

**INTEGRITY PACT****1. General:**

Whereas (*Name of head of the procuring agency or his/her authorized representative, with power of attorney*) representing the (*Name of procuring agency*), Royal Government of Bhutan, hereinafter referred to as the “**Employer**” on one part, and (*Name of bidder or his/her authorized representative, with power of attorney*) representing M/s. (*Name of firm*), hereinafter referred to as the “**Bidder**” on the other part hereby execute this agreement as follows:

This agreement shall be a part of the standard bidding document, which shall be signed by both the parties at the time of purchase of bidding documents and submitted along with the tender document. This IP is applicable only to “**large**” scale works, goods and services, the threshold of which will be announced by the government from time to time. The signing of the IP shall not apply to framework contracting such as annual office supplies etc.

**2. Objectives:**

Whereas, the Employer and the Bidder agree to enter into this agreement, hereinafter referred to as IP, to avoid all forms of corruption or deceptive practice by following a system that is fair, transparent and free from any influence/unprejudiced dealings in the **bidding process**<sup>15</sup> and **contract administration**<sup>16</sup>, with a view to:

Enabling the Employer to obtain the desired contract at a reasonable and competitive price in conformity to the defined specifications of the works or goods or services; and

Enabling bidders to abstain from bribing or any corrupt practice in order to secure the contract by providing assurance to them that their competitors will also refrain from bribing and other corrupt practices.

**3. Scope:**

The validity of this IP shall cover the bidding process and contract administration period.

**4. Commitments of the Employer:**

The Employer Commits itself to the following:-

The Employer hereby undertakes that no officials of the Employer, connected directly or indirectly with the contract, will demand, take a promise for or accept, directly or through intermediaries, any bribe, consideration, gift, reward, favor or any material or immaterial benefit or any other advantage from the Bidder, either for themselves or for any person, organization or third party related to the contract in exchange for an advantage in the bidding process and contract administration.

The Employer further confirms that its officials shall not favor any prospective bidder in any form that could afford an undue advantage to that particular bidder in the bidding process and contract administration and will treat all Bidders alike.

<sup>15</sup> Bidding process, for the purpose of this IP, shall mean the procedures covering tendering process starting from bid preparation, bid submission, bid processing, and bid evaluation.

<sup>16</sup> Contract administration, for the purpose of this IP, shall mean contract award, contract implementation, un-authorized sub-contracting and contract handing/taking over.

Officials of the Employer, who may have observed or noticed or have reasonable suspicion shall report to the head of the employing agency or an appropriate government office any violation or attempted violation of clauses 4.1 and 4.2.

Following report on violation of clauses 4.1 and 4.2 by official (s), through any source, necessary disciplinary proceedings, or any other action as deemed fit, including criminal proceedings shall be initiated by the Employer and such a person shall be debarred from further dealings related to the bidding process and contract administration.

#### **5. Commitments of Bidders**

The Bidder commits himself/herself to take all measures necessary to prevent corrupt practices, unfair means and illegal activities during any stage of the bidding process and contract administration in order to secure the contract or in furtherance to secure it and in particular commits himself/herself to the following :-

The Bidder shall not offer, directly or through intermediaries, any bribe, gift, consideration, reward, favor, any material or immaterial benefit or other advantage, commission, fees, brokerage or inducement to any official of the Employer, connected directly or indirectly with the bidding process and contract administration, or to any person, organization or third party related to the contract in exchange for any advantage in the bidding process and contract administration.

The Bidder shall not collude with other parties interested in the contract to manipulate in whatsoever form or manner, the bidding process and contract administration.

If the bidder(s) have observed or noticed or have reasonable suspicion that the provisions of the IP have been violated by the procuring agency or other bidders, the bidder shall report such violations to the head of the procuring agency.

#### **6. Sanctions for Violation:**

The breach of any of the aforesaid provisions shall result in administrative charges or penal actions as per the relevant rules and laws.

The breach of the IP or commission of any offence (forgery, providing false information, mis-representation, providing false/fake documents, bid rigging, bid steering or coercion) by the Bidder, or any one employed by him, or acting on his/her behalf (whether with or without the knowledge of the Bidder), shall be dealt with as per the terms and conditions of the contract and other provisions of the relevant laws, including Debarment Rules.

The breach of the IP or commission of any offence by the officials of the procuring agency shall be dealt with as per the rules and laws of the land in vogue.

#### **7. Monitoring and Administration:**

The respective procuring agency shall be responsible for administration and monitoring of the IP as per the relevant laws.

The bidder shall have the right to appeal as per the arbitration mechanism contained in the relevant rules.



