

PROJECT NAME: APPOINTMENT OF A PANEL OF CONTRACTORS FOR WATER RELATED PROJECTS FOR A PERIOD OF 36 MONTHS ON AN AS AND WHEN REQUIRED BASIS (RE-ADVERT)

T1.3: STANDARD CONDITIONS OF BID

(As contained in Annexure F of the CIDB Standard for Uniformity in Construction Procurement)

F.1 General

F.1.1 Actions

The employer and each bidder submitting a bid offer shall comply with these conditions of the bid. In their dealings with each other, they shall discharge their duties and obligations as set out in F.2 and F.3, timeously and with integrity, and behave equitably, honestly, and transparently.

F.1.2 Bid Documents

The documents issued by the employer for the purpose of a bid offer are listed in the bid data.

F.1.3 Interpretation

F.1.3.1 The bid data and additional requirements contained in the bid schedules that are included in the returnable documents are deemed to be part of these conditions of bid.

F.1.3.2 These conditions of bid, the bid data and bid schedules which are only required for bid evaluation purposes, shall not form part of any contract arising from the invitation to bid.

F.1.3.3 For the purposes of these conditions for the calling for expressions of interest, the following definitions apply:

- a) **Comparative offer** means the bidder's financial offer after the factors of non-firm prices, unconditional discounts and any other bided parameters that will affect the value of the financial offer have been taken into consideration
- b) **corrupt practice** means the offering, giving, receiving or soliciting of anything of value to influence the action of the employer or his staff or agents in the bid process; and
- c) **Fraudulent practice** means the misrepresentation of the facts in order to influence the bid process or the award of a contract arising from a bid offer to the detriment of the employer, including collusive practices intended to establish prices at artificial levels
- d) **Quality (functionality)** means the totality of features and characteristics of a product or service that bear on its ability to satisfy stated or implied needs

F.1.4 Communication and employer's agent

Each communication between the employer and a bidder shall be to or from the employer's agent only, and in a form that can be read, copied and recorded. Writing shall be in the English language. The employer shall not take any responsibility for non-receipt of communications from or by a bidder. The name and contact details of the employer's agent are stated in the bid data.

F.1.5 The employer's right to accept or reject any bid offer

F.1.5.1 The employer may accept or reject any variation, deviation, bid offer, or alternative bid offer, and may cancel the bid process and reject all bid offers at any time before the formation of a contract. The employer shall not accept or incur any liability to a bidder for such cancellation and rejection, but will give written reasons for such action upon written request to do so.

F.1.5.2 The employer may not be subsequent to the cancellation or abandonment of a bid process or the rejection of all responsive bid offers, re-issue a bid covering substantially the same scope of work within a period of six months unless only one bid was received and such bid was returned unopened to the bidder.

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F.2 Bidder's obligations

F.2.1 Eligibility

Submit a bid offer only if the bidder complies with the criteria stated in the bid data and the bidder, or any of his principals, is not under any restriction to do business with employer.

F.2.2 Cost of bidding

Accept that the employer will not compensate the bidder for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a bid offer, including the costs of any testing necessary to demonstrate that aspects of the offer satisfy requirements.

F.2.3 Check documents

Check the bid documents on receipt for completeness and notify the employer of any discrepancy or omission.

F.2.4 Confidentiality and copyright of documents

Treat as confidential all matters arising in connection with the bid. Use and copy the documents issued by the employer only for the purpose of preparing and submitting a bid offer in response to the invitation.

F.2.5 Reference documents

Obtain, as necessary for submitting a bid offer, copies of the latest versions of standards, specifications, conditions of contract and other publications, which are not attached but which are incorporated into the bid documents by reference.

F.2.6 Acknowledge addenda

Acknowledge receipt of addenda to the bid documents, which the employer may issue, and if necessary apply for an extension to the closing time stated in the bid data, in order to take the addenda into account.

F.2.7 Clarification meeting

Attend, where required, a clarification meeting at which bidders may familiarize themselves with aspects of the proposed work, services or supply and raise questions. Details of the meeting(s) are stated in the bid data.

F.2.8 Seek clarification

Request clarification of the bid documents, if necessary, by notifying the employer at least five working days before the closing time stated in the bid data.

F.2.9 Insurance

Be aware that the extent of insurance to be provided by the employer (if any) may not be for the full cover required in terms of the conditions of contract identified in the contract data. The bidder is advised to seek qualified advice regarding insurance.

F.2.10 Pricing the bid offer

F.2.10.1 Include in the rates, prices, and the bided total of the prices (if any) all duties, taxes (except Value Added Tax (VAT)), and other levies payable by the successful bidder, such duties, taxes and levies being those applicable 14 days before the closing time stated in the bid data.

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F2.10.2 Show VAT payable by the employer separately as an addition to the bidder's total of the Prices.

F.2.10.3 Provide rates and prices that are fixed for the duration of the contract and not subject to adjustment except as provided for in the conditions of contract identified in the contract data.

F.2.10.4 State the rates and prices in Rand unless instructed otherwise in the bid data. The conditions of contract identified in the contract data may provide for part payment in other currencies.

F.2.11 Alterations to documents

Not make any alterations or additions to the bid documents, except to comply with instructions issued by the employer, or necessary to correct errors made by the bidder. All signatories to the bid offer shall initial all such alterations. Erasures and the use of masking fluid are prohibited.

F.2.12 Alternative bid offers

F.2.12.1 Submit alternative bid offers only if a main bid offer, strictly in accordance with all the requirements of the bid documents, is also submitted. The alternative bid offer is to be submitted with the main bid offer together with a schedule that compares the requirements of the bid documents with the alternative requirements the bidder proposes.

F.2.12.2 Accept that an alternative bid offer may be based only on the criteria stated in the bid data or criteria otherwise acceptable to the employer.

F.2.13 Submitting a bid offer

F.2.13.1 Submit a bid offer to provide the whole of the works, services or supply identified in the contract data and described in the scope of works, unless stated otherwise in the bid data.

F.2.13.2 Return all returnable documents to the employer after completing them in their entirety, either electronically (if they were issued in electronic format) or by writing in black ink.

F.2.13.3 Submit the parts of the bid offer communicated on paper as an original plus the number of copies stated in the bid data, with an English translation of any documentation in a language other than English, and the parts communicated electronically in the same format as they were issued by the employer.

F.2.13.4 Sign the original and all copies of the bid offer where required in terms of the bid data. The Employer will hold all authorized signatories liable on behalf of the bidder. Signatories for bidders Proposing to contract as joint ventures shall state which of the signatories is the lead partner whom the employer shall hold liable for the purpose of the bid offer.

F.2.13.5 Seal the original and each copy of the bid offer as separate packages marking the packages as "ORIGINAL" and "COPY". Each package shall state on the outside the employer's address and Identification details stated in the bid data, as well as the bidder's name and contact address.

F.2.13.6 Where a two-envelope system is required in terms of the bid data, place and seal the returnable documents listed in the bid data in an envelope marked "financial proposal" and place the remaining returnable documents in an envelope marked "technical proposal". Each envelope shall state on the outside the employer's address and identification details stated in the bid data, as well as the bidder's name and contact address.

F.2.13.7 Seal the original bid offer and copy packages together in an outer package that states on the outside only the employer's address and identification details as stated in the bid data.

F.2.13.8 Accept that the employer shall not assume any responsibility for the misplacement or premature opening of the bid offer if the outer package is not sealed and marked as stated.

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F.2.14 Information and data to be completed in all respects

Accept that bid offers, which do not provide all the data or information requested completely and in the form required, may be regarded by the employer as non-responsive.

F.2.15 Closing time

F.2.15.1 Ensure that the employer receives the bid offer at the address specified in the bid data not later than the closing time stated in the bid data. Proof of posting shall not be accepted as proof of delivery. The employer shall not accept bid offers submitted by telegraph, telex, facsimile or e-mail, unless stated otherwise in the bid data.

F.2.15.2 Accept that, if the employer extends the closing time stated in the bid data for any reason, the requirements of these conditions of bid apply equally to the extended deadline.

F.2.16 Bid offer validity

F.2.16.1 Hold the bid offer(s) valid for acceptance by the employer at any time during the validity period stated in the bid data after the closing time stated in the bid data.

F.2.16.2 If requested by the employer, consider extending the validity period stated in the bid data for an agreed additional period.

F.2.17 Clarification of bid offer after submission

Provide clarification of a bid offer in response to a request to do so from the employer during the evaluation of bid offers. This may include providing a breakdown of rates or prices and correction of arithmetical errors by the adjustment of certain rates or item prices (or both). No change in the total of the prices or substance of the bid offer is sought, offered, or permitted. The total of the prices stated by the bidder shall be binding upon the bidder.

Note: Sub-clause F.2.17 does not preclude the negotiation of the final terms of the contract with a preferred bidder following a competitive selection process should the Employer elect to do so.

F.2.18 Provide other material

F.2.18.1 Provide, on request by the employer, any other material that has a bearing on the bid offer, the bidder's commercial position (including notarized joint venture agreements), preferencing arrangements, or samples of materials considered necessary by the employer for the purpose of a full and fair risk assessment. Should the bidder not provide the material, or a satisfactory reason as to why it cannot be provided, by the time for submission stated in the employer's request, the employer may regard the bid offer as non-responsive.

F.2.18.2 Dispose of samples of materials provided for evaluation by the employer, where required.

F.2.19 Inspections, tests and analysis

Provide access during working hours to premises for inspections, tests and analysis as provided for in the bid data.

F.2.20 Submit securities, bonds, policies, etc.

If requested, submit for the employer's acceptance before formation of the contract, all securities, bonds, guarantees, policies and certificates of insurance required in terms of the conditions of contract identified in the contract data.

F.2.21 Check final draft

Check the final draft of the contract provided by the employer within the time available for the employer to issue the contract.

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F.2.22 Return of other bid documents

If so, instructed by the employer, return all retained bid documents within 28 days after the expiry of the validity period stated in the bid data.

F.2.23 Certificates

Include in the bid submission or provide the employer with any certificates as stated in the bid data.

F.3 The employer's undertakings**F.3.1 Respond to clarification**

Respond to a request for clarification received up to five working days prior to the bid closing time stated in the Bid Data and notify all bidders who drew procurement documents.

F.3.2 Issue Addenda

If necessary, issue addenda that may amend or amplify the bid documents to each bidder during the period from the date of the Bid Notice until seven days before the bid closing time stated in the Bid Data. If, as a result a bidder applies for an extension to the closing time stated in the Bid Data, the Employer may grant such an extension and, will then notify it to all bidders who drew documents.

F.3.3 Return late bid offers

Return bid offers received after the closing time stated in the Bid Data, unopened, (unless it is necessary to open a bid submission to obtain a forwarding address), to the bidder concerned.

F.3.4 Opening of bid submissions

F.3.4.1 Unless the two-envelope system is to be followed, open valid bid submissions in the presence of bidders' agents who choose to attend at the time and place stated in the bid data. Bid submissions for which acceptable reasons for withdrawal have been submitted will not be opened.

F.3.4.2 Announce at the opening held immediately after the opening of bid submissions, at a venue indicated in the bid data, the name of each bidder whose bid offer is opened, the total of his prices, preferences claimed and time for completion, if any, for the main bid offer only.

F.3.4.3 Make available the record outlined in F.3.4.2 to all interested persons upon request.

F.3.5 Two-envelope system

F.3.5.1 Where stated in the bid data that a two-envelope system is to be followed, open only the technical proposal of valid bids in the presence of bidders' agents who choose to attend at the time and place stated in the bid data and announce the name of each bidder whose technical proposal is opened.

F.3.5.2 Evaluate the quality of the technical proposals offered by bidders, then advise bidders who remain in contention for the award of the contract of the time and place when the financial proposals will be opened. Open only the financial proposals of bidders, who score in the quality evaluation above the minimum number of points for quality stated in the bid data, and announce the score obtained for the technical proposals and the total price and any preferences claimed. Return unopened financial proposals to bidders whose technical proposals failed to achieve the minimum number of points for quality.

.3.6 non-disclosure

Not disclose to bidders, or to any other person not officially concerned with such processes, information relating to the evaluation and comparison of bid offers, the final evaluation price and recommendations for the award of a contract, until after the award of the contract to the successful bidder.

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F.3.7 Grounds for rejection and disqualification

Determine whether there has been any effort by a bidder to influence the processing of bid offers and instantly disqualify the bidder (and his bid offer) if it is established that he engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices.

F.3.8 Test for responsiveness

Determine, on opening and before detailed evaluation, whether each bid offer is properly received:

- a) Meets the requirements of these Conditions of Bid,
- b) Has been properly and fully completed and signed, and
- c) is responsive to the other requirements of the bid documents.

A responsive bid is one that conforms to all the terms, conditions, and specifications of the bid documents without material deviation or qualification. A material deviation or qualification is one which, in the Employer's opinion, would:

- Detrimentially affect the scope, quality, or performance of the works, services or supply identified in the Scope of Work,
- change the Employer's or the bidder's risks and responsibilities under the contract, or
- affect the competitive position of other bidders presenting responsive bids, if it were to be rectified.

Reject a non-responsive bid offer and not allow it to be subsequently made responsive by correction or withdrawal of the non-conforming deviation or reservation.

F.3.9 Arithmetical errors

Check responsive bid offers for arithmetical errors, correcting them in the following manner:

- Where there is a discrepancy between the amounts in figures and in words, the amount in words shall govern.
- If a bill of quantities (or schedule of rates) applies and there is an error in the line-item total resulting from the product of the unit rate and the quantity, the line item total shall govern and the rate shall be corrected. Where there is an obviously gross misplacement of the decimal point in the unit rate, the line-item total as quoted shall govern, and the unit rate will be corrected.
- Where there is an error in the total of the prices either as a result of other corrections required by this checking process or in the bidder's addition of prices, the total of the prices shall govern and the bidder will be asked to revise selected item prices (and their rates if a bills of quantities applies) to achieve the bided total of the prices.

Consider the rejection of a bid offer if the bid does not correct or accept the correction of his arithmetical errors in the manner described above.

F.3.10 Clarification of a bid offer

Obtain clarification from a bidder on any matter that could give rise to ambiguity in a contract arising from the bid offer.

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F.3.11 Evaluation of bid offers

F3.11.1 General

Appoint an evaluation panel of not less than three people. Reduce each responsive bid offer to a comparative offer and evaluate it using the bid evaluation method that is indicated in the Bid Data and described below:

Method 1: Financial offer	1) Rank bid offers from the most favorable to the least favorable comparative offer. 2) Recommend the highest ranked bidder for the award of the contract, unless there are compelling and justifiable reasons not to do so.
Method 2: Financial offer and preferences	1) Score bid evaluation points for financial offer. 2) Confirm that bidders are eligible for the preferences claimed and if so, score bid evaluation points for preferencing. 3) Calculate total bid evaluation points. 4) Rank bid offers from the highest number of bid evaluation points to the lowest. 5) Recommend bidder with the highest number of bid evaluation points for the award of the contract, unless there are compelling and justifiable reasons not to do so.
Method 3: Financial offer and quality	1) Score quality, rejecting all bid offers that fail to score the minimum number of points for quality stated in the Bid data. 2) Score bid evaluation points for financial offer. 3) Calculate total bid evaluation points. 4) Rank bid offers from the highest number of bid evaluation points to the lowest. 5) Recommend a bidder with the highest number of bid evaluation points for the award of the contract, unless there are compelling and justifiable reasons not to do so.
Method 4: Financial offer, quality and preferences	1) Score quality, rejecting all bid offers that fail to score the minimum number of points for quality stated in the Bid data. 2) Score bid evaluation points for financial offer. 3) Confirm that bidders are eligible for the preferences claimed, and if so, score bid evaluation points for Preferencing. 4) Calculate total bid evaluation points. 5) Rank bid offers from the highest number of bid evaluation points to the lowest. 6) Recommend a bidder with the highest number of bid evaluation points for the award of the contract, unless there are compelling and justifiable reasons not to do so.

Score financial offers, preferences and quality, as relevant, to two decimal places.

F.3.11.3 Scoring quality (functionality)

Score quality in each of the categories stated in the Bid Data and calculate total score for quality.

F.3.12 Insurance provided by the employer

If requested by the proposed successful bidder, submit for the bidder's information the policies and / or

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certificates of insurance which the conditions of contract identified in the contract data require the employer to provide.

F.3.13 Acceptance of bid offer

F.3.13.1 Accept bid offer only if the bidder satisfies the legal requirements stated in the Bid Data.

F.3.13.2 Notify the successful bidder of the employer's acceptance of his bid offer by completing and returning one copy of the form of offer and acceptance before the expiry of the validity period stated in the bid data or agreed additional period. Providing the form of offer and acceptance does not contain any qualifying statements, it will constitute the formation of a contract between the employer and the successful bidder as described in the form of offer and acceptance.

F.3.14 Notice to unsuccessful bidders

After the successful bidder has acknowledged the employer's notice of acceptance, notify other bidders that their bid offers have not been accepted.

F.3.15. Preparing contract documents

If necessary, revise documents that shall form part of the contract and that were issued by the employer as part of the bid documents to take account of:

- a) Addenda issued during the bid period,
- b) Inclusion of some of the returnable documents,
- c) Other revisions agreed between the employer and the successful bidder, and
- d) The schedule of deviations is attached to the form of offer and acceptance, if any.

F.3.16 Issue final contract

Prepare and issue the final draft of contract documents to the successful bidder for acceptance as soon as possible after the date of the employer's signing of the form of offer and acceptance (including the schedule of deviations, if any). Only those documents that the conditions of bid require the bidder to submit, after acceptance by the employer, shall be included.

F.3.17 Complete adjudicator's contract

Unless alternative arrangements have been agreed or otherwise provided for in the contract, arrange for both parties to complete formalities for appointing the selected adjudicator at the same time as the main contract is signed.

F.3.18 Provide copies of the contracts

Provide the successful bidder with the number of copies stated in the Bid Data of the signed copy of the contract as soon as possible after completion and signing of the form of offer and acceptance.