Bid Notice Abstract

Invitation to Bid (ITB)

Reference Number	12987334
Procuring Entity	DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT - REGION XII
Title	DSWD12-PDBBM-2026-05-002 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY FOR OFFICE FURNITURE FOR THE USE OF PDBBM FOR FY 2026
Area of Delivery	South Cotabato

Solicitation Number:	DSWD12-PDBBM-2026-05-002
Trade Agreement:	Implementing Rules and Regulations
Procurement Mode:	Public Bidding
Classification:	Goods
Category:	Furniture
Approved Budget for the Contract:	PHP 2,850,000.00
Delivery Period:	15 Day/s
Client Agency:	
Contact Person:	Loreto Jr. Vargas Cabaya Regional Director Regional Center, Brgy. Carpenter Hill Koronadal City South Cotabato Philippines 9506 63-228-3180 Ext.81 63-228-3180 procurement.fo12@dswd.gov.ph

Status	**Pending**
Associated Components	1
Bid Supplements	0
Document Request List	0
Date Published	14/05/2026
Last Updated / Time	13/05/2026 23:07 PM
Closing Date / Time	02/06/2026 10:00 AM

Description

PHILIPPINE BIDDING DOCUMENTS

Republic of the Philippines

PROCUREMENT
OF
GOODS

First Edition
May 2025

Preface

This Philippine Bidding Documents (PBD) for the Government of the Philippines (GoP) for the procurement of Goods through [Competitive Bidding, Limited Source Bidding, Competitive Dialogue, or Unsolicited Offer with Bid Matching] have been prepared by the GoP for use by all branches, agencies, departments, bureaus, offices, or instrumentalities of the government, including government-owned and/or -controlled corporations (GOCC), government financial institutions (GFI), state universities and colleges (SUC), and local government units (LGU) and autonomous regional government use in projects that are financed in whole or in part by the GOP or any foreign government/foreign or international financing institution in accordance with the provisions of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) No. 12009.

The Bidding Documents shall clearly and adequately define, among others: (a) the objectives, scope, and expected outputs and/or results of the proposed contract; (b) the eligibility requirements of Bidders, such as track record to be determined by the Head of the Procuring Entity (HoPE); (c) the expected contract duration, the estimated quantity in the case of procurement of goods, delivery schedule and/or time frame; and (d) the obligations, duties, and/or functions of the winning Bidder.

In order to simplify the preparation of the Bidding Documents for each procurement, the PBD groups the provisions that are intended to be used unchanged in Section II. Instructions to Bidders (ITB) and in Section IV. General Conditions of Contract (GCC). Data and provisions specific to each procurement and contract should be included in Section III. Bid Data Sheet (BDS); Section V. Special Conditions of Contract (SCC); Section VI. Schedule of Requirements; and

Section VII. Technical Specifications. The forms to be used are provided in Section VIII. Philippine Bidding Document Related Forms.

Prudence must be exercised to check the relevance of the provisions of the PBD against the requirements of the specific Goods to be procured. In addition, each section is prepared with notes intended only as information for the Procuring Entity or the person drafting the Bidding Documents. They shall not be included in the final documents, except for the notes introducing Section VIII. Philippine Bidding Document Related Forms where the information is useful for the Bidder. The following general directions should be observed when using the documents:

a) All the documents listed in the Table of Contents are normally required for the procurement of Goods. However, they should be adapted as necessary to the circumstances of the particular Project.

b) Specific details, such as the "name of the Procuring Entity" and "address for bid submission," should be furnished in the ITB, BDS, and SCC. The final documents should contain neither blank spaces nor options.

c) This Preface and the footnotes or notes in italics included in the Invitation to Bid, BDS, SCC, Schedule of Requirements, and Specifications are not part of the text of the final document, although they contain instructions that the Procuring Entity should strictly follow. The Bidding Documents should not contain footnotes except Section VIII. Philippine Bidding Document Related Forms since these provide important guidance to Bidders.

d) The cover page should be modified as required to identify the Bidding Documents and date of issue.

e) The Project title page should be modified as required to identify the Project title and number, name and address of the Procuring Entity.

f) If modifications must be made to the bidding requirements, they can be presented in the BDS. Modifications for specific Project or Contract details should be provided in the SCC as amendments to the Conditions of Contract. For easy reference and completion, clauses from the PBD and SCC shall appear in bold type face on Section II. Instructions to Bidders and Section IV. General Conditions of Contract, respectively.

PROCUREMENT
OF
GOODS

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY FOR OFFICE FURNITURE FOR THE USE OF PDBBM FOR FY 2026
ID number: DSWD12-PDBBM-2026-05-002
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Glossary of Acronyms, Terms, and Abbreviations

ABC – Approved Budget for the Contract.

BAC – Bids and Awards Committee.

BDS – Bid Data Sheet.

BIR – Bureau of Internal Revenue.

BSP – Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

CDA - Cooperative Development Authority.

CIF – Cost Insurance and Freight.

CIP – Carriage and Insurance Paid.

COS – Contract of Service.

CPI – Consumer Price Index.

DDP – Delivered Duty Paid.

DOLE – Department of Labor and Employment.

DTI – Department of Trade and Industry.

EXW – Ex works.

FCA – "Free Carrier" shipping point.

FOB – "Free on Board" shipping point.

GCC - General Conditions of Contract.

GFI – Government Financial Institution.

GOCC – Government-Owned and/or –Controlled Corporation.

GoP – Government of the Philippines.

GPPB – Government Procurement Policy Board.

HoPE – Head of Procuring Entity.

INCOTERMS – International Commercial Terms.

IRR – Implementing Rules and Regulations.

ITB – Instructions to Bidders.

JO – Job Order.

LCB- Lowest Calculated Bid.

LCRB – Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid.

LGU – Local Government Unit

LoC – Letter of Credit.

MAB – Most Advantageous Bid.

MARB – Most Advantageous Responsive Bid.

MEARB – Most Economically Advantageous Responsive Bid.

MYCA – Multi-Year Contracting Authority.

NFCC – Net Financial Contracting Capacity.

NGA – National Government Agency.

PhilGEPS - Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System.

PSA – Philippine Statistics Authority.

RA No. – Republic Act Number.

SARB – Single Advantageous Responsive Bid.

SCC - Special Conditions of Contract.

SCRB – Single Calculated Responsive Bid.

SEARB – Single Economically Advantageous Responsive Bid.

SEC – Securities and Exchange Commission.

SLCC – Single Largest Completed Contract.

UN – United Nations.

Definition of Terms

Bid – a signed offer, proposal, or quotation submitted by a supplier, manufacturer, distributor, contractor, consultant, or service provider in response to the requirements of the Procuring Entity as stated in the Bidding Documents. (IRR, Section 5[c]).

Bidder – a supplier, manufacturer, distributor, contractor, consultant, and service provider, whether public or private, who submits a Bid in response to the requirements of the Procuring Entity as stated in the Bidding Documents. (IRR, Section 5[d]).

Bidding Documents – the documents issued by the Procuring Entity as the basis for Bids, furnishing all information necessary to prospective Bidder to prepare a Bid for the Goods, Infrastructure Projects, and Consulting Services required by the Procuring Entity. (IRR, Section 5[e]).

Contract – refers to the agreement entered into between the Procuring Entity and the Supplier or Manufacturer or Distributor or Service Provider for procurement of Goods and Services; Contractor for Procurement of Infrastructure Projects; or Consultant or Consulting Firm for Procurement of Consulting Services; as the case may be, as recorded in the Contract Form signed by the parties, including all attachments and appendices thereto and all documents incorporated by reference therein.

Contract Price - the price payable to the Supplier under the Contract for the full and proper performance of its contractual obligations.

Effective Date of the Contract – the date indicated in the contract. However, the Supplier shall commence performance of its obligations only upon receipt of the Notice to Proceed.

Foreign-funded Procurement or Foreign-Assisted Project – refers to the acquisition of Goods, Consulting Services, and the contracting for Infrastructure Projects by the Government of the Philippines which are wholly or partly funded by foreign loans or grants pursuant to a Treaty or International or Executive Agreement.

Framework Agreement – is a procurement strategy which shall be in the nature of an option contract between the Procuring Entity and the Bidder that stipulates the terms and conditions to be applied in subsequent contracts for the procurement of Goods, Infrastructure Projects, and Consulting Services with a single or multiple contractor, manufacturer, supplier, distributor, consultant, and service provider to expand the pool of prospective Bidders, take advantage of economies of scale, minimize the administrative burden of conducting separate procurement activities, and generate time and money savings. (IRR, Section 16.2).

Goods – refer to (i) all items, supplies, and materials, whether in the nature of equipment, furniture, stationery, materials for construction, or personal property of any kind, needed in the transaction of public businesses or in the pursuit of any government undertaking, project or activity; or (ii) general support services which pertain to all types of services except Consulting Services and Infrastructure Projects, such as the repair and maintenance of equipment and furniture, as well as trucking, hauling, janitorial, security, and related or analogous services. Personnel Services or individual COS or JO engagements do not fall under this definition; (IRR, Section 5[n])

MARB – refers to the award criteria in the procurement of Goods where the considerations for the award of contract are the eligibility of the bidder, the responsiveness of its bid to the technical requirements, and the most advantageous bid in reference to the highest rated offer based on the quality component of the bid.

MEARB – refers to the award criteria in the procurement of Goods where the considerations for the award of contract are the eligibility of the bidder, and the responsiveness of its bid to the technical requirements, and the determination of the most economically advantageous bid in reference to the quality-price ratio allocated to the technical and financial components of the bid.

Online submission – pertains to the submission of the bid for Goods and the bid envelopes containing the technical and financial components of the bid through electronic means or through the electronic bidding facility of the PhilGEPS.

Project – refers to a specific or identified procurement covering Goods, Infrastructure Projects or Consulting Services. A Procurement Project shall be described, detailed, and scheduled in the Project Procurement Management Plan prepared by the agency which shall be consolidated in the procuring entity's Annual Procurement Plan.

Services - means those services ancillary to the supply of the Goods, such as transportation and insurance, and any other incidental services, such as installation, commissioning, provision of technical assistance, training, and other such obligations of the Supplier covered under the Contract.

Supplier – refers to a citizen, or any corporate body or commercial company duly organized and registered under the laws where it is established, habitually established in business and engaged in the manufacture or sale of the

merchandise or performance of the general services covered by its Bid. Supplier as used in these Bidding Documents may likewise refer to a manufacturer, distributor, contractor, or consultant, or service provider.

Verified Report - the report submitted by the Implementing Unit to the HoPE setting forth its findings as to the existence of grounds or causes for termination and explicitly stating its recommendation for the issuance of a Notice to Terminate.

Section I. Invitation to Bid

Notes on the Invitation to Bid

The Invitation to Bid provides information that enables potential Bidders to decide whether to participate in the procurement at hand. The Invitation to Bid shall be:

a) In line with the principle of transparency and competitiveness and to ensure the widest possible dissemination thereof, all invitations to bid shall be published continuously by the Procuring Entity for seven (7) calendar days on the PhilGEPS website, in any conspicuous place reserved for this purpose in the premises of the Procuring Entity, and in the website or social media platforms of the Procuring Entity, if available, or such other channels as may be authorized by the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB), and the website prescribed by the foreign government/foreign or international financing institution, if applicable.

b) For justifiable reasons, a Procuring Entity that cannot publish procurement opportunities on its website, social media platform, or such other channels authorized by the GPPB shall publish its Invitation to Bid, at least once, in a newspaper of general nationwide circulation;

Apart from the essential items listed in the Bidding Documents, the Invitation to Bid should also indicate the following:

a) The availability of the Bidding Documents, which shall commence on the date the Invitation to Bid is first published and continue until the deadline for submission and receipt of bids;

b) The place where the Bidding Documents may be acquired or the website where it may be downloaded;

c) The deadline for the submission and receipt of bids from the last day of publication of the Invitation to Bid;

d) The procurement strategy/ies (e.g. Life Cycle Assessment and Life Cycle Cost Analysis, Subcontracting, Pooled Procurement); and

e) The bid award criterion/criteria (e.g., the application of a margin of preference in bid evaluation).

The Invitation to Bid should be incorporated in the Bidding Documents. The information contained in the Invitation to Bid must conform to the Bidding Documents, particularly to the relevant information in the BDS.

DSWD Field Office XII, Prime Regional Center, Brgy. Carpenter Hills, Koronadal City, Philippines

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF SUPPLY AND DELIVERY FOR OFFICE FURNITURE FOR THE USE OF PDBBM FOR FY 2026

1) The Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office XII, through the National Expenditure Program intends to apply the sum of Two Million Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos Only (₱2,850,000.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for DSWD12-PDBBM-2026-05-002 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY FOR OFFICE FURNITURE FOR THE USE OF PDBBM FOR FY 2026. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.

2) Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office XII now invites bids for Supply and Delivery of Office Tables, Chairs, and Conference Table set . Delivery of the Goods is required to be delivered one time and within 15 Calendar Days upon the Receipt of Notice to Proceed. Bidders should have completed, at least Two (2) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, contracts similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly, in Section II. Instructions to Bidders.

3) Bidding will be conducted through competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary “pass/fail” criterion as specified in the IRR of RA No. 12009.

i) Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA No. 5183.

4) Interested Bidders may obtain further information from Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office XII and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

5) A complete set of Bidding Documents may be acquired by interested Bidders on 14 May 2026 to 01 June 2026

from the address given below upon payment of the applicable fee for the Bidding Documents, pursuant to the latest Guidelines issued by the GPPB, in the amount of Five Thousand Pesos Only (₱5,000.00).

It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity, provided that Bidders shall pay the applicable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.

6) The Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office XII will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on 21 May 2026, 10:00 a.m. at DSWD Field Office XII, Prime Regional Center, Brgy. Carpenter Hill, City of Koronadal and/or through video conferencing via Google Meet Video call link: https://meet.google.com/jpf-soto-fkb , which shall be open to prospective Bidders.

7) Bids must be duly received by the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat through manual submission at the office address indicated below, on or before 02 June 2026, 9:00 a.m. Late bids shall not be accepted.

8) All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause 16.1.

9) Bid opening shall be on 02 June 2026, 10:00 a.m. at DSWD Field Office 12- Procurement Section Office, Prime Regional Center, Brgy, Carpenter Hill, Koronadal City and/or via Google Meet Video call link: https://meet.google.com/agu-wuuu-zou. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend the activity.

10) The Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office XII reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award in accordance with Section 70 of R.A. No. 12009, without incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

11) For further information, please refer to:

ABDULQUDDUZ R. BARAMBANGAN
Head, BAC Secretariat
DSWD Field Office XII-Procurement Section
Brgy. Carpenter Hill, Koronadal City, 9506
Tel. No. (083) 228 8637
Procurement.fo12@dswd.gov.ph

12) You may visit the following websites:

For downloading of Bidding Documents: https://fo12.dswd.gov.ph/bid-bulletin/

13 May 2026

NAIRA S. ARATUC
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

Section II. Instructions to Bidders

Notes on the Instructions to Bidders

This Section of the Bidding Documents provides the information necessary for Bidders to prepare responsive bids, in accordance with the requirements of the Procuring Entity. It also provides information on bid submission, eligibility check, opening and evaluation of bids, post-qualification and on the award of contract.

This Section contains provisions that shall not be changed or modified. Any amendment shall be reflected on Section III. Bid Data Sheet which consists of provisions that supplement, amend, or specify in detail, information or requirements included in this Section.

Matters governing performance of the Supplier, payments under the contract, or those affecting the risks, rights, and obligations of the parties under the contract are not normally included in this Section, but rather under Section IV. GCC and/or Section V. SCC. If duplication of a subject is inevitable in other sections of the document prepared by the Procuring Entity, prudence must be exercised to avoid contradictions between clauses dealing with the same matter.

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A. General

1) Scope of Bid

1.1 The Procuring Entity, named in the BDS invites bids for the Project with Identification Number which shall be specified in the BDS.

1.2 The Project is composed of number of lots or items as provided in the BDS, the details of which are described in Section VII. Technical Specifications.

2) Source of Funds

The Procuring Entity has a budget or has received funds from the Funding Source named in the BDS, and in the amount indicated in the BDS. It intends to apply part of the funds received for this Project to cover eligible payments under the contract.

3) Corrupt, Fraudulent, Collusive, and Coercive Practices

3.1 Unless otherwise specified in the BDS, the Procuring Entity, as well as the Bidders and Suppliers, shall observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of the contract. In pursuance of this policy, the Procuring Entity:

a) defines, for purposes of this provision, the following terms under existing laws, rules, and regulations:
i) "corrupt practice" means an act by which officials in the public or private sectors improperly and unlawfully enrich themselves, others, or induce others to do so, by misusing the position in which they are placed, and includes the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of anything of value to influence the action of any such official in the procurement process or in contract execution; entering, on behalf of the government, into any contract or transaction manifestly and grossly disadvantageous to the same, whether or not the public officer profited or will profit thereby, and similar acts as provided in RA No. 3019.

ii) "fraudulent practice" means a misrepresentation of facts for purposes of influencing a procurement process or the execution of a contract to the detriment of the Procuring Entity, which includes collusive practices among Bidders (prior to or after bid submission) designed to establish bid prices at artificial, non-competitive levels and to deprive the Procuring Entity of the benefits of free and open competition.

iii) "collusive practices" means a scheme or arrangement between two or more Bidders, with or without the knowledge of the Procuring Entity, designed to establish bid prices at artificial, non-competitive levels.

iv) "coercive practices" means harming or threatening to harm, directly or indirectly, persons, or their property to influence their participation in a procurement process, or affect the execution of a contract;

v) "obstructive practice" is

a) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing of evidence material to administrative proceedings or investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede administrative proceedings or investigation of the Procuring Entity or any foreign government/foreign or international financing institution relative to allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive, or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing, or intimidating any party to prevent the latter from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the administrative proceedings or

investigation or from pursuing such proceedings or investigation; or

b) acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the inspection and audit rights of the Procuring Entity or any foreign government/foreign or international financing institution herein.

b) Undertakes to reject a proposal for award upon prima facie determination that the Bidder recommended for award has engaged in any of the prohibited practices mentioned in this Clause for purposes of competing for the contract.
3.2 Further, the Procuring Entity will seek to impose the maximum civil, administrative, and/or criminal penalties available under applicable laws on individuals and organizations deemed to be involved in any of the practices mentioned in ITB Clause 3.1(a).
3.3 Furthermore, the Funding Source and the Procuring Entity reserve the right to inspect and audit records and accounts of a Bidder or Supplier in the bidding for and performance of a contract themselves or through independent auditors as reflected in the GCC Clause 3.
4) Conflict of Interest
4.1 All Bidders found to have conflicting interests shall be disqualified to participate in the procurement at hand, without prejudice to the imposition of appropriate administrative, civil, and criminal sanctions. A Bidder may be considered to have conflicting interests with another Bidder in any of the events described in paragraphs (a) through (c) below and a general conflict of interest in any of the circumstances set out in paragraphs (d) and (f) below:

a) A Bidder has controlling shareholders or beneficial owners in common with another Bidder;

b) A Bidder receives or has received any direct or indirect subsidy from any other Bidder;

c) A Bidder has the same legally authorized representative as that of another Bidder for purposes of this bid;

d) A Bidder has a relationship, directly or through third parties, that puts them in a position to have access to information about or influence on the bid of another Bidder or influence the decisions of the Procuring Entity regarding this bidding process; This may include a firm or an organization that lends, or temporarily seconds, its personnel to firms or organizations that are engaged in consulting services for the preparation related to procurement for or implementation of the project, if the personnel would be involved in any capacity on the same project;

e) A Bidder who participated as a consultant in the preparation of the design or technical specifications of the Goods and related services that are the subject of the bid.

f) A Bidder who lends, or temporarily seconds, its personnel to firms or organizations which are engaged in consulting services for the preparation related to procurement for or implementation of the project, if the personnel would be involved in any capacity on the same project.

4.2 All Bidding Documents shall be accompanied by an omnibus sworn statement of the Bidder that it is not related, by consanguinity or affinity up to the third level, to the HoPE, Procurement Agent (if engaged), the head of the Project Management Office (PMO), the End-User or Implementing Unit or any members of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), Technical Working Group (TWG), and BAC Secretariat.

4.3 The Bidder shall also disclose the ultimate beneficial ownership of an entity. Failure to comply shall be a ground for the automatic disqualification of the bid in consonance with Section 59 of the IRR. For this reason, relation to the aforementioned persons within the third civil degree of consanguinity or affinity shall automatically disqualify the Bidder from participating in the procurement of contracts of the Procuring Entity notwithstanding the act of such persons inhibiting themselves from the procurement process. This Clause shall apply to the following persons and affiliates:

a) In the case of individuals or sole proprietorships, to the Bidders and their spouses;

b) In the case of partnerships, to the partnership itself and its partners;

c) In the case of cooperatives, to the cooperative itself and members of the board of directors, general manager or chief executive officer;

d) A partnership, joint venture or consortium which is blacklisted or which has blacklisted member/s or partner/s, as well as a person or entity who is a member of a blacklisted joint venture or consortium, are, likewise not allowed to participate in any government procurement during the period of suspension or blacklisting; and

e) In the case of corporations, a single stockholder, together with their relatives up to the third civil degree of consanguinity or affinity, and their assignees, holding at least twenty percent (20%) of the shares therein, its chairperson and president, shall be blacklisted after they have been determined to hold the same controlling interest in a previously blacklisted corporation or in two corporations that have been blacklisted; the corporations of which they are part of shall also be blacklisted.
5) Eligible Bidders
5.1 Only Bids found to be legally, technically, and financially eligible will be evaluated. For procurement of Goods, the following persons shall be eligible to participate in this bidding:

a) Duly-licensed Filipino citizens or sole proprietorships;

b) Partnerships duly organized under the laws of the Philippines and of which at least sixty percent (60%) of the interest belongs to citizens of the Philippines;

c) Corporations duly organized under the laws of the Philippines, and of which at least sixty percent (60%) of the outstanding capital stock belongs to citizens of the Philippines;

d) Cooperatives duly organized under the laws of the Philippines; and

e) Persons or entities forming themselves into a Joint Venture (JV), i.e., a group of two (2) or more persons or entities that intend to be jointly and severally responsible or liable for a particular contract: Provided, however, that Filipino ownership or interest of the JV concerned shall be at least sixty percent (60%). For this purpose, Filipino ownership or interest shall be based on the contributions of each of the members of the joint venture as specified in their Joint Venture Agreement (JVA); Provided, further, that the primary purpose of each member of the JV must be similar to or related with the requirements of the project to be bid out.

5.2 Foreign Bidders may be eligible to participate when any of the following circumstances exist, as specified in the BDS:

a) When provided for under any treaty or international or executive agreement as provided in Section 4 of the IRR;

b) When the foreign supplier is a citizen, corporation, or association of a country, the laws or regulations of which grant reciprocal rights or privileges to citizens, corporations, or associations of the Philippines;

c) When the Goods sought to be procured are not available from local suppliers; or

d) When there is a need to prevent situations that defeat competition or restrain trade.

5.3 GOCCs may be eligible to participate only if they can establish that they (a) are legally and financially autonomous, (b) operate under commercial law, and (c) are not attached agencies of the Procuring Entity.

5.4 The Bidder must have completed, within a period of ten (10) years from the submission of the bid, unless a shorter period is indicated in the Invitation to Bid and BDS, a Single Largest Completed Contract (SLCC) that is similar to the procurement project to be bid, and whose value must be equivalent to at least fifty percent (50%) of the ABC, adjusted to current prices using the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) consumer price indices.

5.5 If the Procuring Entity determines that it is necessary to adopt a different SLCC requirement to ensure broader Bidder participation while establishing their technical capacity, it may allow Bidders to present a combination of contracts completed within the same period, provided their total value is at least fifty percent (50%) of the ABC, thus:

a) The Bidder should have completed at least one (1) similar contract amounting to at least 25% of the ABC; and

b) The Bidder should have completed other contracts, whether similar or not, with an aggregate amount of at least 25% of the ABC.

For this purpose, the Procuring Entity may clarify in the BDS the definition or description of what it considers to be a similar project, which must be germane to the kind, class, or genus of goods or services to be procured, guided by the principle of proportionality and fit-for-purpose approach.
5.6 The Bidder must submit a computation of its Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC), which must be at least equal to the ABC to be bid, calculated as follows:

NFCC = [(Current assets minus current liabilities) (15)] minus the value of all outstanding or uncompleted portions of the projects under ongoing contracts, including awarded contracts yet to be started coinciding with the contract to be bid.

The values of the domestic Bidder’s current assets and current liabilities shall be based on the latest Audited Financial Statements (AFS) submitted to the BIR not earlier than two (2) years prior to date of bid submission.

For purposes of computing the foreign Bidders’ NFCC, the value of the current assets and current liabilities shall be based on their latest AFS prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

If the Bidder opts to submit a committed Line of Credit, it must be at least equal to ten percent (10%) of the ABC to be bid. Provided that, if issued by a foreign bank, it shall be confirmed or authenticated by a local bank.
6) Bidder’s Responsibilities
6.1 The Bidder or its duly authorized representative shall submit an omnibus sworn statement, in the form prescribed in Section VIII. Philippine Bidding Document Related Forms, as required in ITB Clause 12.1(viii).

6.2 Before submitting their bids, the Bidder is deemed to be knowledgeable with all existing laws, decrees, ordinances, acts and regulations of the Philippines which may affect this Project in any way.

6.3 The Bidder undertook the following responsibilities:

a) Took steps to carefully examine and ensure full understanding and comprehension of the Bidding Documents, its requirements, clauses, and provisions;

b) Acknowledged all conditions, local, or otherwise, affecting the implementation of the contract;

c) Made an estimate of the facilities available and needed for the contract to be bid, if any;

d) Complied with the responsibility to inquire, or secure the Supplemental Bid Bulletin(s) as provided under ITB Clause 10.4;

e) Ensured that it is not "blacklisted" or barred from bidding by the Government of the Philippines (GoP) or any of its agencies, offices, corporations, or LGUs, including foreign government, or foreign or international financing institutions whose blacklisting rules have been recognized by the GPPB; by itself or by reason of its relation, membership, association, affiliation, or controlling interest with another blacklisted person or entity;

f) Ensured that each of the documents submitted in satisfaction with the bidding requirements is an authentic copy of the original, complete, and that all statements and information provided therein are true and correct;

g) Authorized the HoPE or its duly authorized representative/s to verify all the documents submitted;

h) Ensured that the signatory is the duly authorized representative of the Bidder, and granted full power and authority to do, execute, and perform any and all acts necessary to participate, submit the bid, to sign, and execute the ensuing contract, accompanied by the duly-notarized Special Power of Attorney, Board, or Partnership Resolution, or Secretary's Certificate, whichever is applicable;

i) Complied with the disclosure provision under Section 81 and 82 of RA No. 12009 and its IRR, in relation to other provisions of RA 3019;

j) Complied with existing labor laws and standards, in the case of procurement of services. Moreover, the Bidder undertakes to:

i) Ensure the entitlement of workers to wages, hours of work, safety and health and other prevailing conditions of work as established by national laws, rules and regulations; or Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA); or arbitration award, if and when applicable.

In case there is a finding by the Procuring Entity or the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) of underpayment or non-payment of workers' wages and wage-related benefits, the Bidder agrees that the performance security or portion of the contract amount shall be withheld in favor of the complaining workers pursuant to appropriate provisions of RA No. 12009, without prejudice to the institution of appropriate actions under the Labor Code, as amended, and other social legislations.

ii) Comply with Occupational Safety and Health Standards (OSHS) and correct deficiencies, if any.

In case of imminent danger, injury, or death of the worker, the Bidder undertakes to suspend contract implementation pending clearance to resume from the DOLE Regional Office, in compliance with the Work Stoppage Order; and

iii) Inform the workers of their conditions of work, labor clauses under the contract specifying wages, hours of work, and other benefits under prevailing national laws, rules and regulations; or CBA; or arbitration award, if and when applicable, through posting in two (2) conspicuous places in the establishment's premises.

k) Ensured that it did not give or pay, directly or indirectly, any commission, amount, fee, or any form of consideration, pecuniary or otherwise, to any person or official, personnel, or representative of the government in relation to any procurement project or activity.

l) Examined all instructions, forms, terms, and specifications in the Bidding Documents.

m) Determined and complied with all matters pertaining to the contract to be bid, including but not limited to: (i) the location and the nature of this Project; (ii) climatic conditions; (iii) transportation facilities; and (iv) other factors that may affect the cost, duration, and execution or implementation of this Project.

n) Ensured that all information in the Bidding Documents, including bid or supplemental bid bulletin/s issued, are correct and consistent. The Procuring Entity shall not assume any responsibility regarding erroneous interpretations or conclusions by the prospective or eligible Bidder out of the data furnished by the Procuring Entity.

Failure to observe any of the above responsibilities shall be at the risk of the Bidder concerned.

6.4 Further, the Bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its Bid, and the Procuring Entity shall in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.

In case of failure of bidding, the Bidding Documents fee may be applied in the re-bidding for the same Project.

6.5 Furthermore, the Bidder should be aware that the Procuring Entity will accept bids only from those that have paid the applicable fee for the Bidding Documents at the office indicated in the Invitation to Bid.

7) Origin of Goods

Unless otherwise indicated in the BDS, there is no restriction on the origin of Goods other than those prohibited by a decision of the United Nations (UN) Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the UN.

8) Subcontracts

8.1 Unless otherwise specified in the BDS, the Bidder may subcontract portions of the Goods to an extent as may be

approved by the HoPE and as stated in the BDS. However, the subcontracted portion shall not exceed twenty percent (20%), or a different percentage of the ABC, on a per project basis, as approved by the GPPB.

8.2 Subcontracting of any portion of this Project shall not relieve the Bidder from any liability or obligation that may arise from the contract.

8.3 Subcontractors must meet the eligibility criteria and submit the same eligibility documents as the general contractor. Failure of a subcontractor to meet the eligibility criteria does not affect the eligibility of the general contractor for the Project. In such case, the portion intended to be subcontracted to the ineligible subcontractor shall be assumed by the general contractor.

8.4 Subcontracting arrangement, if allowed, including the time of submission of the eligibility documents of the subcontractor, shall be disclosed in the BDS.

B. Contents of Bidding Documents
9) Pre-Bid Conference
9.1 If so specified in the BDS, a pre-bid conference shall be held either at the Procuring Entity's physical address and/or online through videoconferencing, webcasting, or similar technology, or a combination thereof, on the date indicated therein, to clarify and address the Bidders' questions on the technical and financial components of this Project.

9.2 The pre-bid conference shall be held at least twelve (12) calendar days before the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids, but not earlier than seven (7) calendar days from the posting of the invitation to bid and other bidding documents in the PhilGEPS.

9.3 Bidders are highly encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference to fully understand the Procuring Entity's requirements. While non-attendance of the Bidder will in no way prejudice its bid. The Bidder is deemed to know any changes and/or amendments to the Bidding Documents, as may be provided in the Supplemental Bid Bulletin.

The proceedings of the pre-bid conference shall be recorded, and the corresponding minutes shall be prepared not later than five (5) calendar days after the pre-bid conference. The minutes shall be made available to prospective Bidders not later than five (5) days upon written request.

9.4 Decisions of the BAC amending any provision of the Bidding Documents shall be issued in writing through a Supplemental Bid Bulletin at least seven (7) calendar days before the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids.
10) Clarification and Amendment of Bidding Documents
10.1 Prospective Bidders may request for clarification on and/or interpretation of any part of the Bidding Documents. Such request must be in writing and submitted to the BAC of the Procuring Entity at the address or electronic mail indicated in the BDS or through the electronic bidding facility of PhilGEPS, as may be applicable, at least ten (10) calendar days before the deadline set for the submission and receipt of Bids.

10.2 The BAC shall respond to the said request by issuing a Supplemental Bid Bulletin duly signed by the BAC Chairperson. It shall be made available to all those who have properly secured the Bidding Documents, at least seven (7) calendar days before the deadline for the submission and receipt of Bids.

10.3 Supplemental Bid Bulletins may also be issued upon the Procuring Entity's initiative for purposes of clarifying or modifying any provision of the Bidding Documents not later than seven (7) calendar days before the deadline for submission and receipt of Bids. Any modification to the Bidding Documents shall be identified as an amendment.

10.4 Any Supplemental Bid Bulletin issued by the BAC shall also be posted in the PhilGEPS, in any conspicuous place in the premises of the Procuring Entity, and on the website or social media platforms of the Procuring Entity, if available, or such other channels as may be authorized by the GPPB. It shall be the responsibility of all prospective Bidders, including those who have properly secured the Bidding Documents, to inquire and secure Supplemental Bid Bulletins that may be issued by the BAC. However, Bidders who have submitted bids before the issuance of the Supplemental Bid Bulletin must be accordingly informed by the BAC and be allowed to modify or withdraw their bids prior to the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids in accordance with ITB Clause 21.

C. Preparation of Bids
11) Language of Bids
The eligibility requirements or statements, the bids, and all other documents to be submitted to the BAC must be in English. If the eligibility requirements or statements, the bids, and all other documents submitted to the BAC are in foreign language other than English, it must be accompanied by a translation of the documents in English. The documents shall be translated by the relevant foreign government agency, the foreign government agency authorized to translate documents, or a registered translator in the foreign Bidder's country. The Bidder shall cause the authentication of the translated documents and shall be authenticated by the appropriate Philippine foreign service establishment or post or the equivalent office having jurisdiction over the foreign Bidder's affairs in the Philippines. The English translation shall govern, for purposes of interpretation of the bid.
However, for Contracting Parties to the Apostille Convention, the documents shall be authenticated through an apostille by the Competent Authority, as defined in Section 20.9.2 of [the] IRR, except for countries identified by the DFA that will still require legalization (red ribbon) by the relevant Embassy or Consulate.
12) Documents Comprising the Bid: Technical and Financial Components
12.1 The first bid envelope shall contain the following technical documents, including the eligibility documents:

i) PhilGEPS Certificate of Registration (Platinum Membership);

ii) Statement of SLCC;

iii) NFCC Computation or committed Line of Credit (LoC);

iv) Statement of all its ongoing government and private contracts, including contracts awarded but not yet started, if any, whether similar or not similar in nature and complexity to the contract to be bid;

v) [if applicable] JVA) or in the absence of a JVA, duly notarized statements from all potential JV partners stating that they will enter into and abide by the provisions of the JVA in the event that the bid is successful;

vi) Bid Security in the prescribed form and amount in accordance with ITB Clause 16, and validity period under ITB Clause 15;

vii) Technical Specifications, which may include production or delivery schedule, manpower requirements, or after-sales service or parts, if applicable;

viii) Omnibus Sworn Statement; and

ix) For foreign Bidders claiming eligibility by reason of their country's extension of reciprocal rights to Filipinos, a certification from the relevant government office of their country stating that Filipinos are allowed to participate in their government procurement activities for the same item or product.

12.2 The second bid envelope shall contain the following financial documents:

a) Bid Form which includes the Bid price;

b) Price Schedules in accordance with ITB Clause 13.1; and

c) [if applicable] Certificate of Domestic Preference, in accordance with ITB Clause 25.

12.3 Whenever necessary, modifications may be made to the foregoing components specifically for major and specialized procurement to suit the particular needs of the Procuring Entity, subject to the approval of the GPPB.

12.4 All bids that exceed the ABC shall not be accepted. Unless otherwise indicated in the BDS, for foreign-funded procurement, the ABC shall be applied as the ceiling to bid prices provided the following conditions are met:

a) Bidding Documents are obtainable free of charge on a freely accessible website. If payment of Bidding Documents is required by the Procuring Entity, payment could be made upon the submission of bids.

b) The Procuring Entity has procedures in place to ensure that the ABC is based on recent estimates made by the responsible unit of the Procuring Entity and that the estimates reflect the quality, supervision and risk, and inflationary factors, as well as prevailing market prices, associated with the types of works or goods to be procured.

c) The Procuring Entity has trained cost estimators in estimating prices and analyzing bid variances.

d) The Procuring Entity has established a system to monitor and report bid prices relative to ABC and engineer's/procuring entity's estimate.

e) The Procuring Entity has established a monitoring and evaluation system for contract implementation to provide feedback on actual total costs of goods and works.

However, the GoP and the foreign government, or foreign or international financing institutions may agree to waive the foregoing conditions.
13) Bid Prices
13.1 The Bidder shall accomplish the Price Schedule Form as prescribed by the Procuring Entity, which may include the following details:

a) For Goods offered from within the Philippines:

i) The price of the Goods quoted EXW (ex works, ex factory, ex warehouse, ex showroom, or off-the-shelf, as applicable);

ii) The cost of all customs duties and sales and other taxes already paid or payable;

iii) The cost of transportation, insurance, and other costs incidental to delivery of the Goods to their final destination; and

iv) The price of other (incidental) services, if any, listed in the BDS.

b) For Goods offered from abroad:

i) Unless otherwise stated in the BDS, the price of the Goods shall be quoted Delivery Duty Paid (DDP) with the place of destination in the Philippines as specified in the BDS. In quoting the price, the Bidder shall be free to use transportation through carriers registered in any eligible country. Similarly, the Bidder may obtain insurance services from any eligible source country.

ii) The price of other (incidental) services, if any, listed in the BDS.

c) For Services, based on the form which may be prescribed by the Procuring Entity, in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

13.2 The Bidder shall accomplish the appropriate Price Schedule included herein, stating the unit prices, total price per item, the total amount and the expected countries of origin of the Goods to be supplied under this Project. The Bidder shall fill in rates and prices for all items of the Goods described in the Price Schedule, which shall be presented and computed using up to two (2) decimal places, unless otherwise indicated in the BDS.

13.3 If the Instructions to Bidders specifically allow partial bids, bids not addressing or providing all of the required items in the Bidding Documents including, where applicable, the Price Schedule, shall be considered non-responsive and shall be automatically disqualified. However, when no price or a zero (0) or a dash (-) is indicated in a required item in the bid form, the same shall be construed that it is being offered for free to the Government, except those required by law or regulations to be provided for.

The terms Ex Works (EXW), Cost, Insurance and Freight (CIF), Cost and Insurance Paid to (CIP), (DDP), and other trade terms used to describe the obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the rules prescribed in the current edition of the International Commercial Terms (INCOTERMS) published by the International Chamber of Commerce, Paris.

13.4 Prices quoted by the Bidder shall be fixed during the Bidder's performance of the contract and not subject to variation or price escalation on any account. A bid submitted with an adjustable price quotation shall be treated as non-responsive and shall be rejected.
14) Bid Currencies
14.1 Prices shall be quoted in the following currencies:

a) For Goods that the Bidder will supply from within the Philippines, the prices shall be quoted in Philippine Peso.

b) For Goods that the Bidder will supply from outside the Philippines, the prices may be quoted in the local or tradeable currency/ies accepted by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), as stated in the BDS. However, for purposes of bid evaluation, bids denominated in foreign currencies shall be converted to Philippine currency based on the exchange rate published in the BSP Daily Reference Exchange Rate Bulletin on the day of the bid opening.

14.2 If so allowed in accordance with ITB Clause 14.1, the Procuring Entity, for purposes of bid evaluation and comparing the bid prices, will convert the amounts in various currencies in which the bid price is expressed to Philippine Peso at the foregoing exchange rates.

14.3 Unless otherwise specified in the BDS, payment of the contract price shall be made in Philippine Peso.
15) Bid Validity
15.1 Bids shall remain valid for the period specified in the BDS which shall not exceed one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of the opening of bids.

15.2 Should it become necessary to extend the validity of the bids and the bid securities beyond one hundred twenty (120) calendar days, the Procuring Entity concerned shall request in writing all those who submitted bids for such extension before the expiration date therefor. Bidders, however, shall have the right to refuse to grant such extension without forfeiting their Bid Security.

16) Bid Security
16.1 The Bidder shall at its option, submit a Bid Security in the form and amount as stated in the BDS, which may include the following:

Form of Bid Security Amount of Bid Security
(Not less than the required
percentage of the ABC)
a) Cash or cashier's or manager's check issued by a bank.
For biddings conducted by LGUs, the Cashier's or Manager's check may be issued by other banks certified by the BSP as authorized to issue such financial instrument.

Two Percent (2%)
b) Bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable LoC issued by a bank: Provided, however, that it shall be confirmed or authenticated by a local bank, if issued by a foreign bank.
For biddings conducted by LGUs, Bank Draft/Guarantee, or Irrevocable Letter of Credit may be issued by other banks certified by the BSP as authorized to issue such financial instrument.

Five Percent (5%)
c) Surety bond callable upon demand issued by a surety or insurance company duly certified by the Insurance

Commission as authorized to issue such security.
Five Percent (5%)
2. d) Bid Securing Declaration Not Applicable

The Bid Security shall be denominated in Philippine Peso and posted in favor of the Procuring Entity.

16.2 The Bid Security should be valid for the period specified in the BDS. Any bid not accompanied by an acceptable Bid Security shall be considered as non-responsive and rejected by the Procuring Entity.

16.3 In no case shall the Bid Security be returned later than the expiration of the bid validity period indicated in the BDS, unless it has been extended. In case the Bidder is required to extend its bid validity, the Bidder may, at its discretion, substitute a Bid Securing Declaration for the extended period as a replacement of its Bid Security; Provided, that the option to substitute is indicated in the BDS.

16.4 Upon signing and execution of the contract pursuant to ITB Clause 30, and the posting of the performance security pursuant to ITB Clause 31, the Bid Security of the successful Bidder will be discharged, but in no case later than its validity period as indicated in the ITB Clause 16.2.

16.5 The Bid Security may be forfeited based on any of the following grounds, as provided under Rule VIII, X, XI, and XXI of the IRR.

a) if a Bidder:
i) Withdraws its bid during the period of bid validity specified in ITB Clause 15;

ii) Does not accept the correction of errors pursuant to ITB Clause 26.5(b) (arithmetical error);

iii) Has a finding against the veracity of any of the documents submitted as stated in ITB Clause 27.2;

iv) Submits eligibility requirements containing false information or falsified documents;

v) Submits bids that contain false information or falsified documents, or the concealment of such information in the bids to influence the outcome of eligibility screening or any other stage of the public bidding;

vi) Allows the use of one’s name, or uses the name of another for purposes of public bidding;

vii) Refuses to accept an award or enter into contract with the Government without justifiable cause, after the Bidder had been adjudged as having submitted the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid (LCRB), Most Economically Advantageous Responsive Bid (MEARB), or Most Advantageous Responsive Bid (MARB);

viii) Refuses or fails to post the required performance security within the prescribed time;

ix) Refuses to clarify or validate in writing its bid during post-qualification within a period of seven (7) calendar days from receipt of the request for clarification;

x) Has any documented attempt by a Bidder to unduly influence the outcome of the bidding in its favor; or

xi) Commits other acts that tend to defeat the purpose of the competitive bidding, Competitive Dialogue, Unsolicited Offer with Bid Matching and Limited Source Bidding, such as but not limited to habitually withdrawing from bidding, submitting late Bids or patently insufficient bid, for at least three (3) times within a year, except for valid reasons.

b) If a winning Bidder:
i) Fails to sign the contract in accordance with ITB Clause 30;

ii) Fails to furnish performance security in accordance with ITB Clause 31; or

iii) Fails to enter into joint venture after the bid is declared successful, in the case of potential JV partners.
17) Format and Signing of Bids
17.1 Bidders shall submit their bids through their duly authorized representative using the appropriate forms provided in Section VIII. Philippine Bidding Document Related Forms on or before the deadline specified in ITB Clause 19 in two (2) separate sealed bid envelopes which shall be submitted simultaneously, whether through manual or online submission. The first shall contain the technical component of the bid, including the eligibility requirements under ITB Clause 12, and the second shall contain the financial component of the bid. This shall also be observed for each lot in the case of lot procurement.

17.2 Forms as mentioned in ITB Clause 17.1 must be completed without any alterations to their format. No substitute form shall be accepted.

17.3 Each and every page of the Bid Form, including the Price Schedule, under Section VIII hereof, shall be signed by the duly authorized representative/s of the Bidder. Failure to do so shall be a ground for the rejection of the bid.

17.4 Any insertions, erasures, or overwriting shall be valid only if they are signed or initialed by the duly authorized representative/s of the Bidder.
18) Sealing and Marking of Bids

18.1 Bidders shall enclose their technical documents described in ITB Clause 12 in one sealed envelope marked "TECHNICAL COMPONENT", and the financial component in another sealed envelope marked "FINANCIAL COMPONENT", sealing them all in an outer envelope marked "BID".

18.2 The Bid as indicated in the Bidding Documents shall be typed or written in ink and shall be signed by the Bidder or its duly authorized representative/s.

18.3 All envelopes shall:

a) contain the name of the contract to be bid in capital letters;

b) bear the name and address of the Bidder in capital letters;

c) be addressed to the Procuring Entity's BAC in accordance with ITB Clause 1.1;

d) bear the specific identification of this bidding process indicated in the ITB Clause 1.1; and

e) bear a warning "DO NOT OPEN BEFORE…" the date and time for the opening of bids, in accordance with ITB Clause 19.

18.4 For manually submitted bid envelopes that are not properly sealed and marked, as required in the Bidding Documents, the same shall be accepted; Provided, That the Bidder or its duly authorized representative shall acknowledge such condition of the bid as submitted. On the other hand, unsealed or unmarked bid envelopes, or bids that cannot be opened or corrupted in case of online submission, shall be rejected.

The BAC shall assume no responsibility for misplaced or lost contents of the improperly sealed or marked bid, or for its premature opening.

D. Submission and Opening of Bids
19) Deadline for Submission of Bids
Bids must be received by the Procuring Entity's BAC at the address indicated in the Invitation to bid, or through the e-bidding facility of the PhilGEPS on or before the date and time indicated in the BDS.
20) Late Bids
Bids, including the eligibility requirements, submitted after the deadline shall be rejected by the BAC. The BAC shall record in the Minutes of the Meeting the submission and opening of bids, the Bidder's name, its representative, and the time the late bid was submitted.
21) Modification and Withdrawal of Bids
21.1 Bidders may modify their bids before the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids.

a) For manual submission and receipt of bids, the Bidders shall not be allowed to retrieve their original bid but shall only be allowed to submit the bid modification by sending another bid, equally sealed, properly identified, linked to their original bid, marked as a "modification," thereof, and stamped "received" by the BAC. Bid modifications received after the applicable deadline shall not be considered and shall be returned to the Bidder unopened.

b) For online submission of bids, the Bidders shall not be allowed to retrieve their original Bid, but shall only be allowed to submit the bid modification, send another Bid equally secured, properly identified labelled as a "modification" of the one previously submitted. The time indicated in the latest bid receipt page generated shall be the official time of submission. Bids modification submitted after the applicable deadline shall not be accepted.

21.2 Bidders may withdraw their bids in writing before the deadline for submission and receipt of bids. Withdrawal of bids after the applicable deadline shall be subject to appropriate sanctions as prescribed in the IRR.

Bidders may also express their intention not to participate in the bidding in writing, which should be received by the BAC before the deadline for submission and receipt of bids. Bidders that withdraw their bids shall no longer be allowed to submit another bid for the same contract, directly or indirectly.

21.3 No bid may be modified after the deadline for submission and receipt of bids. Further, no bid may be withdrawn in the interval between the deadline for submission and receipt of bids, and the expiration of bid validity specified by the Bidder in the Financial Bid Form. Withdrawal of bid during this interval shall result in the forfeiture of the Bidder's Bid Security pursuant to ITB Clause 16.5, and the imposition of administrative sanctions as prescribed by RA No. 12009, and without prejudice to the imposition of civil and criminal sanctions as provided under applicable laws.

21.4 Alternative Bids shall be rejected. For this purpose, Alternative Bid shall pertain to an offer made by a Bidder in addition or as a substitute to its original bid, which may be included as part of its original bid or submitted separately. A bid with options shall likewise be considered an Alternative Bid regardless of whether said bid proposal is contained in a single envelope or submitted in two (2) or more separate bid envelopes.

21.5 Each Bidder shall submit only one Bid, either individually or as a partner in a JV. Bidder who submits or participates in more than one bid (other than as a subcontractor if a subcontractor is permitted to participate in more than one bid) will cause all the proposals with the Bidder's participation to be disqualified. This shall be without prejudice to any applicable criminal, civil, and administrative penalties that may be imposed upon the persons and entities concerned.

22) Opening and Preliminary Examination of Bids
22.1 The BAC shall open the bids in public, immediately after the deadline for submission and receipt of bids, as specified in the BDS. In case the Bids cannot be opened as scheduled due to justifiable reasons, the BAC shall take custody of the submitted Bids and reschedule the opening of Bids on the next working day or at the soonest possible time, through the issuance of a notice of postponement to be posted on the PhilGEPS website and the website of the Procuring Entity concerned.

22.2 The manner of opening of the bids for Goods shall depend on the award criterion to be adopted as follows:

a) For LCRB and MEARB, the BAC shall open the technical and financial proposals on the same day; and

b) For MARB, only the technical proposals shall be opened on the same day while the financial proposals shall remain unopened and shall be kept securely by the BAC until the specified time of their opening as indicated in the BDS. Only the financial proposals of the Bidders who have met the highest technical score for Most Advantageous Bid (MAB) shall be opened.

22.3 The Procuring Entity shall prepare the minutes of the proceedings of the bid opening that shall include, as a minimum: (a) names of Bidders, their bid price (per lot, if applicable, and/or including discount, if any), bid security, findings of preliminary examination, and whether there is a withdrawal or modification; and (b) attendance sheet. The BAC members shall sign the abstract of bids as read.

22.4 The Bidders or their duly authorized representatives may attend the opening of bids. The BAC shall ensure the integrity, security, and confidentiality of all submitted bids. The Abstract of Bids, as read, and the minutes of the bid opening shall be made available to the public, upon written request and payment of a specified fee to recover the cost of materials.

22.5 To ensure transparency and accurate representation of the bid submission, the BAC Secretariat, shall notify in writing all Bidders whose bids it has received through its PhilGEPS-registered physical address or official e-mail address. The said notice shall be issued within seven (7) calendar days from the date of the bid opening.

E. Evaluation and Comparison of Bids
23) Process to be Confidential
23.1 Members of the BAC, its staff and personnel, Secretariat, and TWG, as well as Observers, are prohibited from making or accepting any communication with any Bidder regarding the evaluation of their bids until the issuance of the Notice of Award, unless otherwise allowed in ITB Clause 24.

23.2 Any effort by a Bidder to influence the Procuring Entity in its decision in respect of bid evaluation, bid comparison or contract award will result in the rejection of the bid.
24) Clarification of Bids
To assist in the evaluation, comparison, and post-qualification of the bids, the Procuring Entity may ask in writing any Bidder for a clarification of its bid. All responses to requests for clarification shall be in writing. Any clarification submitted by a Bidder in respect to its bid that is not in response to the request of the Procuring Entity shall not be considered.
25) Domestic Preference
25.1 The Procuring Entity shall give priority and preference to Philippine products and services. The preference and priority for Philippine products shall be guaranteed at all levels of the procurement process, including raw materials, ingredients, supplies, or fixtures.

25.2 For a period of ten (10) years from the effectivity of RA No. 11981 or the "Tatak Pinoy (Proudly Filipino) Act," and for Philippine products and services in sectors and economic activities covered by the prevailing Tatak Pinoy Strategy, the Procuring Entity is mandated to award the contract to the domestic Bidder for Philippine products and services in sectors and economic activities covered by the prevailing Tatak Pinoy Strategy (TPS).

Domestic Bidder, for purposes of this provision, refers to any person or entity offering unmanufactured articles, materials, or supplies grown or produced in the Philippines, or manufactured articles, materials, or supplies manufactured or to be manufactured in the Philippines substantially from articles, materials, or supplies that are or will be produced or manufactured in the Philippines, as the case may be.

25.3 After the said ten-year per