a valid receipt is obtained.
 - 1.11 "Dumping" occurs when a private enterprise abroad market its goods on own initiative in the RSA at lower prices than that of the country of origin and which have the potential to harm the local industries in the RSA.
 - 1.12 "Force majeure" means an event beyond the control of the supplier and not involving the supplier's fault or negligence and not foreseeable.

Such events may include, but is not restricted to, acts of the purchaser in its sovereign capacity, wars or revolutions, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions and freight embargoes.

- 1.13 "Fraudulent practice" means a misrepresentation of facts in order to influence a procurement process or the execution of a contract to the detriment of any bidder, and includes collusive practice among bidders (prior to or after bid submission) designed to establish bid prices at artificial non-competitive levels and to deprive the bidder of the benefits of free and open competition.
- 1.14 "GCC" means the General Conditions of Contract.
- 1.15 "Goods" means all of the equipment, machinery, and/or other materials that the supplier is required to supply to the purchaser under the contract.
- 1.16 "Imported content" means that portion of the bidding price represented by the cost of components, parts or materials which have been or are still to be imported (whether by the supplier or his subcontractors) and which costs are inclusive of the costs abroad, plus freight and other direct importation costs such as landing costs, dock dues, import duty, sales duty or other similar tax or duty at the South African place of entry as well as transportation and handling charges to the factory in the Republic where the supplies covered by the bid will be manufactured.
- 1.17 "Local content" means that portion of the bidding price which is not included in the imported content provided that local manufacture does take place.
- 1.18 "Manufacture" means the production of products in a factory using labour, materials, components and machinery and includes other related value-adding activities.
- 1.19 "Order" means an official written order issued for the supply of goods or works or the rendering of a service.
- 1.20 "Project site," where applicable, means the place indicated in bidding documents.
- 1.21 "Purchaser" means the organization purchasing the goods.
- 1.22 "Republic" means the Republic of South Africa.
- 1.23 "SCC" means the Special Conditions of Contract.
- 1.24 "Services" means those functional services ancillary to the supply of the goods, such as transportation and any other incidental services, such as installation, commissioning, provision of technical assistance, training, catering, gardening, security, maintenance and other such obligations of the supplier covered under the contract.
- 1.25 "Written" or "in writing" means handwritten in ink or any form of electronic or mechanical writing.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2. Application | <p>2.1 These general conditions are applicable to all bids, contracts and orders including bids for functional and professional services, sales, hiring, letting and the granting or acquiring of rights, but excluding immovable property, unless otherwise indicated in the bidding documents.</p> <p>2.2 Where applicable, special conditions of contract are also laid down to cover specific supplies, services or works.</p> <p>2.3 Where such special conditions of contract are in conflict with these general conditions, the special conditions shall apply.</p> |
| 3. General | <p>3.1 Unless otherwise indicated in the bidding documents, the purchaser shall not be liable for any expense incurred in the preparation and submission of a bid. Where applicable a non-refundable fee for documents may be charged.</p> <p>3.2 With certain exceptions, invitations to bid are only published in the Government Tender Bulletin. The Government Tender Bulletin may be obtained directly from the Government Printer, Private Bag X85, Pretoria 0001, or accessed electronically from www.treasury.gov.za</p> |
| 4. Standards | <p>4.1 The goods supplied shall conform to the standards mentioned in the bidding documents and specifications.</p> |
| 5. Use of contract documents and information; inspection. | <p>5.1 The supplier shall not, without the purchaser's prior written consent, disclose the contract, or any provision thereof, or any specification, plan, drawing, pattern, sample, or information furnished by or on behalf of the purchaser in connection therewith, to any person other than a person employed by the supplier in the performance of the contract. Disclosure to any such employed person shall be made in confidence and shall extend only so far as may be necessary for purposes of such performance.</p> <p>5.2 The supplier shall not, without the purchaser's prior written consent, make use of any document or information mentioned in GCC clause 5.1 except for purposes of performing the contract.</p> <p>5.3 Any document, other than the contract itself mentioned in GCC clause 5.1 shall remain the property of the purchaser and shall be returned (all copies) to the purchaser on completion of the supplier's performance under the contract if so required by the purchaser.</p> <p>5.4 The supplier shall permit the purchaser to inspect the supplier's records relating to the performance of the supplier and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the purchaser, if so required by the purchaser.</p> |
| 6. Patent rights | <p>6.1 The supplier shall indemnify the purchaser against all third-party claims of infringement of patent, trademark, or industrial design rights arising from use of the goods or any part thereof by the purchaser.</p> |
| 7. Performance security | <p>7.1 Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notification of contract award, the successful bidder shall furnish to the purchaser the performance security of the amount specified in SCC.</p> |

- 7.2 The proceeds of the performance security shall be payable to the purchaser as compensation for any loss resulting from the supplier's failure to complete his obligations under the contract.
- 7.3 The performance security shall be denominated in the currency of the contract, or in a freely convertible currency acceptable to the purchaser and shall be in one of the following forms:
- (a) a bank guarantee or an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a reputable bank located in the purchaser's country or abroad, acceptable to the purchaser, in the form provided in the bidding documents or another form acceptable to the purchaser; or
 - (b) a cashier's or certified cheque
- 7.4 The performance security will be discharged by the purchaser and returned to the supplier not later than thirty (30) days following the date of completion of the supplier's performance obligations under the contract, including any warranty obligations, unless otherwise specified in SCC.

**8. Inspections,
tests and
analyses**

- 8.1 All pre-bidding testing will be for the account of the bidder.
- 8.2 If it is a bid condition that supplies to be produced or services to be rendered should at any stage during production or execution or on completion be subject to inspection, the premises of the bidder or contractor shall be open, at all reasonable hours, for inspection by a representative of the Department or an organization acting on behalf of the Department.
- 8.3 If there are no inspection requirements indicated in the bidding documents and no mention is made in the contract, but during the contract period it is decided that inspections shall be carried out, the purchaser shall itself make the necessary arrangements, including payment arrangements with the testing authority concerned.
- 8.4 If the inspections, tests and analyses referred to in clauses 8.2 and 8.3 show the supplies to be in accordance with the contract requirements, the cost of the inspections, tests and analyses shall be defrayed by the purchaser.
- 8.5 Where the supplies or services referred to in clauses 8.2 and 8.3 do not comply with the contract requirements, irrespective of whether such supplies or services are accepted or not, the cost in connection with these inspections, tests or analyses shall be defrayed by the supplier.
- 8.6 Supplies and services which are referred to in clauses 8.2 and 8.3 and which do not comply with the contract requirements may be rejected.
- 8.7 Any contract supplies may on or after delivery be inspected, tested or analyzed and may be rejected if found not to comply with the requirements of the contract. Such rejected supplies shall be held at the cost and risk of the supplier who shall, when called upon, remove them immediately at his own cost and forthwith substitute them with

supplies which do comply with the requirements of the contract. Failing such removal the rejected supplies shall be returned at the suppliers cost and risk. Should the supplier fail to provide the substitute supplies forthwith, the purchaser may, without giving the supplier further opportunity to substitute the rejected supplies, purchase such supplies as may be necessary at the expense of the supplier.

- 8.8 The provisions of clauses 8.4 to 8.7 shall not prejudice the right of the purchaser to cancel the contract on account of a breach of the conditions thereof, or to act in terms of Clause 23 of GCC.

9. Packing

- 9.1 The supplier shall provide such packing of the goods as is required to prevent their damage or deterioration during transit to their final destination, as indicated in the contract. The packing shall be sufficient to withstand, without limitation, rough handling during transit and exposure to extreme temperatures, salt and precipitation during transit, and open storage. Packing, case size and weights shall take into consideration, where appropriate, the remoteness of the goods' final destination and the absence of heavy handling facilities at all points in transit.
- 9.2 The packing, marking, and documentation within and outside the packages shall comply strictly with such special requirements as shall be expressly provided for in the contract, including additional requirements, if any, specified in SCC, and in any subsequent instructions ordered by the purchaser.

10. Delivery and documents

- 10.1 Delivery of the goods shall be made by the supplier in accordance with the terms specified in the contract. The details of shipping and/or other documents to be furnished by the supplier are specified in SCC.
- 10.2 Documents to be submitted by the supplier are specified in SCC.

11. Insurance

- 11.1 The goods supplied under the contract shall be fully insured in a freely convertible currency against loss or damage incidental to manufacture or acquisition, transportation, storage and delivery in the manner specified in the SCC.

12. Transportation

- 12.1 Should a price other than an all-inclusive delivered price be required, this shall be specified in the SCC.

13. Incidental services

- 13.1 The supplier may be required to provide any or all of the following services, including additional services, if any, specified in SCC:
- (a) performance or supervision of on-site assembly and/or commissioning of the supplied goods;
 - (b) furnishing of tools required for assembly and/or maintenance of the supplied goods;
 - (c) furnishing of a detailed operations and maintenance manual for each appropriate unit of the supplied goods;
 - (d) performance or supervision or maintenance and/or repair of the supplied goods, for a period of time agreed by the parties, provided that this service shall not relieve the supplier of any warranty obligations under this contract; and

- (e) training of the purchaser's personnel, at the supplier's plant and/or on-site, in assembly, start-up, operation, maintenance, and/or repair of the supplied goods.

13.2 Prices charged by the supplier for incidental services, if not included in the contract price for the goods, shall be agreed upon in advance by the parties and shall not exceed the prevailing rates charged to other parties by the supplier for similar services.

14. Spare parts

14.1 As specified in SCC, the supplier may be required to provide any or all of the following materials, notifications, and information pertaining to spare parts manufactured or distributed by the supplier:

- (a) such spare parts as the purchaser may elect to purchase from the supplier, provided that this election shall not relieve the supplier of any warranty obligations under the contract; and
- (b) in the event of termination of production of the spare parts:
 - (i) Advance notification to the purchaser of the pending termination, in sufficient time to permit the purchaser to procure needed requirements; and
 - (ii) following such termination, furnishing at no cost to the purchaser, the blueprints, drawings, and specifications of the spare parts, if requested.

15. Warranty

15.1 The supplier warrants that the goods supplied under the contract are new, unused, of the most recent or current models, and that they incorporate all recent improvements in design and materials unless provided otherwise in the contract. The supplier further warrants that all goods supplied under this contract shall have no defect, arising from design, materials, or workmanship (except when the design and/or material is required by the purchaser's specifications) or from any act or omission of the supplier, that may develop under normal use of the supplied goods in the conditions prevailing in the country of final destination.

15.2 This warranty shall remain valid for twelve (12) months after the goods, or any portion thereof as the case may be, have been delivered to and accepted at the final destination indicated in the contract, or for eighteen (18) months after the date of shipment from the port or place of loading in the source country, whichever period concludes earlier, unless specified otherwise in SCC.

15.3 The purchaser shall promptly notify the supplier in writing of any claims arising under this warranty.

15.4 Upon receipt of such notice, the supplier shall, within the period specified in SCC and with all reasonable speed, repair or replace the defective goods or parts thereof, without costs to the purchaser.

15.5 If the supplier, having been notified, fails to remedy the defect(s) within the period specified in SCC, the purchaser may proceed to take such remedial action as may be necessary, at the supplier's risk and expense and without prejudice to any other rights which the purchaser may have against the supplier under the contract.

- 16. Payment**
- 16.1 The method and conditions of payment to be made to the supplier under this contract shall be specified in SCC.
- 16.2 The supplier shall furnish the purchaser with an invoice accompanied by a copy of the delivery note and upon fulfillment of other obligations stipulated in the contract.
- 16.3 Payments shall be made promptly by the purchaser, but in no case later than thirty (30) days after submission of an invoice or claim by the supplier.
- 16.4 Payment will be made in Rand unless otherwise stipulated in SCC.
- 17. Prices**
- 17.1 Prices charged by the supplier for goods delivered and services performed under the contract shall not vary from the prices quoted by the supplier in his bid, with the exception of any price adjustments authorized in SCC or in the purchaser's request for bid validity extension, as the case may be.
- 18. Contract amendments**
- 18.1 No variation in or modification of the terms of the contract shall be made except by written amendment signed by the parties concerned.
- 19. Assignment**
- 19.1 The supplier shall not assign, in whole or in part, its obligations to perform under the contract, except with the purchaser's prior written consent.
- 20. Subcontracts**
- 20.1 The supplier shall notify the purchaser in writing of all subcontracts awarded under this contracts if not already specified in the bid. Such notification, in the original bid or later, shall not relieve the supplier from any liability or obligation under the contract.
- 21. Delays in the supplier's performance**
- 21.1 Delivery of the goods and performance of services shall be made by the supplier in accordance with the time schedule prescribed by the purchaser in the contract.
- 21.2 If at any time during performance of the contract, the supplier or its subcontractor(s) should encounter conditions impeding timely delivery of the goods and performance of services, the supplier shall promptly notify the purchaser in writing of the fact of the delay, its likely duration and its cause(s). As soon as practicable after receipt of the supplier's notice, the purchaser shall evaluate the situation and may at his discretion extend the supplier's time for performance, with or without the imposition of penalties, in which case the extension shall be ratified by the parties by amendment of contract.
- 21.3 No provision in a contract shall be deemed to prohibit the obtaining of supplies or services from a national department, provincial department, or a local authority.
- 21.4 The right is reserved to procure outside of the contract small quantities or to have minor essential services executed if an emergency arises, the supplier's point of supply is not situated at or near the place where the supplies are required, or the supplier's services are not readily available.

21.5 Except as provided under GCC Clause 25, a delay by the supplier in the performance of its delivery obligations shall render the supplier liable to the imposition of penalties, pursuant to GCC Clause 22, unless an extension of time is agreed upon pursuant to GCC Clause 21.2 without the application of penalties.

21.6 Upon any delay beyond the delivery period in the case of a supplies contract, the purchaser shall, without canceling the contract, be entitled to purchase supplies of a similar quality and up to the same quantity in substitution of the goods not supplied in conformity with the contract and to return any goods delivered later at the supplier's expense and risk, or to cancel the contract and buy such goods as may be required to complete the contract and without prejudice to his other rights, be entitled to claim damages from the supplier.

22. Penalties

22.1 Subject to GCC Clause 25, if the supplier fails to deliver any or all of the goods or to perform the services within the period(s) specified in the contract, the purchaser shall, without prejudice to its other remedies under the contract, deduct from the contract price, as a penalty, a sum calculated on the delivered price of the delayed goods or unperformed services using the current prime interest rate calculated for each day of the delay until actual delivery or performance. The purchaser may also consider termination of the contract pursuant to GCC Clause 23.

23. Termination for default

23.1 The purchaser, without prejudice to any other remedy for breach of contract, by written notice of default sent to the supplier, may terminate this contract in whole or in part:

- (a) if the supplier fails to deliver any or all of the goods within the period(s) specified in the contract, or within any extension thereof granted by the purchaser pursuant to GCC Clause 21.2;
- (b) if the Supplier fails to perform any other obligation(s) under the contract; or
- (c) if the supplier, in the judgment of the purchaser, has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for or in executing the contract.

23.2 In the event the purchaser terminates the contract in whole or in part, the purchaser may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as it deems appropriate, goods, works or services similar to those undelivered, and the supplier shall be liable to the purchaser for any excess costs for such similar goods, works or services. However, the supplier shall continue performance of the contract to the extent not terminated.

24. Anti-dumping and countervailing duties and rights

24.1 When, after the date of bid, provisional payments are required, or anti-dumping or countervailing duties are imposed, or the amount of a provisional payment or anti-dumping or countervailing right is increased in respect of any dumped or subsidized import, the State is not liable for any amount so required or imposed, or for the amount of any such increase. When, after the said date, such a provisional payment is no longer required or any such anti-dumping or countervailing right is abolished, or where the amount of such provisional payment or any such right is reduced, any such favourable

difference shall on demand be paid forthwith by the contractor to the State or the State may deduct such amounts from moneys (if any) which may otherwise be due to the contractor in regard to supplies or services which he delivered or rendered, or is to deliver or render in terms of the contract or any other contract or any other amount which may be due to him

25. Force Majeure

25.1 Notwithstanding the provisions of GCC Clauses 22 and 23, the supplier shall not be liable for forfeiture of its performance security, damages, or termination for default if and to the extent that his delay in performance or other failure to perform his obligations under the contract is the result of an event of force majeure.

25.2 If a force majeure situation arises, the supplier shall promptly notify the purchaser in writing of such condition and the cause thereof. Unless otherwise directed by the purchaser in writing, the supplier shall continue to perform its obligations under the contract as far as is reasonably practical, and shall seek all reasonable alternative means for performance not prevented by the force majeure event.

26. Termination for insolvency

26.1 The purchaser may at any time terminate the contract by giving written notice to the supplier if the supplier becomes bankrupt or otherwise insolvent. In this event, termination will be without compensation to the supplier, provided that such termination will not prejudice or affect any right of action or remedy which has accrued or will accrue thereafter to the purchaser.

27. Settlement of Disputes

27.1 If any dispute or difference of any kind whatsoever arises between the purchaser and the supplier in connection with or arising out of the contract, the parties shall make every effort to resolve amicably such dispute or difference by mutual consultation.

27.2 If, after thirty (30) days, the parties have failed to resolve their dispute or difference by such mutual consultation, then either the purchaser or the supplier may give notice to the other party of his intention to commence with mediation. No mediation in respect of this matter may be commenced unless such notice is given to the other party.

27.3 Should it not be possible to settle a dispute by means of mediation, it may be settled in a South African court of law.

27.4 Mediation proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure specified in the SCC.

27.5 Notwithstanding any reference to mediation and/or court proceedings herein,

- (a) the parties shall continue to perform their respective obligations under the contract unless they otherwise agree; and
- (b) the purchaser shall pay the supplier any monies due the supplier.

28. Limitation of liability

28.1 Except in cases of criminal negligence or willful misconduct, and in the case of infringement pursuant to Clause 6;

- (a) the supplier shall not be liable to the purchaser, whether in contract, tort, or otherwise, for any indirect or consequential loss

or damage, loss of use, loss of production, or loss of profits or interest costs, provided that this exclusion shall not apply to any obligation of the supplier to pay penalties and/or damages to the purchaser; and

- (b) the aggregate liability of the supplier to the purchaser, whether under the contract, in tort or otherwise, shall not exceed the total contract price, provided that this limitation shall not apply to the cost of repairing or replacing defective equipment.

29. Governing language

- 29.1 The contract shall be written in English. All correspondence and other documents pertaining to the contract that is exchanged by the parties shall also be written in English.

30. Applicable law

- 30.1 The contract shall be interpreted in accordance with South African laws, unless otherwise specified in SCC.

31. Notices

- 31.1 Every written acceptance of a bid shall be posted to the supplier concerned by registered or certified mail and any other notice to him shall be posted by ordinary mail to the address furnished in his bid or to the address notified later by him in writing and such posting shall be deemed to be proper service of such notice
- 31.2 The time mentioned in the contract documents for performing any act after such aforesaid notice has been given, shall be reckoned from the date of posting of such notice.

32. Taxes and duties

- 32.1 A foreign supplier shall be entirely responsible for all taxes, stamp duties, license fees, and other such levies imposed outside the purchaser's country.
- 32.2 A local supplier shall be entirely responsible for all taxes, duties, license fees, etc., incurred until delivery of the contracted goods to the purchaser.
- 32.3 No contract shall be concluded with any bidder whose tax matters are not in order. Prior to the award of a bid the Department must be in possession of a tax clearance certificate, submitted by the bidder. This certificate must be an original issued by the South African Revenue Services.