

PROCUREMENT POLICY OFFICE

Directive No 30 (Issued pursuant to section 7(b) of the Public Procurement Act)

Amendments to Standard Bidding Documents (Works) and (Consultancy Services)

1. Following the expiry of the transitional period for contractors and consultants operating in the CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY to register with the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) on 30 June 2016, contractors and consultants undertaking works or assignments for the Government have a statutory obligation to register with the CIDB accordingly.
2. The Standard Bidding Documents (SBDs) for Works and Consultancy services issued by this Office, which previously made provisions for the transitional period, have now been amended to enforce CIDB registration requirements by bidders, where applicable.
3. To enforce compliance with the registration requirement with the CIDB, public bodies shall henceforth prepare their bidding documents as follows:

(a) For Procurement for Works :-

- (i) With the public body in specifying the minimum registration grade and the field of specialisation issued by the CIDB, that in respect of its specific work contract, bidders are henceforth not required to provide evidence of their general experience and annual return of constructions works executed;
- (ii) The clause (i) above also applies to an intended or already constituted joint venture which as an entity satisfies the requirements of the public body regarding the grade and field of specialisation;
- (iii) Where the public body considers that it is necessary to ensure that contractors bidding for a works contract to also have experience in one or more specialised fields to qualify for the specific work contract, the updated SBDs allow the public body to customise the bidding document accordingly. In such cases, contractors will have to satisfy both the registration requirements and also evidence of experience in those specialised fields.
- (iv) Given that the CIDB also request evidence of history of litigation of contractors when they apply for registration, the SBDs have been amended for bidders to declare and provide details of current litigations only.
- (v) The remaining requirements related to financial soundness, cash flow, mobilisation of equipment and key personnel for contractors to satisfy as a single entity or a joint venture remain the same as has been applicable earlier.

and

(b) For Procurement of consulting services for the construction sector:-

- (i) Consultants to be registered with the CIDB are not subject to any grade or field of specialisation. In this respect, the SBDs for Consultancy services have been amended

- (ii) to make this requirement as one of the eligibility criteria to be assessed on a “must comply” basis failing which the Consultant will not be retained for the assignment.
 - (iii) All the other requirements for assessing the qualification of the consultants to be awarded a contract have remained unchanged.
4. Public bodies should ensure that the latest SBDs, published on the official website of the PPO, are being used for their procurement exercises.

Procurement Policy Office
31 August 2016