

# APPOINTMENT OF A REPUTABLE INDEPENDENT INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE PROVIDER TO SUPPORT THE INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION OF THE CATHSSETA

**BID NUMBER: CATHS/IAS/06/2022** 

# PART A INVITATION TO BID

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED TO BID FOR REQUIREMENTS OF THE CATHSSETA							
	CATHS/IA	CLOSING	17 Ma	rch 2023		CLOSIN	
BID NUMBER:	S/06/2022	DATE:				G TIME:	12H00pm
		NTMENT OF A REPUTABLE INDEPENDENT INTERNAL AUDIT					
DID DESCRIPTION			SUPP	ORT THE INT	ERNA	L AUDIT F	JNCTION OF
BID DESCRIPTION VALIDITY PERIOD	THE CATHS		D TUE	CLOSING DA	\TC		
BRIEFING SESSION	Not Applicab			CLOSING DA	111		
BID RESPONSE DOCUMENT			N THE	BID BOX SITU	JATEI	D AT	
CATHSSETA HEAD OFFICE							
270 GEORGE ROAD, ERAND	GARDENS. I	MIDRAND					
ERAND GARDENS, MIDRAN							
JOHANNESBURG	<u> </u>						
	ENQUIRIES	MAY BE	TECH	NICAL ENGI	UIRIE!	S MAY RE	DIRECTED
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	STEVEN		CONT	ACT			
CONTACT PERSON	SHOMOLEK	AE	PERS		STE	/EN SHOM	OLEKAE
				PHONE			
TELEPHONE NUMBER			NUME				
FACSIMILE NUMBER			FACS NUME				
FACSIMILE NOMBER	supplychair	@cathese	E-MAI		sunn	lvchain@c	athsseta.org
E-MAIL ADDRESS	ta.org.za	<u>i@catii33c</u>	ADDR		.za	nychani ec	atrisseta.org
SUPPLIER INFORMATION							
NAME OF BIDDER							
POSTAL ADDRESS							
STREET ADDRESS							
TELEPHONE NUMBER	CODE		NUME	BER			
CELLPHONE NUMBER							
FACSIMILE NUMBER	CODE		NUME	BER			
E-MAIL ADDRESS							
VAT REGISTRATION							
NUMBER		ľ	1	1		1	
SUPPLIER COMPLIANCE	TAX						
STATUS	COMPLIAN   CE		OR	CENTRAL			
	SYSTEM		UK	SUPPLIER			
	PIN:			DATABASE	No:	MAAA	
B-BBEE STATUS LEVEL	TICK APP	LICABLE	B-BBE	E STATUS			PPLICABLE
VERIFICATION	ВО	X]		L SWORN		_ E	BOX]
CERTIFICATE			AFFID	AVIT			
	Yes					☐ Yes	No
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[A B-BBEE STATUS LEVEL	VERIFICATION	ON CERTIFI	CATE/	SWORN AFF	IDAVI	T (FOR EM	IES & QSEs)
	MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR PREFERENCE POINTS FOR B-BBEE]						

1. ARE YOU THE ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES /WORKS OFFERED?	☐Yes ☐No [IF YES ENCLOSE PROOF]	2. ARE YOU A FOREIGN BASED SUPPLIER FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES /WORKS OFFERED?	☐Yes ☐No [IF YES, ANSWER THE QUESTIONNAIRE BELOW]	
QUESTIONNAIRE TO BIDDIN	NG FOREIGN SUPPLIERS			
IS THE ENTITY A RESIDENT  ☐ YES ☐ NO	OF THE REPUBLIC OF S	OUTH AFRICA (RSA)?		
DOES THE ENTITY HAVE A	BRANCH IN THE RSA?			
DOES THE ENTITY HAVE A	PERMANENT ESTABLISH	MENT IN THE RSA?		
DOES THE ENTITY HAVE AN	NY SOURCE OF INCOME	IN THE RSA?		
IS THE ENTITY LIABLE IN TH  ☐ YES ☐ NO	HE RSA FOR ANY FORM (	OF TAXATION?		
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 TERMS AND CONDITION	_		
. BID SUBMISSION:	I LIMIO AND CONDITIO	ZITO I OIL DIDDING		

- 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, 2022, 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 THE 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)	ution)
DATE:	

# **BID TIMELINES**

Bid Publication date	24 February 2023
Briefing Session	Not Applicable
Technical and SCM enquiries by	10 March 2023
Closing date	17 March 2023 at 12:00pm
Envisaged Evaluation date	31 March 2023
Envisaged Adjudication date	17 April 2023
Envisaged Appointment and Award date	17 May 2023
Bid Validity period	90 days from closing date

#### 1. BACKGROUND TO CATHSSETA

- 1.1. The Skills Development Act, 1998 (No 97 of 1998) as amended (SDA) makes provision for the establishment of Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) for each national economic sector and thereby aims to develop the skills of the South African workforce by increasing the investment in education and training in the labour market; and encouraging employers to play a meaningful role in developing employees, particularly the previously disadvantaged.
- 1.2. The Culture, Arts, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport Sector Education and Training Authority (CATHSSETA) was established in terms of the SDA, to amongst others, research and establish a nationally recognised Sector Skills Plan (SSP) supported by skills development programmes serving the interest of the following sectors:
  - 1.2.1 Arts, Culture and Heritage;
  - 1.2.2 Conservation;
  - 1.2.3 Gaming and Lotteries;
  - 1.2.4 Hospitality;
  - 1.2.5 Sport, Recreation and Fitness; and
  - 1.2.6 Tourism and Travel Services.
- 1.3. These sectors are diverse and unique, and they play a significant role not only in the economy but also in the broader quest for social cohesion and formulation of a uniquely South African national identity.

# 2. OVERALL OBJECTIVE

- 2.1. The Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No 1 of 1999) (PFMA), as amended, requires the public entity to have an effective internal audit function under the control and direction of an Audit and Risk Committee. This function will be outsourced by the CATHSSETA.
- 2.2. The objective of this bid is to appoint a reputable independent internal audit service provider who can provide and support the internal audit function of the CATHSSETA.

# 3. DETAILED SCOPE OF WORK

3.1. CATHSSETA invites independent service providers, to assist the SETA to accomplish its objectives by applying a systematic and disciplined approach to evaluating and improving the effectiveness of controls, risk management and governance processes.

- 3.2. The service provider should fulfil all requirements pertaining to Internal Audit in line with the PFMA, Treasury Regulations and the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Standards, and internal audit methodology.
- 3.3. The scope of the Internal Audit function includes at least the under-mentioned, however should any other function(s) be regarded as imperative by the bidder, the function(s) shall be offered and clearly defined. The internal audit function must, in consultation with the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC), prepare:
  - 3.3.1 A three-year rolling internal audit plan based on the current assessment of key areas of risk for the public entity, having regard to its current operations, the operations proposed in its corporate or strategic plan and its risk management strategy;
  - 3.3.2 An annual Internal Audit plan indicating the scope, cost, and timelines of each audit in the annual internal audit;
  - 3.3.3 Audit reports directed to the ARC detailing its performance against the plan to allow for effective monitoring and intervention where necessary;
  - 3.3.4 The annual assessment report of internal and financial control systems;
  - 3.3.5 The internal audit function must co-ordinate with other internal and external assurance providers to ensure proper coverage and to minimize duplication of effort and cost;
  - 3.3.6 The service provider will be required to attend ARC meetings on request; and
  - 3.3.7 The service provider should provide a transfer of skills plan to the in-house internal auditors and CATHSSETA staff, including approach on how this will be tracked. The transfer of skills plan should include training on the following:
    - 3.3.7.1. New accounting standards and training;
    - 3.3.7.2. Internal audit standards;
    - 3.3.7.3. Public sector legislation;
    - 3.3.7.4. New developments within Risk management;
    - 3.3.7.5. Information technology audit skills; and
    - 3.3.7.6. General audit techniques.
- **3.4.** The service provider should provide appropriately qualified human resource capacity for the following types of services in line with the approved internal audit plan and possible Ad-hoc audit requests;
  - 3.4.1 Supply Chain Management Reviews;
  - 3.4.2 Discretionary and Mandatory Grants;
  - 3.4.3 Financial Audit Reviews;

- 3.4.4 Human Resources Reviews:
- 3.4.5 Information Technology Reviews (including System audits);
- 3.4.6 Performance Information Reviews:
- 3.4.7 Governance Reviews; and
- 3.4.8 Risk Management Reviews.

# 3.5. The Organisational Status of the Internal Audit;

- 3.5.1 The internal audit function reports directly to the ARC, through the Head of Audit and Risk.
- 3.5.2 The function must be independent of activities that are audited, with no limitation on its access to information.
- 3.5.3 The purpose, authority and responsibility of the internal audit function are formally defined in the Internal Audit Charter and must be consistent with the PFMA and the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA). The internal Audit Charter is available on request.
- 3.5.4 In line with the PFMA, the internal audit function must assist the Accounting Authority (AA) in achieving the objectives of the institution by evaluating and developing recommendations for the enhancement or improvement of the processes through which:
  - 3.5.4.1 Objectives and values are established and communicated;
  - 3.5.4.2 The accomplishment of objectives are monitored;
  - 3.5.4.3 Accountability is ensured;
  - 3.5.4.4 Corporate values are preserved;
  - 3.5.4.5 The adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal controls are reviewed and appraised;
  - 3.5.4.6 The relevance, reliability and integrity of management, financial and operating data and reports are appraised;
  - 3.5.4.7 Systems established to ensure compliance with policies, plans, procedures, statutory requirements including updates or revisions and regulations, which could have significant impact on operations are reviewed:
  - 3.5.4.8 The means of safeguarding assets are reviewed and, as appropriate, verifying the existence of such assets;
  - 3.5.4.9 The economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which resources are employed, are appraised;
  - 3.5.4.10 The results of operations or programmes are reviewed to ascertain whether results are consistent with the CATHSSETA's established

- objectives and goals, whether the operations or programmes are being carried out as planned;
- 3.5.4.11 The adequacy of established systems and procedures are assessed; and
- 3.5.4.12 The internal audit function may be tasked with ad-hoc assignments such as:
  - ✓ follow up on the previous audit findings as raised by the Auditor General South Africa (AGSA);
  - ✓ review of Annual Financial Statements (AFS) prior to submission
    per the PFMA; and
  - ✓ review of quarterly performance information reports for submission to the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET).
- 3.6 Audits assignments should be designed to detect fraud.
  - 3.6.1 Fraud and irregularities in planning and conducting its work, the internal auditor should seek to identify serious defects in the internal controls, which might result in possible malpractices. Any such defects must be reported immediately to the Head of Audit and Risk and/or the Audit and Risk Committee, without disclosing these to any other member of staff. This also applies to instances where serious fraud and irregularity is uncovered.

# 4. EXPECTED OUTPUTS/DELIVERABLES

- 4.1 Each assignment should at least consist of the following:
  - 4.1.1. Pre-audit survey;
  - 4.1.2. Audit Planning memorandum/ engagement letter;
  - 4.1.3. Minutes of entrance meeting;
  - 4.1.4. Risk assessment document:
  - 4.1.5. System description(s);
  - 4.1.6. Audit programme;
  - 4.1.7. Sampling methodology;
  - 4.1.8. Mechanisms for follow-up on matters previously reported and feedback to the ARC;
  - 4.1.9. Mechanisms to ensure that working papers are reviewed at the appropriate level;
  - 4.1.10. Record of work performed;

- 4.1.11. Audit findings and recommendations;
- 4.1.12. Reporting (draft internal audit report and final internal audit report); and
- 4.1.13. Follow up of previous audit findings.
- 4.2 Quality assurance review of the work:
  - 4.2.1 The service provider shall ensure that all work conforms to the International Standards for the Professional Practice of the Institute of Internal Auditing. Such work may further be subject to external quality assurance as may be considered necessary.
- 4.3 Independent and Objectivity of the Audit Staff:
  - 4.3.1 In carrying out the work, the service provider must ensure that its personnel maintain their objectivity by remaining independent of the activities they audit. The service provider shall: -
    - 4.3.1.1 Have no executive or managerial powers, functions, or duties except those relating to internal audit;
    - 4.3.1.2 Not be involved in the day-to-day operation of the CATHSSETA; and
    - 4.3.1.3 Not be responsible for the detailed development or implementation of new systems and procedures.
- 4.4 Where are the services needed:
  - 4.4.1 The internal audit service provider will be required to work at the CATHSSETA Head Office and Regional Offices based in the Western Cape Northlink College Tygerberg, Rothschild Boulevard, Panorama 7506, and KwaZulu-Natal Thekwini TVET College, 262 Daintree Avenue, Asherville, Durban. In some instances, where necessary, work may be extended to where projects are being implemented outside the SETA's premises. CATHSSETA will provide office space for the internal auditor as and when required.

# 5. SERVICE PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS/COMPETENCIES

- 5.1. Only Bidders registered with the Institute for Internal Auditors (IIA) of South Africa will be considered. Prospective Bidder(s) shall be a member of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) or equivalent professional body responsible for the Information Systems and Technology audits.
- 5.2. It is essential that the service provider has the knowledge and experience of internal audit in a public entity environment. CATHSSETA also requires that the service provider has the experience of working in a SETA environment and the following resource levels are required.
  - 5.2.1 Senior Manager;
  - 5.2.2 Manager/Specialist; RFB\_IAS CATHS/IAS/06/2022

- 5.2.3 Audit Specialist/Supervisor; and
- 5.2.4 Junior Auditor.

# 5.3. The Audit Resources and Specific Requirements:

ROLES	QUALIFICATION	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
Senior Manager	Relevant Bachelor's degree and	Minimum of 12 years'
	honours/postgraduate diploma in	experience in Auditing, of
	accounting and internal auditing	which a minimum of 8 years in
	Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)/ Certified	a Senior Auditing role
	Information System Auditor (CISA)	
Manager	Relevant bachelor's degree and honours in	At least 8 years "experience of
	accounting and internal auditing	which a minimum of 5 years in
	Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)/	a Management within an
	Professional Internal Auditor (PIA)/	auditing environment
	Certified Information System Auditor	
	(CISA)	
Audit/Supervisor	Relevant Bachelor's Degree in accounting	At least 3 years' experience
	and internal auditing, Certified Information	within an auditing environment
	System Auditor (CISA)/ Certified Internal	
	Auditor (CIA)	
Junior Auditor	Relevant bachelor's degree in accounting	At least 2 years' experience
	and internal auditing	within an auditing environment

- 5.2.5 Curricula vitae (CVs) for proposed team members is required and the service provider must guarantee the availability of the same skill and experience should an audit team member have to leave the project.
- 5.2.6 In addition to the above the below skills and competences are required:
  - 5.2.5.1 Project Management skills and experience.
  - 5.2.5.2 A thorough understanding should include but not be limited to the following:
    - ✓ PFMA;
    - ✓ National Treasury Regulations of 2005 and Circulars;
    - ✓ Grant Regulations of 2012;
    - ✓ SDA;
    - ✓ National Skills Development Plan, 2030, (NSDP);

- ✓ Department of Planning Monitoring and Evaluation's Revised Framework for Strategic Plans and Annual Performance Plans; and
- ✓ Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (Standards of GRAP).
- 5.4. Monitoring and report requirements after contract is signed:
  - 5.3.1 On completion of each assignment, the service provider shall distribute the reports to the CATHSSETA's Management and the ARC.
  - 5.3.2 On a monthly basis, the service provider shall prepare a report to the Head of Audit and Risk regarding any engagement underway.
  - 5.3.3 On a quarterly basis and whenever the ARC so desire, the service provider shall prepare a report to the ARC on the progress against plan, including significant findings and administrative matters.
  - 5.3.4 On an annual basis, the auditor shall report to the ARC on the status of CATHSSETA's risk management and internal control activities.
- 5.5. Reporting requirements, the structure of the report is to be as follows:
  - 5.4.1. Introduction;
  - 5.4.2. Audit objective and scope;
  - 5.4.3. Background;
  - 5.4.4. Executive summary, highlighting significant findings;
  - 5.4.5. Findings, recommendations, and Management responses (including implementation dates); and
  - 5.4.6. Conclusion;
  - 5.4.7. The auditor is to deliver to the chairperson of the ARC and the CATHSSETA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) an electronic copy and one signed copy of the final report.
- 5.5. Detailed project and implementation methodology:
  - 5.5.1 The service provider must provide the detailed project plan with deployment of number of resources, deployment schedule,
  - 5.5.2 Should be able to calculate the effort needed to spend on auditing each requirement, based on the requirement's level of business risk and available resources.
  - 5.5.3 Service Provider needs to prepare an audit strategy document listing the following:5.5.3.1 resources to be deployed,

- 5.5.3.2 the roles and responsibilities of each member,
- 5.5.3.3 the execution methodology,
- 5.5.3.4 reporting methodology,
- 5.5.3.5 documentation deliverable,
- 5.5.3.6 execution setup, timelines, and acceptance criteria.
- 5.5.4 Bidders must further provide an overall detailed plan covering the delivery of the required services with the intention to start providing the service on 01 April 2023.
- 5.5.5 The IIA professional body membership is mandatory for the senior team members and proof thereof should be attached. (*Please note Bidder will be disqualified should they not attach evidence of membership*).
- 5.5.6 The bidder must provide information that demonstrates specific related experience of at least 8 years, in successfully completed projects of similar scope. Such claims must be supported with sufficient reference letters of previous work to permit CATHSSETA to verify the claimed capabilities.

# 5.6. Price specification/ requirements

- 5.6.1 Bidders should indicate the hourly rate per level of employees that will be utilised during the contract period. Bidders must indicate the average hourly rate that they will charge for the activities for the contract period.
- 5.6.2 The nature and number of audits to be conducted on an annual basis will be decided on the approved final annual internal audit plan. Currently, provision has been made for a total of 2200 hours annually for internal audit services. (Please note bidders should base their fee calculations on maximum of 2200 hours annually). In addition to the 2200 hours, an additional 5% of the 2200 hours annually should be allocated to ad hoc activities and rate(s) provided. CATHSSETA reserves the right to increase these hours based on the approved final annual internal audit plan and/or any additional work that might be required.

# 6. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE (CONTRACT PERIOD)

6.1. The appointed service provider will enter into a contractual agreement with CATHSSETA for a period of thirty-six (36) months from the date of appointment.

# 7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Responses will be evaluated in accordance with the following functionality criteria and the tenderer require a minimum score of 70 points to qualify for **price** and **specific goals**:

E	Evaluation Criteria for Functionality	
1.	Content of the Proposal and Proposed Methodology	40
2.	Team Experience	30
3.	Track Record and Experience of the Bidding Institution	15
4.	Experience in the internal audit services in a SETA environment.	15
Total		100

Evaluation criteria That will be used to evaluate functionality			
Evaluation criteria	Sub-evaluation criteria	Points	
		allocation for	
		sub-evaluation	
		criteria	
The service provider should	A methodology and implementation plan is	40	
provide detailed project	fully complete and displays detailed costing		
plan/methodology based on	and clear timeframes and fully respond to		
the scope of services listed	the scope of internal audit services.		
in the scope of work	<ul> <li>A methodology and implementation plan</li> </ul>	30	
	partially responds to the scope of services.		
	<ul> <li>A methodology and implementation plan</li> </ul>	0	
	which is not responsive to the scope.		
Team experience	■ Bidder provided 100% of the required	30	
Bidder must provide	experience and competencies as listed in		
curriculum vitae and	the evaluation criteria.		
certified copies of			
qualifications of the Project	<ul> <li>Bidder provided below 100% of the required</li> </ul>		
Team Members:	experience and competencies as listed in	0	
<ul> <li>Senior Manager</li> </ul>	the evaluation criteria.		
Relevant bachelor's			
degree and			

honours/postgraduate in		
accounting and internal		
auditing Internal Auditor		
(CIA)/ Certified		
Information System		
Auditor (CISA) and		
minimum of 5 years in a		
Senior Auditing role		
<ul> <li>Manager/Specialist</li> </ul>		
Relevant bachelor's		
degree in accounting and		
internal auditing		
Certified Internal Auditor		
(CIA)/ Professional		
Internal Auditor (PIA)/		
Certified Information		
System Auditor (CISA)		
Auditors, minimum 5		
years' experience within		
an auditing environment		
Audit Supervisor		
Relevant bachelor's		
degree in accounting and		
internal auditing, Certified		
Information System		
Auditor (CISA)/ Certified		
Internal Auditor (CIA),		
minimum of 3 years'		
experience		
<ul><li>Junior Auditor</li></ul>		
Relevant bachelor's		
degree in accounting and		
internal auditing, minimum		
of 2 years' experience		
Track record of the service	<ul> <li>Execution of internal audit services with 10</li> </ul>	15
provider (includes previous	or more years' experience.	
experience on similar work	<ul> <li>Execution of internal audit services between</li> </ul>	10
	7-9 years' experience.	

Execution of internal audit services with 6	5
years' experience.	
Less than 6 years' experience relating to internal audit services.	0
■ Execution of more than five (5) SETA	15
internal audits projects	
Execution of more than three (3) SETA	10
···	5
	5
<ul> <li>No execution of SETA internal audits projects</li> </ul>	0
	<ul> <li>years' experience.</li> <li>Less than 6 years' experience relating to internal audit services.</li> <li>Execution of more than five (5) SETA internal audits projects</li> <li>Execution of more than three (3) SETA internal audits projects</li> <li>Execution of one (1) or two (2) SETA internal audits projects</li> <li>No execution of SETA internal audits</li> </ul>

# 8. Technical Specification(s)/ Technical proposal based on TOR.

8.1. The technical proposal should address the following content: Refer to Evaluation Criteria above:

- 8.1.1. Background information of service provider:
  - Service provider Profile / Management structure.
- 8.1.2. Proposal regarding the scope of services to be rendered:
  - Approach, Plan and Timelines;
  - Project Organisation and logistical arrangements;
  - Methodology to ensure successful completion of contract; and
  - Business arrangement approach:
    - ✓ An overview of the proposed business arrangement;
    - ✓ How CATHSSETA and the service provider will manage risks and realise benefits:
- 8.1.3. Information and evidence to address the evaluation criteria set in the bid document:
  - Proven Credentials and Team Expertise;
  - Details of any professional associations the respondents belongs to and indicate the length of membership;
  - Performance capabilities;
  - Performance abilities relevant to the scope of services to be rendered
  - Senior Management Experience;
  - Reference sites and contact details where a project of this nature was conducted;
  - Major client profile / including government;
  - Required details regarding references; and
  - CVs of key project personnel.
- 8.1.4. All bid proposals must at least adhere to the minimum requirements as specified in the Terms of Reference.
- 8.1.5. If the bidder suggests certain changes to the General conditions of contract or the special conditions of contract, the proposed changes will be evaluated and if acceptable by CATHSSETA such suggested changes may be included into the contract as special conditions of contract. If the suggested changes are unacceptable, the General conditions of contract and the special conditions of contract will stand. The potential bidder will then have to decide to abide by the decision or to withdraw its bid proposal.
- 8.1.6. If any clarity needs to be obtained for evaluation purposes CATHSSETA may require the potential service provider to substantiate certain information, or to allow officials to undertake a financial/ physical inspection to assure that capacity and ability is proven.
- 8.1.7. Supporting documentation should be attached as annexures and cross-referenced to the appropriate section of the bid.
- 8.1.8. Please note that the scope of services as indicated in this TOR reflects CATHSSETA

true requirements and once the contract is signed amendments to the contract will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances. Please ensure that your costing is based on the scope of services to be rendered.

### 9. BID SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

9.1. The completed response and submissions must be returned to: -

**CATHSSETA Head Office 270 George Road,** 

Erand Gardens, Midrand (Johannesburg),

**Attention: Supply Chain Office** 

- 9.2. Bid proposals must consist of **one (1)** hard copy and **one (1)** electronic copy (USB Flash drive).
- 9.3. Incomplete submissions including the insufficient number of printed or electronic copies will result in disqualification.
- 9.4. E-mail or fax proposals are **not** acceptable.
- 9.5. Questions for clarification of issues will be considered by the CATHSSETA up to the close of business on 10 March 2023, all bid-related queries to be sent via email to <a href="mailtosupplychain@cathsseta.org.za">supplychain@cathsseta.org.za</a>. No verbal requests for information or clarification will be accepted. Answers to queries shall be posted to the CATHSSETA website <a href="https://www.cathsseta.org.za">www.cathsseta.org.za</a> (under Bids) and will therefore be in the public domain.
- 9.6. All documentation and responses will be supplied and exchanged utilising standard Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) products.
- 9.7. Any attempt to gain information in a manner deemed to be fraudulent or disadvantageous to other respondents or any attempt to influence the outcome of the response evaluation will result in immediate disqualification from the bid process. It should also be noted that any attempt at collusion or fronting, may be reported to SAPS in terms of Section 34 of the Prevention and Combating of the Corrupt Activities Act (PRECCA, 2004).

# 10. MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS - GATE ONE

- 10.1. Bidders are required to indicate in the checklist below (using a tick) whether they have submitted all the mandatory documents.
- 10.2. Please note non-submission of mandatory documents will disqualify the bidder from proceeding to the next stage of technical specification evaluation.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST – GATE ONE	YES	NO	NA
Invitation to Bid – SBD Form 1			
Pricing Schedule – Professional Services – SBD Form 3.3			
Declaration of Interest – SBD Form 4			
PPPFA 2017 Regulations Claim Form – SBD Form 6.1			
Contract Form – Rendering of Services – SBD Form 7.2 (Part 1)			
General Conditions of Contract			
Valid Tax Clearance Pin			
Valid BBBEE Certificate Should the bidder wish to claim BBBEE points			
Company Registration Documents			
Central Supplier Database (CSD)			
1 x Hardcopy Proposal & 1 x Electronic Proposal			

# 11. DISCLAIMER

- 11.1. The SETA reserves the right not to appoint a service provider and is also not obliged to provide reasons for the rejection of any proposal. CATHSSETA reserves the right to:
  - 11.1.1. Award contract or any part thereof to one or more Service Providers;
  - 11.1.2. Reject all bids;
  - 11.1.3. Consider any bids that may not conform to any aspect of the bidding requirements;
  - 11.1.4. Decline to consider any bids that do not conform to any aspect of the bidding requirements;
  - 11.1.5. Request further information from any Service Provider after the closing date; and
  - 11.1.6. Cancel this tender or any part thereof at any time.

# 12. BIDDERS' NOTIFICATION

- 12.1. Unsuccessful respondents will be notified by e-mail.
- 12.2. All Standard Bid documents must be completed and signed and will form part of a signed contract.

# PRICING SCHEDULE (Professional Services)

NAME OF BIDDER	₹	BID N	0.:	
CLOSING TIME 11:00		CLOS	ING DATE	
OFFER TO BE VA	LID FORDAYS FROM THE CLOSING DATE OF BID.			
ITEM NO	DESCRIPTION	BID PRICE **(ALL APPLICE	E IN RSA CU ABLE TAXE	
1.	The accompanying information must be used for the formulation of proposals.			
2.	Bidders are required to indicate a ceiling price based on the total estimated time for completion of all phases and including all expenses inclusive of all applicable taxes for the project.	R		
3.	PERSONS WHO WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT AND RATES APPLICABLE (CERTIFIED INVOICES MUST BE RENDERED IN TERMS HEREOF)			
4.	PERSON AND POSITION	HOURLY RATE	DA	AILY RATE
		R		
		R		
		R		
		R		
		R		
5.	PHASES ACCORDING TO WHICH THE PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED, COST PER PHASE AND MAN-DAYS TO BE SPENT			
		R		days
5.1	Travel expenses (specify, for example rate/km and total km, class of airtravel, etc). Only actual costs are recoverable. Proof of the expenses incurred must accompany certified invoices.			
	DESCRIPTION OF EXPENSE TO BE INCURRED	RATE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
				R
				R
				R
				R
		TOTAL: R		

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star\star}$  "all applicable taxes" includes  $\,$  value- added tax, pay as you earn, income tax, unemployment  $\,$  insurance contributions and skills development levies.

-2-

		Bid No.:		
Name of Bid	lder:			
5.	2 Other expenses, for example accommodation (specify, eg. Three star hotel, bed and breakfast, telephone cost, reproduction cost, etc.). On basis of these particulars, certified invoices will be checked for correctness. Proof of the expenses must accompany invoices.			
	DESCRIPTION OF EXPENSE TO BE INCURRED	RATE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
				R
			***************************************	R
				R
		TOTAL: R		
6.	Period required for commencement with project after acceptance of bid			
7.	Estimated man-days for completion of project			
8.	Are the rates quoted firm for the full period of contract?			*YES/NO
9.	If not firm for the full period, provide details of the basis on which adjustments will be applied for, for example consumer price index.			
		***************************************		
*[1	DELETE IF NOT APPLICABLE]			
Any enquiries reg	garding bidding procedures may be directed to the –			
(INSERT NAME	AND ADDRESS OF DEPARTMENT/ENTITY)			
Tel:				
Or for technical in	nformation –			
(INSERT NAME	OF CONTACT PERSON)			
Tel:				

#### BIDDER'S DISCLOSURE

1.	PURPOS	SF OF	THE	<b>FORM</b>

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 disgualified 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 with any person who is employed by the procuring institution? <b>YES/NO</b>
2.2.1	If so, furnish particulars:
	power, by one person or a group of persons holding the majority of the equity of an orise, alternatively, the person/shaving the deciding vote or power to influence or to

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?

1. YES/NO

direct the course and decisions of the enterprise.

3	DECLARATION	
	I, the undersigned, (name)submitting the accompanying bid, do hereby make the following statements that I do	

3.1 I have read and I understand the contents of this disclosure;

2.3.1

If so, furnish particulars:

complete in every respect:

- 3.2 I understand that the accompanying bid will be disqualified if this disclosure is found notto 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 consortium 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 madeby the bidder with any official of the procuring institution in relation to this procurement process prior to and during the bidding process except to provide clarification on the bidsubmitted 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

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 acontract.

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 fora 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 3ABOVE 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
Name of hidder

**SBD 6.1** 

# PREFERENCE POINTS CLAIM FORM IN TERMS OF THE PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS 2022

This preference form must form part of all bids invited. It contains general information and serves as a claim form for preference points for specific goals.

iv) NB: BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM, BIDDERS MUST STUDY THE GENERAL CONDITIONS, DEFINITIONS AND DIRECTIVES APPLICABLE IN RESPECT OF B-BBEE, AS PRESCRIBED IN THE PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS. 2017.

### 1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 1.1 The following preference point systems are applicable to all bids:
  - the 80/20 system for requirements with a Rand value of up to R50 000 000 (all applicable taxes included); and
  - the 90/10 system for requirements with a Rand value above R50 000 000 (all applicable taxes included).

# 1.2 To be completed by the organ of state:

- a) The value of this bid is estimated to exceed/not exceed R50 000 000 (all applicable taxes included) and therefore the ...80/20...... preference point system shall be applicable; or
- 1.3 Points for this bid shall be awarded for:
  - (a) Price; and
  - (b) Specific Goals.

# 1.4 To be completed by the organ of state:

The maximum points for this bid are allocated as follows:

	POINTS
PRICE	80
SPECIFIC GOALS	20
Total points for Price and Specific Goals must not exceed	100

- 1.5 Failure on the part of a tenderer to submit proof or documentation required in terms of this tender to claim points for specific goals with the tender, will be interpreted to mean that preference points for specific goals are not claimed.
- 1.6 The organ of state reserves the right to require of a tenderer, either before a tender is adjudicated or at any time subsequently, to substantiate any claim in regard to preferences, in any manner required by the organ of state.

# 2. **DEFINITIONS**

- (a) "highest acceptable tender" means a tender that complies with all specifications and conditions of tender and that has the highest price compared to other tenders;
- (b) "lowest acceptable tender" means a tender that complies with all specifications and conditions of tender and that has lowest price compared to other tenders;
- (c) "price" means an amount of money tendered for goods or services, and includes all applicable taxes less all unconditional discounts;
- (d) "Rand value" means the total estimated value of a contract in Rand, calculated at the time of the tender invitation;
- (e) "specific goals" means specific goals as contemplated in section 2(1)(d) of the Act which may include contracting with persons, or categories of persons, historically disadvantaged by unfair discrimination on the basis of race, gender and disability including the implementation of programmes of the Reconstruction and Development Programme as published in Government Gazette No. 16085 dated 23 November 1994;
- (f) "tender" means a written offer in the form determined by an organ of state in response to an invitation to provide goods or services through price quotations, competitive tendering process or any other method envisaged in legislation.
- (g) "tender for income-generating contracts" means a written offer in the form determined by an organ of state in response to an invitation for the origination of income-generating contracts through any method envisaged in legislation that will result in a legal agreement between the organ of state and a third party that produces revenue for the organ of state, and includes, but is not limited to, leasing and disposal of assets and concession contracts, excluding direct sales and disposal of assets through public auctions; and;
- **(h)** "the Act" means the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000 (Act No. 5 of 2000).

# 3. POINTS AWARDED FOR PRICE

# 3.1 THE 80/20 OR 90/10 PREFERENCE POINT SYSTEMS

A maximum of 80 or 90 points is allocated for price on the following basis:

80/20 or 90/10

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$$Ps = 80\left(1 - \frac{Pt - Pmin}{Pmin}\right)$$
 or  $Ps = 90\left(1 - \frac{Pt - Pmin}{Pmin}\right)$ 

Where

Ps = Points scored for price of tender under consideration

Pt = Price of tender under consideration
Pmin = Price of lowest acceptable tender

# 3.2 FORMULAE FOR DISPOSAL OR LEASING OF STATE ASSETS AND INCOME GENERATING PROCUREMENT 3.2.1. POINTS AWARDED FOR PRICE

A maximum of 80 or 90 points is allocated for price on the following basis:

$$Ps = 80\left(1+rac{Pt-P\,max}{P\,max}
ight)$$
 or  $Ps = 90\left(1+rac{Pt-P\,max}{P\,max}
ight)$ 

Where

Ps = Points scored for price of tender under consideration

Pt = Price of tender under consideration

Pmax = Price of highest acceptable tender

### 4. POINTS AWARDED FOR FOR SPECIFIC GOALS

- 4.1 In terms of Regulation 4(2); 5(2); 6(2) and 7(2) of the Preferential Procurement Regulations, preference points must be awarded for specific goals stated in the tender. For the purposes of this tender the tenderer will be allocated points based on the goals stated in table 1 below as may be supported by proof/ documentation stated in the conditions of this tender:
- 4.2 In cases where organs of state intend to use Regulation 3(2) of the Regulations, which states that, if it is unclear whether the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system applies, an organ of state must, in the tender documents, stipulate in the case of—
  - (a) an invitation for tender for income-generating contracts, that either the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system will apply and that the highest acceptable tender will be used to determine the applicable preference point system; or

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- (b) any other invitation for tender, that either the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system will apply and that the lowest acceptable tender will be used to determine the applicable preference point system, then the organ of state must indicate the points allocated for specific goals for both the 90/10 and 80/20 preference point system.
- 4.3 **Table 1**: Specific goals for the tender and points claimed are indicated per the table below:
  - 4.3.1. **Note to organs of state**: Whether the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system is applicable, corresponding points must also be indicated as such; and
  - 4.3.2. **Note to tenderers**: The tenderer must indicate points they are claiming for each preference point system.

Table 1

(80/20 system) Specific Goals point system	Number of points allocated (80/20 system) (To be completed by the organ of state)	Number of points claimed (80/20 system)  (To be completed by the tenderer)
6		
4		
4		
2		
4		
20		
	Specific Goals point system  6 4 4 2 4	(80/20 system) Specific Goals point system  6  4  4  2  4

ວ.	DECLARATION WITH REGARD TO COMPANY/FIRM	
5.1	v) Name of company/firm	
5.2	Company registration number:	
5.3	TYPE OF COMPANY/ FIRM	
	<ul><li>Partnership/Joint Venture / Consortium</li><li>One-person business/sole propriety</li></ul>	

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	Close corporation
	Public Company
	Personal Liability Company
	(Pty) Limited
	Non-Profit Company
	State Owned Company
[TICK	APPLICABLE
BOX]	

- 5.4. I, the undersigned, who is duly authorised to do so on behalf of the company/firm, certify that the points claimed, based on the specific goals as advised in the tender, qualifies the company/ firm for the preference(s) shown and I acknowledge that:
  - i) The information furnished is true and correct:
  - ii) The specific goals points claimed are in accordance with the General Conditions as indicated in paragraph 1 of this form;
  - iii) In the event of a contract being awarded as a result of points claimed as shown in paragraphs 1.4 and 4.2, the contractor may be required to furnish documentary proof to the satisfaction of the organ of state that the claims are correct;
  - iv) If the specific goals have been claimed or obtained on a fraudulent basis or any of the conditions of contract have not been fulfilled, the organ of state may, in addition to any other remedy it may have
    - (a) disqualify the person from the tendering process;
    - (b) recover costs, losses or damages it has incurred or suffered as a result of that person's conduct;
    - (c) cancel the contract and claim any damages which it has suffered as a result of having to make less favourable arrangements due to such cancellation;
    - (d) recommend that the tenderer or contractor, its shareholders, and directors, or only the shareholders and directors who acted on a fraudulent basis, be restricted from obtaining business from any organ of state for a period not exceeding 10 years, after the audi alteram partem (hear the other side) rule has been applied; and
    - (e) forward the matter for criminal prosecution, if deemed necessary.

SIGNATURE(S)	OF TENDERER(S)	WITNES	SSES
DATE:		4	
ADDRESS		1	
		2	

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# CONTRACT FORM - RENDERING OF SERVICES

THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED IN DUPLICATE BY BOTH THE SERVICE PROVIDER (PART 1) AND THE PURCHASER (PART 2). BOTH FORMS MUST BE SIGNED IN THE ORIGINAL SO THAT THE SERVICE PROVIDER AND THE PURCHASER WOULD BE IN POSSESSION OF ORIGINALLY SIGNED CONTRACTS FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE RECORDS.

# PART 1 (TO BE FILLED IN BY THE SERVICE PROVIDER)

1.	I hereby undertake to render services described in the attached bidding documents to (name of the
	institution) in accordance with the requirements and task directives / proposals
	specifications stipulated in Bid Number at the price/s quoted. My offer/s remain binding upon
	me and open for acceptance by the Purchaser during the validity period indicated and calculated from the closing
	date of the bid

- 2. The following documents shall be deemed to form and be read and construed as part of this agreement:
  - (i) Bidding documents, viz
    - Invitation to bid;
    - Tax clearance certificate;
    - Pricing schedule(s);
    - Filled in task directive/proposal;
    - Preference claims for Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment Status Level of Contribution in terms of the Preferential Procurement Regulations 2011;
    - Declaration of interest;
    - Declaration of bidder's past SCM practices;
    - Certificate of Independent Bid Determination;
    - Special Conditions of Contract;
  - (ii) General Conditions of Contract; and
  - (iii) Other (specify)
- 3. I confirm that I have satisfied myself as to the correctness and validity of my bid; that the price(s) and rate(s) quoted cover all the services specified in the bidding documents; that the price(s) and rate(s) cover all my obligations and I accept that any mistakes regarding price(s) and rate(s) and calculations will be at my own risk.
- I accept full responsibility for the proper execution and fulfilment of all obligations and conditions devolving on me under this agreement as the principal liable for the due fulfillment of this contract.
- I declare that I have no participation in any collusive practices with any bidder or any other person regarding this
  or any other bid.
- I confirm that I am duly authorised to sign this contract.

NAME (PRINT)	***************************************	WHITHEGERG
CAPACITY		WITNESSES
SIGNATURE		2
NAME OF FIRM		DATE:
DATE		DAIL

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# CONTRACT FORM - RENDERING OF SERVICES

# PART 2 (TO BE FILLED IN BY THE PURCHASER)

1.	I					
2.						
3.	I undertake to make payment for the services rendered in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract, within 30 (thirty) days after receipt of an invoice.					
	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE	PRICE (ALL APPLICABLE TAXES INCLUDED)	COMPLETION DATE	B-BBEE STATUS LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTION	MINIMUM THRESHOLD FOR LOCAL PRODUCTION AND CONTENT (if applicable)	
4. SIGN	I confirm that I am duly authorised					
> T 4 > 1	ME (DDD)(T)					
NAM	IE (PRINT)					
SIGN	NATURE					
OFFI	CIAL STAMP		WIT	NESSES		
			1			
			2			
			DAT	E:		

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# THE NATIONAL TREASURY

# Republic of South Africa



# GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT: GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

**July 2010** 

1

# GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

# GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT July 2010

# 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

1.	Definitions
2.	Application
3.	General
4.	Standards
5.	Use of contract documents and information; inspection
6.	Patent rights
7.	Performance security
8.	Inspections, tests and analysis
9.	Packing
10.	Delivery and documents
11.	Insurance
12.	Transportation
13.	Incidental services
14.	Spare parts
15.	Warranty
16.	Payment
17.	Prices
18.	Contract amendments
19.	Assignment
20.	Subcontracts
21.	Delays in the supplier's performance
22.	Penalties
23.	Termination for default
24.	Dumping and countervailing duties
25.	Force Majeure
26.	Termination for insolvency
27.	Settlement of disputes
28.	Limitation of liability
29.	Governing language
30.	Applicable law
31.	Notices
32.	Taxes and duties
33.	National Industrial Participation Programme (NIPP)
34.	Prohibition of restrictive practices

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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

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#### 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

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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

- 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.
- 2.2 Where applicable, special conditions of contract are also laid down to cover specific supplies, services or works.
- 2.3 Where such special conditions of contract are in conflict with these general conditions, the special conditions shall apply.

#### 3. General

- 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.
- 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 <a href="https://www.treasury.gov.za">www.treasury.gov.za</a>

#### 4. Standards

4.1 The goods supplied shall conform to the standards mentioned in the bidding documents and specifications.

# 5. Use of contract documents and information; inspection.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

### 6. Patent rights

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.

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# 7. Performance security

- 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.
- 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

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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;
  - 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;

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- (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

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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

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- 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.
- 23.3 Where the purchaser terminates the contract in whole or in part, the purchaser may decide to impose a restriction penalty on the supplier by prohibiting such supplier from doing business with the public sector for a period not exceeding 10 years.
- 23.4 If a purchaser intends imposing a restriction on a supplier or any

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person associated with the supplier, the supplier will be allowed a time period of not more than fourteen (14) days to provide reasons why the envisaged restriction should not be imposed. Should the supplier fail to respond within the stipulated fourteen (14) days the purchaser may regard the intended penalty as not objected against and may impose it on the supplier.

- 23.5 Any restriction imposed on any person by the Accounting Officer / Authority will, at the discretion of the Accounting Officer / Authority, also be applicable to any other enterprise or any partner, manager, director or other person who wholly or partly exercises or exercised or may exercise control over the enterprise of the first-mentioned person, and with which enterprise or person the first-mentioned person, is or was in the opinion of the Accounting Officer / Authority actively associated.
- 23.6 If a restriction is imposed, the purchaser must, within five (5) working days of such imposition, furnish the National Treasury, with the following information:
  - (i) the name and address of the supplier and / or person restricted by the purchaser;
  - (ii) the date of commencement of the restriction
  - (iii) the period of restriction; and
  - (iv) the reasons for the restriction.

These details will be loaded in the National Treasury's central database of suppliers or persons prohibited from doing business with the public sector.

- 23.7 If a court of law convicts a person of an offence as contemplated in sections 12 or 13 of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, No. 12 of 2004, the court may also rule that such person's name be endorsed on the Register for Tender Defaulters. When a person's name has been endorsed on the Register, the person will be prohibited from doing business with the public sector for a period not less than five years and not more than 10 years. The National Treasury is empowered to determine the period of restriction and each case will be dealt with on its own merits. According to section 32 of the Act the Register must be open to the public. The Register can be perused on the National Treasury website.
- 24. Anti-dumping and countervailing duties and rights
- 24.1 When, after the date of bid, provisional payments are required, or antidumping 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

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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

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- (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.
- 33. National 33.1 Industrial Participation (NIP) Programme
  - 33.1 The NIP Programme administered by the Department of Trade and Industry shall be applicable to all contracts that are subject to the NIP obligation.
- 34 Prohibition of Restrictive practices
- 34.1 In terms of section 4 (1) (b) (iii) of the Competition Act No. 89 of 1998, as amended, an agreement between, or concerted practice by, firms, or a decision by an association of firms, is prohibited if it is between parties in a horizontal relationship and if a bidder (s) is / are or a contractor(s) was / were involved in collusive bidding (or bid rigging).
- 34.2 If a bidder(s) or contractor(s), based on reasonable grounds or evidence obtained by the purchaser, has / have engaged in the restrictive practice referred to above, the purchaser may refer the matter to the Competition Commission for investigation and possible imposition of administrative penalties as contemplated in the Competition Act No. 89 of 1998.

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34.3 If a bidder(s) or contractor(s), has / have been found guilty by the Competition Commission of the restrictive practice referred to above, the purchaser may, in addition and without prejudice to any other remedy provided for, invalidate the bid(s) for such item(s) offered, and / or terminate the contract in whole or part, and / or restrict the bidder(s) or contractor(s) from conducting business with the public sector for a period not exceeding ten (10) years and / or claim damages from the bidder(s) or contractor(s) concerned.

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