

# PROCUREMENT POLICY OFFICE

## Directive No. 48

(Issued Pursuant to Section 7 of the Public Procurement Act 2006)

### Amendments to Standard Bidding Documents

1. Public bodies are hereby informed that relevant Standard Bidding Documents (SBDs) have been amended to enable the implementation of measures announced in the budget speech 2020/2021 as well as those adopted in the context of Ease of Doing Business.
2. **Payment deadlines**

The payment deadlines have been reviewed as follows:

  - (i) **Payment for Goods and services contracts**
    - SMEs must be paid within 14 days; and
    - Suppliers, other than SMEs, must be paid no later than 21 days.
  - (ii) **Payment for Works contracts**
    - (a) **Up to Rs 300 M**
      - Contractors must be paid no later than 28 days
    - (b) **Above Rs 300 M**
      - Contractors must be paid no later than 42 days
3. **Retention money**

Any retention money for Works Contracts up to Rs 300 M must be paid fully six months after completion instead of twelve.
4. The following new SBDs have been issued for facilitating bidding exercises and incorporating changes mentioned above:
  - (i) Standard Bidding Document for Works (up to Rs 50 million)
  - (ii) Standard Bidding Document for Works (up to Rs 300 million)
  - (iii) Standard Bidding Document for Large and Complex Works (for complex works and works above Rs 300 million)
5. For Design and Build and Turnkey projects of contract value not exceeding Rs.300 million, paragraphs 2(ii) and 3 apply. Public Bodies must therefore ensure

that these documents are customised to reflect relevant changes as mentioned in this Directive where applicable, prior to issue.

6. The existing SBDs for Works (up to Rs 100 million and up to Rs 400 million) have been withdrawn.
7. This Directive takes effect as from 16 October 2020.

**Procurement Policy Office**  
**15 October 2020**