



AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

REQUEST TO TENDER FOR:

TENDER NO: ARC/35/03/2024/2

Supply, delivery, installation, commissioning of Analytical Equipment (GC-MS) and training

Closing Date: 17 January 2025

TIME: 11:00

Bidder's Name:.....

CSD number:

THE DETAILS AND CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND
FOR CONSIDERATION AND RESPONSE BY THE RECORDED RECIPIENTS ONLY



1. OVERVIEW

The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) is a Research Science and Technology institution of excellence in South Africa, which operates within the National System of Innovation. The ARC has a mandate for innovative and creative agricultural research, technology development and transfer aimed at the advancement of South African agriculture. Its operations are overseen by the ARC Council which is appointed by and accountable to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) invites suitably qualified and experienced service providers to assist with the supply, delivery, install and commissioning of analytical equipment (**GC-MS**).

TENDER SUBMISSION

Completed and sealed tender submissions reflecting **“ARC/35/03/2024/2 and the name of the tenderer”** must be deposited into the Tender Box located at **R573 & Moloto Road, Roodeplaat, Pretoria** for the attention of: “The Supply Chain Accountant ”, **by no later than 11:00 (eleven o’clock) on 17 January 2025.**

Tender documents submitted after the closing time and date specified will not be considered. ***No submissions sent by email or facsimile will be accepted.***

Bidders are requested to submit two (2) complete documents into the tender box (one original technical proposal and one original for financial proposal) and prepare **three (3) copies of the technical proposal and one (01) copy of Financial proposal.** One USB that contains technical proposal and the financial proposal should also be submitted. The “two envelope system” will be used for this tender. One envelope shall be clearly marked “technical Proposal” and another be clearly marked “Financial Proposal”. The name of the bidder and the tender number should reflect on the “sealed” envelopes.

Closing Date: 17 January 2025

Closing Time: 11:00

2. BACKGROUND

The ARC is involved with agricultural and bioprospecting research, to identify new natural ingredients and develop products, which requires quality control to ensure the supply of good quality ingredients and products for the different market sectors. The GC-MS with compound libraries are required for the identification and quantification of compounds (including pesticides and cannabinoids) for quality control of plants, plant-based ingredients and essential oils. It is important to have an instrument that offers increased sensitivity, detection speeds, robustness, and ease of use allowing for high throughput, and accurate mass measurement for identification of compounds.

3. TENDER REQUIREMENTS

Bid evaluation criteria

All bids will be evaluated through the below three stages:

- **The First stage**, bids will be evaluated for administrative requirements. Only bids that meet administrative requirements will be considered for further evaluation.
- **The Second stage**, Bids will be evaluated for compulsory technical specification requirements. Only bids that meet compulsory technical specification requirements will be considered for further evaluation.
- **The Third stage**, bids will be evaluated in terms of the **80/20 preference point system**.

3.1 Administrative Requirements:

- A valid Tax Pin number from SARS
- Proof of Central Supplier Database registration (CSD Report/ CSD registration number such as MAAA number)
- Complete and sign Standard Bidding Documents (SBD forms)

3.2 Compulsory technical specification requirements:

Compulsory technical specification requirements: Supply, delivery, installation, commissioning and training of GC-MS:

- Supplier must be able to supply the GC-MS equipment specified in this document.
- Supplier must provide the equipment brochure / catalogue with the required technical specifications from this document clearly highlighted. The document name and page number must be included in the Reference column.
- Supplier must provide other supporting documentation as required i.e. CV, quotation, recommendation letters etc. The location of these documents must be clearly indicated in the Reference column.

NB. Only Suppliers who indicate YES and provide supporting documents for all the specification requirements will be considered for further evaluation. Suppliers that do not provide evidence will not qualify to proceed to the next stage of evaluation.

EQUIPMENT: GC-MS

	Description	Yes	No	Reference
	Overall GC-MS System			
	Provide a list of all equipment components and items supplied for this tender. This should include the type/ brand/ specification of the item to be supplied. The list should include but not limited to the following: • Gas chromatograph • Mass spectrometer • Autosampler • Suitable pump • 60m column • Workstation with an appropriate operating system (Windows based) and appropriate equipment controlling system software • Additional standalone processing workstation with appropriate data processing software to perform statistical analysis • Library/ libraries for identifying pesticides, cannabinoids and compounds from essential oils must be included with the processing workstation. • Suitable UPS to provide back-up power to the GC-MS for at least 30 minutes Do not provide the quotation as a reference. The quotation items, excluding the price, can be provided.			
	Certified copy of certificates of compliance with quality management system of ISO 9001:2015 must be provided.			
	Gas Chromatograph			
	Retention time repeatability of <0.008 % or <0.0008 minutes Area repeatability of <0.5% RSD			
	All GC pneumatics for inlets, detectors and auxiliary modules must have a pneumatics design and protect against contaminants.			
	Touchscreen user interface.			
	A browser interface must include: • built-in self-guided diagnostics and maintenance capabilities • method and sequence editing without the need for a data system • run diagnostics from anywhere within the network			
	GC must be able to perform the following diagnostic procedures without a need to cap-off septum purge or split vent lines:			

	- leak and restriction test - pressure decay test - split vent restriction test - gas supply pressure check - septum purge flow test			
	GC must be able to autonomously configure the tests into method, sequence, or instrument settings: - Pre-run flow test - Periodic split vent restriction test - Pre-sequence tank pressure check			
	GC must perform automated self-monitoring of parameters. If failure/ issue occurs, GC must alert user and log the failure/ issue.			
	Equipment must be supplied with a column that is suitable for the required analysis of the different types of samples. Column length required: 60m			
	Oven must be able to accommodate up to two 105 m × 0.530 mm id capillary columns or two 10-ft glass packed columns (9 in. coil diameter, 1/4 in. od), or two 20-ft stainless steel packed columns (1/8 in. od).			
	Oven temperature should be able to reach 450 °C.			
	Oven temperature set point resolution of 0.1 °C must be achievable.			
	Oven must support 20 oven ramps with 21 plateaus. Negative ramps are allowed.			
	Maximum achievable Temperature ramp rates: 120 °C/min.			
	Maximum run time: 999.99 min (16.7 h).			
	Oven cool down (22 °C ambient) 450 to 50 °C in 4.0 min.			
	GC should have an oven explosion protection built into the oven door in case hydrogen will be used as the carrier gas.			
	Electronic Pneumatics Control (EPC) should facilitate compensation for barometric pressure and ambient temperature changes.			
	Pressure setpoint precision and control range: 0 to 150 psi.			
	Inlet modules pressure sensors parameters: Accuracy: <±2 % full scale, Repeatability: <±0.05 psi, Temperature coefficient: <±0.01 psi/°C, Drift: <±0.1 psi/6 months.			
	Inlet modules flow sensors parameters: Accuracy: <±5 % depending on carrier gas, Repeatability: <±0.35 % of setpoint, Temperature coefficient <±0.20 mL/min NTP per °C for He or H ₂ ; *NTP = 25°C, 1 atmosphere			
	Must be able to set inlet temperature setpoints to 0.1°C increments for retention time stability.			
	Must have a wide range for setting total flow for wide range of applications: 0 to 1250 mL/min H₂ or He 0 to 500 mL/min N₂ 0 to 200 mL/min argon/methane			
	SSL EPC inlet must be capable to program either			

	up or down at a rate of up to 100 psig/min.			
	Automatic liquid sampler must have capacity for at least 120 vials.			
	Mass Spectrometer			
	Must be able to produce upon installation IDL of at least 20 fg, statistically derived at 99% confidence level from the area precision of eight (8) sequential splitless injections of OFN standard.			
	The MS software must control all parameters of gas chromatography, mass spectrometer and auto sampler, enable data acquisition, data processing and reporting.			
	The software should allow for new information to be added into custom-built libraries/ database.			
	The mass spectrometer must have an automated SIM setup that can convert a full scan method to a SIM or SIM/Scan method.			
	The electronics must support synchronous SIM/Scan. Must perform at least as follows: • Mass range (m/z) 2 to 1050. • Scan rate (electronic) up to 12500 u/s. • SIM speed: down to 0.1 msec			
	The MS must provide electron ionisation (EI) data.			
	The ion source of the electron impact type must have 2 independently selectable filaments to allow continued operation in the event of the failure of one of the filaments.			
	It must be possible to change between the two filaments on the software without breaking the vacuum to minimize system down-time.			
	Service and Support			
	Must include delivery, installation (including any additional installation of hardware required) and commissioning of the equipment, software and all auxiliary items.			
	Delivery of the GC-MS system must be within six to eight (6-8) weeks from receipt of the purchase order.			
	Training of five (5) analysts for one (1) week on the GC-MS system and software.			
	The GC-MS must come standard with instrument warranty covering electronics, hardware, and mechanical components.			
	System shall have a ten-year value guarantee such that vendor shall have ten years' guaranteed parts and comprehensive service available or give residual value credit for replacement			
	Supplier is an approved agent / original equipment manufacturer. A letter from the manufacturer confirming that the supplier is their approved agent, or official confirmation that the supplier is the original equipment manufacturer is required.			
	Supplier must have at least three (3) certified factory-trained GC-MS service engineers, with at least 10 years' experience (at least 5 years' experience with the local company). Please attach CV's and training certificates.			

	A minimum of two qualified application specialists must be available to assist with training, and support of the instrument, software, and methods. Application support personnel must be based in the Gauteng region. Please attach CV's and training certificates.			
	Supplier must be able to provide customer support through qualified application support specialists and service through qualified service engineers. Contact by service and support personnel must be provided within 24 hours of a service/support request being logged.			
	A 3-year Service Level Agreement (SLA) should be included with a service and maintenance plan. SLA budget should be provided separately, not part of the equipment budget.			

3.3 Price and Preference point system

	POINTS
PRICE	80
SPECIFIC GOALS	20
Total Points for Price and Specific Goals	100

Specific goals will be allocated as follows:

Specific Goals	Percentage Ownership (1%)	Points (20)	Number of points claimed (80/20 system) (To be completed by the tenderer)
Ownership by HDIs	51%+	6	
Ownership by Women	51%+	4	
Ownership by Youth	51%+	4	
Ownership by PwD	51%+	2	
BEE status	Level 1-4	2	
RDP goal	Suppliers located in Gauteng Province (CSD report will be used to verify the address)	2	
TOTAL POINTS		20	

NB: The above Information will be verified through CSD (Central Supplier database) report

4. ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

- Bidders are not allowed to remove any page from the original tender document as issued. Bidders are required to ensure that the completed document with all attachments are submitted on or before the closing date of the tender
- Bid offer to be submitted on the official company letterhead and detailed costing must be stipulated. All pricing shall be in South African Rand (ZAR). No price adjustments will be allowed after the closure of the tender

5. PRICE AND COST STRUCTURE

All prices quoted are to be in SA rand and inclusive of value added tax (vat). No change in the prices submitted shall be considered after receipt of response to the tender submission. The bidder must provide the breakdown and total price for items given in the tender specification.

6. TENDER SUBMISSION

Bidders are requested to submit two (2) complete documents into the tender box (one original technical proposal and one original for financial proposal) and prepare **three (3) copies of the technical proposal and one (1) copy of financial proposal. One USB that contains technical proposal and the financial proposal should also be submitted. The “two envelope system” will be used for this tender. One envelope shall be clearly marked “technical Proposal” and another be clearly marked “Financial Proposal”. The name of the bidder and the tender number should reflect on the “sealed” envelopes.** Complete tender submissions should be hand-delivered at the Tender Box at ARC – VIMP Supply Chain Offices, Pretoria, R573 & Moloto Road, Roodeplaat,

- All technical inquiries are to be directed to:
Dr Dashnie Naidoo-Maharaj
Tel: 012 808 8000
Email: NaidooMaharajD@arc.agric.za

7. PREFERENTIAL CRITERIA

Table 1: Specific goals for the tender and points claimed are indicated per the table below.

(Note to organs of state: Where 80/20 preference point system is applicable, corresponding points must also be indicated as such.)

(Note to tenderers: The tenderer must indicate how they claim points for each preference point system.)

Specific Goals	Percentage Ownership (1%)	Points (20)	Number of points claimed (80/20 system) (To be completed by the tenderer)
Ownership by HDIs	51%+	6	
Ownership by Women	51%+	4	
Ownership by Youth	51%+	4	
Ownership by PwD	51%+	2	
BEE status	Level 1-4	2	
RDP goal	Suppliers located in Gauteng Province (CSD report will be used to verify the address)	2	
TOTAL POINTS		20	

11. LODGING OF SUBMISSIONS

Tenderers are requested to submit two (2) complete documents into the tender box **(one original technical proposal and prepare three (3) copies of the Technical proposal proposal and one (01) copy of the financial proposal)**. One USB that contains technical proposal and the financial proposal should also be submitted . Tenderer's name and tender number to: **The Agricultural Research Council, ATTENTION: The Supply Chain Accountant, ARC R573 & Moloto Road, Roodeplaat, PRETORIA**, by no later than **11:00 (eleven o'clock) on 17 January 2024**

Submissions not received on time and date specified will not be considered. Any entities/companies that are submitting their proposals as joint ventures are not allowed to submit their own proposals separately from the joint venture. Submitting a second separate proposal from the joint venture will lead to disqualification.

12. COMPLIANCE WITH GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

No alteration, variation or amendment of the Contract (of which this Tender represents the offer) shall be permitted unless otherwise agreed to in writing. Should the prospective provider, in the case of non-compliance, wish to make any amendments to the conditions stipulated by the ARC in this Tender, which shall form the offer element of a Contract and if it is accepted by the ARC, then such proposed amendments shall be clearly stipulated by the prospective provider and where possible stating the increase or decrease in the cost involved by such proposals. The ARC reserves the right to reject such submissions.

Misrepresentation of facts will result in disqualification and cancellation of the Contract.

13. ARC LIABILITY

The ARC does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender proposal, nor to assign any reason for the rejection of a tender proposal, nor shall it be responsible for or pay any expenses or losses that may be incurred by the prospective provider in the preparation and delivery of its submission.

14. SUBMISSION ACCEPTANCE

No submission shall be deemed to have been accepted, unless and until a formal appointment letter is issued to the successful tenderer. Submissions shall remain open for acceptance by the ARC for a period of 120 (one hundred and twenty) days from the date on which they are returnable in terms of this Tender.

15. PRICES

Tenderers shall indicate the basis on which the services will be charged. In this regard the following information shall be provided:

- Where a Tenderer lacks in-house expertise and may have to outsource certain services, the detail and basis of charges of any such service that may be required must be outlined.
- The tenderer shall reflect service discounts that they will offer throughout the contract duration.
- Tenderers submissions must reflect the detailed breakdown of the tender price as per the costing structure or bill of quantities
- Prices must include VAT, if it is applicable and all other costs related to the execution of the required services.
- The tenderer agrees not to change the price with VAT or any other Tax subsequent to submitting the tender. This includes subsequent VAT registration.
- All prices quoted are to be in SA Rand and inclusive of Value Added Tax (VAT).
- No change in the prices submitted shall be considered after receipt of response to the Tender submission within the validity period of the tender.
- Bidders shall ensure that the bid price is for the duration of the project, **including escalations.**

16. TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT

- The successful bidder shall not take more than three (3) months from date of Bid award unless otherwise indicated and agreed between the successful Bidder and the ARC.
- The Service Provider shall be available for consultation with the ARC representative.
- The Service Provider shall manage as confidential all data, information and insights gained in execution of work for the ARC.
- ARC retains the right to negotiate with the successful Bidder for partial execution of the proposal.
- ARC retains the right to enter into non-exclusive agreements with Service Providers that do not restrict procurement of goods and services from other Service Providers.

- ARC retains the right to require the Service Provider to obtain permission in writing from the ARC prior to replacement of individuals proposed for execution of this Bid.
- Service Providers to accept professional liability for services rendered, including those rendered under sub-contract to the service provider

17. CONTENTS OF SUBMISSION

Proposals shall include all relevant information about the Bidder, which is thought appropriate to assist the ARC to assess its capabilities, capacity, outputs, value adding abilities, competitive advantage, etc.

The proposals presented are to be comprehensive and should describe the methodology to be followed in doing the following:

- The Breakdown of the complete specification with associated costs.
- All SBD (Standard Bidding Documents) must be completed and signed.

The proposals presented are to be as comprehensive as possible and ARC reserves the right to request the Bidder to provide more details.

Bidders shall adhere to the conditions stipulated in the General Conditions of Contract as prescribed by the National Treasury.

Bidders must ensure that the complete bid document is submitted with all additional required information and any other documents that the bidder wishes to supply to substantiate or clarify specific aspects in the proposal.

Failure to submit all the signed and completed Standard Bidding documents and / or any required documentation will result in disqualification.

20. AMPLIFICATION OF SUBMISSIONS

The ARC may, after the opening of submissions, call on the prospective Bidder to amplify in writing any matter which is not clear in the prospective Bidder's submission and such amplification shall form part of the original submission. In the event of the prospective Bidder failing to supply such information, the submission will be liable to rejection.

21. COST OF PROPOSAL

Bidders shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of their proposals, the ARC will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the Bid.

22. BID DOCUMENTS

This document in its entirety serves as the complete Bid document. Proposals offering only part of the requirements will be rejected. The Bidder is expected to examine all corresponding instructions, forms, terms and specifications contained in this document. Failure to comply with these documents will be at the Bidder's risk and may affect the evaluation of their proposal.

23. DOCUMENTS COMPRISING THE PROPOSAL

In preparing the technical and price components of the submissions all references to descriptive material and brochures should be included in the appropriate response paragraph, although material documents themselves may be provided as annexes to the proposal / response. Bidders are

requested to focus on the provision of relevant information and to limit the amount of marketing and “boilerplate” material. The successful Bidder’s proposal may be incorporated in whole or in part in the final contract. Any information that the Bidder considers proprietary should be marked as such.

24. INFORMATION

Information that the Bidder considers proprietary, if any, should be clearly marked “proprietary” next to the relevant part of the text and it will be treated as such accordingly.

25. PERIOD OF VALIDITY

Proposals shall remain valid for one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of proposal submission. A proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by the ARC on the grounds that it is non-responsive.

In exceptional circumstances, the ARC may solicit the Bidder’s consent to an extension of the period of validity. The request and the responses thereto shall be made in writing.

26. FORMAT AND SIGNING OF PROPOSALS

The Bidder shall prepare four copies of the proposal, clearly marking one “Original Proposal” and three “Copies of Proposal” as appropriate. In the event of any discrepancies between them, the original shall govern. The four proposals shall be signed by the Bidder or a person or persons duly authorised to bind the Bidder to the contract.

27. INTERLINEATIONS

A proposal shall contain no interlineations, erasures, or overwriting except, as necessary to correct errors made by the Bidder, in which case such corrections shall be initiated by the person or persons signing the proposal.

28. PAYMENT

The successful Bidder shall be paid upon submission of an invoice after the commissioning of equipment.

29. DUE DILIGENCE EXERCISE

The ARC reserves the right to perform due diligence exercise for the purpose of appointing a credible tenderer.

30. PRICE AND PRICING STRUCTURE

(To be inserted or deposited into the Financial Proposal Envelope)

- Bidders shall indicate the basis on which the services will be charged.
- Where a Bidder lacks in-house expertise and may have to outsource certain services, the detail and basis of charges of any such service that may be required must be outlined.
- The Bidder shall reflect service discounts that they will offer throughout the contract duration.
- Bidders submissions must reflect the detailed breakdown of the bid price as follows:
- Prices must be for the entire period of the tender including price escalation.

- Prices must include VAT, if it is applicable and all other costs related to the execution of the required services.

31. CANCELLATION OF THE BID

The ARC reserves the right to cancel the bid at any time of the process should the recommended service provider/s fail to meet the requirements of the bid.

32. SITE INSPECTION

The ARC reserves the right to conduct a site inspection to the premises of the recommended service provider and/or the recommended service provider's clients at any given time.

33. SUB-CONTRACTING/ JOINT VENTURE BUSINESS

Bidders must ensure that both/all service providers submit their tax compliant pin numbers, standard bidding documents and central supplier database report.

PART A INVITATION TO BID

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED TO BID FOR REQUIREMENTS OF THE (AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL)					
BID NUMBER:	ARC/35/03/2024/2	CLOSING DATE:	17 January 2025	CLOSING TIME:	11:00
DESCRIPTION	Supply, delivery, installation, commissioning of Analytical Equipment (GC-MS) and training				
BID RESPONSE DOCUMENTS MAY BE DEPOSITED IN THE BID BOX SITUATED AT (STREET ADDRESS)					
R573 & MOLOTO ROAD, ROODEPLAAT, PRETORIA (NOT FAR FROM ROODEPLAAT DAM)					
BIDDING PROCEDURE ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO			TECHNICAL ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO:		
CONTACT PERSON	Mr Phuti Buthane		CONTACT PERSON	Dashnie Naidoo-Maharaj	
TELEPHONE NUMBER	012 808 8000		TELEPHONE NUMBER		
FACSIMILE NUMBER			FACSIMILE NUMBER		
E-MAIL ADDRESS	Buthanep@arc.agric.za		E-MAIL ADDRESS	NaidooMaharajD@arc.agric.za	
SUPPLIER INFORMATION					
NAME OF BIDDER					
POSTAL ADDRESS					
STREET ADDRESS					
TELEPHONE NUMBER	CODE		NUMBER		
CELLPHONE NUMBER					
FACSIMILE NUMBER	CODE		NUMBER		
E-MAIL ADDRESS					
VAT REGISTRATION NUMBER					
SUPPLIER COMPLIANCE STATUS	TAX COMPLIANCE SYSTEM PIN:		OR	CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE No:	MAAA
B-BBEE STATUS LEVEL VERIFICATION CERTIFICATE	TICK APPLICABLE BOX] ☐ Yes ☐ No		B-BBEE STATUS LEVEL SWORN AFFIDAVIT		[TICK APPLICABLE BOX] ☐ Yes ☐ No
[A B-BBEE STATUS LEVEL VERIFICATION CERTIFICATE/ SWORN AFFIDAVIT (FOR EMES & QSEs) MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR PREFERENCE POINTS FOR B-BBEE]					

ARE YOU THE ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES /WORKS OFFERED?	☐Yes ☐No [IF YES ENCLOSE PROOF]	ARE YOU A FOREIGN BASED SUPPLIER FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES /WORKS OFFERED?	☐Yes ☐No [IF YES, ANSWER THE QUESTIONNAIRE BELOW]
--	---	---	--

QUESTIONNAIRE TO BIDDING FOREIGN SUPPLIERS

IS THE ENTITY A RESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (RSA)?	☐ YES ☐ NO
DOES THE ENTITY HAVE A BRANCH IN THE RSA?	☐ YES ☐ NO
DOES THE ENTITY HAVE A PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT IN THE RSA?	☐ YES ☐ NO
DOES THE ENTITY HAVE ANY SOURCE OF INCOME IN THE RSA?	☐ YES ☐ NO
IS THE ENTITY LIABLE IN THE RSA FOR ANY FORM OF TAXATION?	☐ YES ☐ NO
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 B TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR BIDDING

1. BID SUBMISSION: 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, 2017, 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 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)

DATE:

NB: FAILURE TO PROVIDE ANY OF THE ABOVE PARTICULARS MAY RENDER THE BID INVALID.

**ANY ENQUIRIES REGARDING THE BIDDING PROCEDURE AND TECHNICAL QUIRIES
MAY BE DIRECTED TO:**

Department: Supply Chain Management

Contact Person: Mr Phuti Buthane

Tel: (012) 808 8000

E-mail address: Buthanep@arc.agric.za

All technical enquiries must be forwarded in writing to Supply Chain Management who will act as communicator between the Bidder and ARC to ensure that all Bidders receive the same information.

TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

It is a condition of bid that the taxes of the successful bidder must be in order, or that satisfactory arrangements have been made with South African Revenue Service (SARS) to meet the bidder's tax obligations.

1. In order to meet this requirement bidders are required to complete in full the attached form TCC 001 "Application for a Tax Clearance Certificate" and submit it to any SARS branch office nationally. The Tax Clearance Certificate Requirements are also applicable to foreign bidders / individuals who wish to submit bids.
2. SARS will then furnish the bidder with a Tax Clearance Certificate that will be valid for a period of 1 (one) year from the date of approval.
3. The original Tax Clearance Certificate must be submitted together with the bid. Failure to submit the original and valid Tax Clearance Certificate will result in the invalidation of the bid. Certified copies of the Tax Clearance Certificate will not be acceptable.
4. In bids where Consortia / Joint Ventures / Sub-contractors are involved, each party must submit a separate Tax Clearance Certificate.
5. Copies of the TCC 001 "Application for a Tax Clearance Certificate" form are available from any SARS branch office nationally or on the website www.sars.gov.za
6. Applications for the Tax Clearance Certificates may also be made via eFiling. In order to use this provision, taxpayers will need to register with SARS as eFilers through the website www.sars.gov.za.

PRICING SCHEDULE – FIRM PRICES (PURCHASES)

NOTE: ONLY FIRM PRICES WILL BE ACCEPTED. NON-FIRM PRICES (INCLUDING PRICES SUBJECT TO RATES OF EXCHANGE VARIATIONS) WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

IN CASES WHERE DIFFERENT DELIVERY POINTS INFLUENCE THE PRICING, A SEPARATE PRICING SCHEDULE MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH DELIVERY POINT

Name of bidder..... Bid number **ARC/35/03/2024/2**

Closing Time **11:00 on 17 January 2025**

OFFER TO BE VALID FOR **120** DAYS FROM THE CLOSING DATE OF BID.

ITEM NO.	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	BID PRICE IN RSA CURRENCY (INCLUDING VAT)
----------	----------	-------------	---

- Required by:
- At:
.....
- Brand and model
- Country of origin
- Does offer comply with specification? *YES/NO

- **If not to specification, indicate deviation(s)**
- **Period required for delivery**
***Delivery: Firm/not firm**
- **Delivery basis (all delivery costs must be Included in the bid price)**

Note: All delivery costs must be included in the bid price, for delivery at the prescribed destination.

*Delete if not applicable

Any enquiries regarding bidding procedures may be directed to the –

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

Department: Supply Chain Management

Contact Person: Mr Phuti Buthane

Tel: (012) 808 8000

E-mail address: Buthanep@arc.agric.za

BIDDER'S DISCLOSURE

1. PURPOSE OF THE FORM

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 disqualified 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

¹ the power, by one person or a group of persons holding the majority of the equity of an enterprise, alternatively, the person/s having the deciding vote or power to influence or to direct the course and decisions of the enterprise.

2.2

Do you, or any person connected with the bidder, have a relationship with any person who is employed by the procuring institution? **YES/NO**

2.2.1 If so, furnish particulars:

.....

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?

YES/NO

2.3.1 If so, furnish particulars:

.....

3 DECLARATION

I, _____ the _____ undersigned,
 (name)..... in submitting the
 accompanying bid, do hereby make the following statements that I certify to be true
 and complete in every respect:

- 3.1 I have read and I understand the contents of this disclosure;
- 3.2 I understand that the accompanying bid will be disqualified if this disclosure is found not to 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 consortium² 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.
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 There have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements made by 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 bid submitted where so required by the institution; and the bidder

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 a contract.

was not involved in the drafting of the specifications or terms of reference for this bid.

3.7 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 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 for a 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 3 ABOVE 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

.....
Position

.....
Name of bidder

This document must be signed and submitted together with your bid

THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION

The National Industrial Participation (NIP) Programme, which is applicable to all government procurement contracts that have an imported content, became effective on the 1 September 1996. The NIP policy and guidelines were fully endorsed by Cabinet on 30 April 1997. In terms of the Cabinet decision, all state and parastatal purchased / lease contracts (for goods, works and services) entered into after this date, are subject to the NIP requirements. NIP is obligatory and therefore must be complied with. The Industrial Participation Secretariat (IPS) of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is charged with the responsibility of administering the programme.

1. PILLARS OF THE PROGRAMME

1.1 The NIP obligation is benchmarked on the imported content of the contract. Any contract having an imported content equal to or exceeding US\$ 10 million or other currency equivalent to US\$ 10 million will have a NIP obligation. This threshold of US\$ million can be reached as follows:

- (a) Any single contract with imported content exceeding US\$ 10 million.
or
- (b) Multiple contracts for the same goods, works or services each with imported content exceeding US\$ 3 million awarded to one seller over a 2 year period which in total exceeds US\$ 10 million.
or
- (c) A contract with a renewable option clause, where should the option be exercised the total value of the imported content will exceed US\$ 10 million.
or

- (d) Multiple suppliers of the same goods, works or services under the same contract, where the value of the imported content of each allocation is equal to or exceeds US\$ 3 million worth of goods, works or services to the same government institution, which in total over a two (2) year period exceeds US\$ 10 million.
- 1.2 The NIP obligation to suppliers in respect of sub-paragraphs 1.1 (a) to 1.1 (c) above will amount to 30% of the imported content whilst suppliers in respect of paragraph 1.1 (d) shall incur 30% of the total NIP obligation on a *pro-rata* basis.
- 1.3 To satisfy the NIP obligation, the DTI would negotiate and conclude agreements such as investments, joint ventures, sub-contracting, licensee production, export promotion, sourcing arrangements and research and development (R&D) with partners or suppliers.
- 1.4 A period of seven years has been identified as the time frame within which to discharge the obligation.

2. REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

- 2.1 In order to ensure effective implementation of the programme, successful bidders (contractors) are required to, immediately after the award of a contract that is in excess of R 10 million (ten million Rands), submit details of such a contract to the DTI for reporting purposes.
- 2.2 The purpose for reporting details of contracts in excess of the amount of R 10 million (ten million Rands) is to cater for multiple contract for the same goods, works or services; renewal contracts and multiple suppliers for the same goods, works and services under the same contract as provided for in paragraphs 1.1 (b) to 1.1 (d) above.

3. BID SUBMISSION AND CONTRACT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF BIDDERS AND SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS (CONTRACTORS)

- 3.1 Bidders are required to sign and submit this Standard Bidding Document (SBD 5) together with the bid on the closing date and time.
- 3.2 In order to accommodate multiple contracts for the same goods, works or services; renewal contracts and multiple suppliers for the same goods, works or services under the same contract as indicated in sub-paragraphs 1.1 (b) to 1.1 (d) above and to enable the DTI in determining the NIP obligation, successful bidders (contractors) are required, immediately after being officially notified about any successful bid with a value in excess of R 10 million (ten million Rands), to contact and furnish the DTI with the following information:

- Bid / contract number
- Description of the goods, works or services
- Date on which the contract was accepted
- Name, address and contact details of the government institution
- Value of the contract
- Imported content of the contract, if possible.

3.3 The information required in paragraph 3.2 above must be sent to the Department of Trade and Industry, Private Bag X84, Pretoria, 0001 for the attention of Mr. Elias Malapane within five (5) working days after award of the contract. Mr. Malapane may be contacted on telephone (012) 394-1401, facsimile (012) 394-2401 or e-mail at Elias@thetdi.gov.za for further details about the programme.

4. PROCESS TO SATISFY THE NIP OBLIGATION

- 4.1 Once the successful bidder (contractor) has made contact with and furnished the DTI with the information required, the following steps will be followed:
- a. The contractor and the DTI will determine the NIP obligation;
 - b. The contractor and the DTI will sign the NIP obligation agreement;
 - c. The contractor will submit a performance guarantee to the DTI;
 - d. The contractor will submit a business concept for consideration and approval by the DTI;
 - e. Upon approval of the business concept by the DTI, the contractor will submit detailed business plans outlining the business concepts;
 - f. The contractor will implement the business plans; and

- g. The contractor will submit bi-annual progress reports on approved plans to the DTI.

4.2 The NIP obligation agreement is between the DTI and the successful bidder (contractor) and, therefore, does not involve the purchasing institution.

Bid Number:

Closing Date:

Name of Bidder:
.....

Postal
address:

.....

Signature:

Name (In print):

Date:

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

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

NB: BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM, TENDERERS MUST STUDY THE GENERAL CONDITIONS, DEFINITIONS AND DIRECTIVES APPLICABLE IN RESPECT OF THE TENDER AND PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, 2022

1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.1 The following preference point systems are applicable to invitations to tender:

- 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

(delete whichever is not applicable for this tender).

- a) The applicable preference point system for this tender is the **90/10** preference point system.
- b) The applicable preference point system for this tender is the **80/20** preference point system.
- c) Either the **90/10 or 80/20 preference point system** will be applicable in this tender. The lowest/ highest acceptable tender will be used to determine the accurate system once tenders are received.

1.3 Points for this tender (even in the case of a tender for income-generating contracts) 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 tender are allocated as follows:

	POINTS
PRICE	80
SPECIFIC GOALS	20
Total points for Price and SPECIFIC GOALS	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) **“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;
- (b) **“price”** means an amount of money tendered for goods or services, and includes all applicable taxes less all unconditional discounts;
- (c) **“rand value”** means the total estimated value of a contract in Rand, calculated at the time of bid invitation, and includes all applicable taxes;
- (d) **“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
- (e) **“the Act”** means the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000 (Act No. 5 of 2000).

3. FORMULAE FOR PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES

1. POINTS AWARDED FOR PRICE

3.1.1 THE 80/20 OR 90/10 PREFERENCE POINT SYSTEMS

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

$$P_s = 80 \left(1 - \frac{P_t - P_{min}}{P_{min}} \right) \text{ or } P_s = 90 \left(1 - \frac{P_t - P_{min}}{P_{min}} \right)$$

80/20 or 90/10

Where

P_s = Points scored for price of tender under consideration

P_{min} = Price of lowest acceptable tender

3.2.1. POINTS AWARDED FOR PRICE

$$P_s = 80 \left(1 + \frac{Pt - P_{max}}{P_{max}} \right) \text{ or } P_s = 90 \left(1 + \frac{Pt - P_{max}}{P_{max}} \right)$$

P_{max} = Price of highest acceptable tender

then the organ of state must indicate the points allocated for specific goals for both the 90/10 and 80/20 preference point system.

(Note to organs of state: Where either the 90/10 or 80/20 preference point system is

applicable, corresponding points must also be indicated as such.

Note to tenderers: The tenderer must indicate how they claim points for each preference point system.)

Specific Goals	Percentage Ownership (1%)	Points (20)	Number of points claimed (80/20 system) (To be completed by the tenderer)
Ownership by HDIs	51%+	6	
Ownership by Women	51%+	4	
Ownership by Youth	51%+	4	
Ownership by PwD	51%+	2	
BEE status	Level 1-4	2	
RDP goal	Suppliers located in Gauteng Province (CSD report will be used to verify the address)	2	
TOTAL POINTS		20	

NB: The above Information will be verified through CSD (Central Supplier database)

DECLARATION WITH REGARD TO COMPANY/FIRM

3. Name of company/firm.....

4. Company registration number:
.....

5. TYPE OF COMPANY/ FIRM

- ☐ Partnership/Joint Venture / Consortium
- ☐ One-person business/sole propriety
- ☐ Close corporation
- ☐ Public Company
- ☐ Personal Liability Company
- ☐ (Pty) Limited
- ☐ Non-Profit Company
- ☐ State Owned Company

[TICK APPLICABLE BOX]

6. 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 preference 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)	
SURNAME AND NAME:	
DATE:	
ADDRESS:	
	
	
	

ADHERENCE TO THE ARC'S CODE OF ETHICS

1. INTRODUCTION

This statement forms part of the Agricultural Research Council's "Ethics and Fraud Prevention strategy". It sets out the tone, culture and expectations of the ARC in promoting a policy of fair dealing and integrity in the conduct of business and the countering of fraudulent activities.

2. POLICY

- 2.1 The ARC's vision is to provide Excellence in Agricultural Research and Development.
- 2.2 The ARC will do everything possible to promote honesty, integrity and to adhere to all applicable laws in everything it does and is committed to the prevention, deterrence, detection and investigation of all forms of non-adherence to policies, laws and the Code of Ethics.
- 2.3 ARC Council members, Audit Committee members and employees at all levels are expected to adopt the highest standards of propriety and accountability. These standards are also expected from organisations that the ARC deals with such as suppliers, contractors, customers, partners, etc.
- 2.4 If it is established that suppliers, contractors, customers and partners have engaged in corrupt, dishonest, fraudulent activities or have contravened the supply chain policy of the Code of Ethics in competing or executing the contract awarded, the ARC will immediately terminate the contract. Any supplier, contractor, partner or officer representing any of the entities if found guilty of any of the above they will be declared ineligible to supply goods, works and services to the ARC under any programmes or projects managed and administered by the ARC on behalf of its clients.



- 2.5 The ARC can in its sole judgement proceed to pursue any legal remedies available.

3. CULTURE

- 3.1 Adherence to laws, policies and procedures, the prevention and detection of fraud and corruption and the protection of ARC's assets is every stakeholder's responsibility.
- 3.2 Council members, Audit Committee members, all employees are expected to carry out their duties to the best of their ability for the benefit of the ARC and not to take advantage of any situation for personal gain, for themselves, members of their family or friends.

4. CODE OF ETHICS AND FRAUD PREVENTION STATEMENT

- 4.1 Members of the public, suppliers, contractors and partners are expected to act with integrity in their business dealings with the ARC and not to behave dishonestly to the detriment of the ARC.
- 4.2 The ARC has set up a secure and confidential framework, within which any employee, member of the public, suppliers, contractors, partners are encouraged to raise concerns if they know of or suspect that the following is about to occur or has occurred:
- Fraud;
 - Corruption;
 - Abuse of assets;
 - Irregular transaction are taking place;
 - Fruitless expenditure has been incurred;
 - Endangering of an individual's health and safety;



- A violation of applicable laws, rules, policies or regulations of the Code of Ethics.

- 4.3 The ARC will ensure that any allegations received are taken seriously and investigated in an appropriate manner.
- 4.4 The ARC will deal firmly with those who act dishonestly. Following proper investigation, appropriate disciplinary action and / or criminal proceedings will be instigated.
- 4.5 Suppliers, contractors and partners acknowledge that they have read and understood relevant sections of the Code of Ethics policies, procedures and laws applicable to them.
- 4.6 Stakeholders who wish to remain anonymous when raising concerns are encouraged to use the following secure hotline:

Free Call Telephone Number: 0800 000 604

Free Call Facsimile Number: 0800 007 788

E-mail: arc@tip-offs.com

“Please call me” number: 32840

Tip-offs anonymous url: www.tip-offs.com

No-one will be subjected to retaliation for good faith reporting of a suspected violation.

- 4.7 Concerns can only be adequately investigated if all relevant facts concerning the issue being reported are disclosed. Stakeholders are encouraged to provide relevant facts including supporting documentation of available.

I, _____ the _____ undersigned
 in my
 capacity as an authorised representative of



..... registration number
.....

HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE:

1. That I have been explicitly informed of and consequently an fully aware of the fact that:
 - a) I must adhere to sections of the ARC Code of Ethics, supply chain policy and laws that apply to me as a supplier or contractor;
 - b) I will report to the ARC any violations and contraventions of its Code of Ethics, policies, procedures that I may become aware of;
 - c) Failure to adhere to (a) and (b) above will result in the cancellation of my contract with the ARC and the ARC in its sole judgement may pursue any other legal action it deems appropriate.

NAME(s): (BLOCK LETTERS)
.....

CAPACITY of authorised agents:
.....

SIGNATURE(s) of authorised agents:
.....

SIGNED AT on this day of
.....

WITNESSES: (Full name – BLOCK LETTERS – and signature)

1.

2.



THE NATIONAL TREASURY

Republic of South Africa



GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT: GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

July 2010



GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

1. Definitions

The following items 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 anything 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 subsidised by its government and encourage 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 recognised 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 specific 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 goods 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 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, by 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 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 sub-contractors) 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 goods 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 organisation 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 obligations of the supplier covered under the contract.
- 1.25 “Supplier” means the successful bidder who is awarded the contract to maintain and administer the required and specified service(s) to the State.
- 1.26 “Tort” means in breach of contract.
- 1.27 “Turnkey” means a procurement process where one service provider assumes total responsibility of all aspects of the project and delivers the full end product / service required by the contract
- 1.28 “Written” or ‘in writing” means hand-written 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 (excluding professional services related to the building and construction industry), 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 goods, 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, 0111, or accessed electronically from www.treasury.gov.za

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 written consent, make use of any document or information mentioned in the 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.

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 the 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 analysis

- 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 organisation 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 analysis 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 analysed 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 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

The goods supplied under the contract shall be fully insured in a freely convertible currency against loss and 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;
- b) 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;
- d) Performance or supervision or maintenance and / or repair to 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 relive 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 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 the SCC.
- 16.2 The supplier shall furnish the purchaser with an invoice accompanied by a copy of the delivery note and upon fulfilment 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 service performed under the contract shall not vary from the prices quoted by the supplier in his bid, with the exception of any price adjustments authorised in SCC or in the purchaser's request for bid validity extension, as the case may be.

18. Variation orders

- 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 the 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 sub-contractor(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 by 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 service from a national department, provincial department or a local authority.
- 21.4 The right is reserves to procure outside of the contract small quantities or to have minor essential services executed is an emergency arises, the supplier's point of supply is 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 supplier contract, the purchaser shall, without cancelling 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 entitles 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 judgement 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 purchase 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 purchase 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 purchase intends imposing a restriction on a supplier or any person associated with the supplier, the supplier will be allowed a time period of 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 Is 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.

23.7 If a court of law convicts a person of an offense as contemplated in sections 12 or 13 of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 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 in 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

When, after the date of bid, provisional payments are required, or anti-dumping 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 subsidised 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 reduces, 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 supplied 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 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 is 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 reasonable 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 to the supplier.

28. Limitation of Liability

- 28.1 Except in cases of criminal negligence or wilful 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
- 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

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 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, licence 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. Transfer of contracts

- 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. Amendments of contracts

- 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 Of a bidder(s) or contractor(s), based in reasonable grounds or evidence obtained by the purchase, 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.
- 34.3 Is 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.

