



national treasury

Department:

National Treasury

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Dear Dr. Munsami

DEVIATION FROM THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCESS: - APPOINTMENT OF NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

1. National Treasury acknowledges receipt of your letter received 11 May 2021.
2. South African National Space Agency (SANSA) requests for National Treasury approval to deviate from the competitive bidding process for the appointment of National Research Foundation (NRF) to provide an institutional review of SANSA for a period of six (6) months for the contract value of R761 583.00.
3. The deviation was approved by the Chief Executive Officer on 08 May 2021.
4. The reason provided for the deviation is that administering research and conducting objective institutional reviews and developing evaluation systems, falls within NRF mandate. NRF's mandate is primarily centered on the promotion of research and related support through financial and human resources and the providing requisite facilities to facilitate knowledge creation, innovation and development in science and technology. The SANSA institutional review is to be centered on the following domain areas which are highly specialized namely, Earth Observation; Space Science; Space Operations; and Satellite Engineering. The NRF has a Reviews and Evaluation Directorate, whose scope of work and capabilities is within the purview of providing administrative and technical review support for research projects and institutional assessments. They have a well-established track record of conducting objective institutional reviews and developing evaluation systems. Since the establishment of the Agency, however, no periodic

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reviews have been conducted. Such reviews are normally undertaken every five years for good practice. The core purpose of the institutional evaluation is to determine the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of SANSA and the progress the Agency has made since its inception, towards achieving its objectives and mandate. The evaluation further seeks to ascertain the strategic positioning of SANSA's programmes taking into consideration the evolving global space landscape and whether SANSA is optimally positioned within this landscape.

5. The reasons provided for the deviation are justifiable. An implementation plan for the institutional review of the Agency was provided by NRF.
6. National Treasury supports the deviation on condition that reasonableness of cost is assessed, and that the service will be done by NRF and not be outsourced.
7. SANSA has an obligation to ensure that any contract for goods and services is in accordance with a system which is fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective.
8. The award must be published on the e-tender portal/tender bulletin.

Kind regards,

ESTELLE SETAN
ACTING CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER
DATE: