



APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF THE REVIEW PERIOD OF THE E-BIDDING GUIDELINES BY THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP AND APPROVING THE PILOT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MODERNIZED PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) No. 9184, otherwise known as the “Government Procurement Reform Act,” took effect on 26 January 2003, while its 2016 revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) took effect on 28 October 2016;

WHEREAS, Section 3(c) of RA No. 9184 and its 2016 revised IRR mandates that all procurement shall be governed by the principle, among others, of having a “[s]treamlined procurement process that will uniformly apply to all government procurement. The procurement process shall be simple and made adaptable to advances in modern technology in order to ensure an effective and efficient method”;

WHEREAS, Section 63 of RA No. 9184 directs the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) to protect national interest in all matters affecting public procurement;

WHEREAS, Section 8.1.1 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184 provides that the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) shall serve as the primary and definitive source of information on government procurement. For this purpose, the Electronic Procurement System, established in accordance with Executive Order (EO) No. 322, s. 2000, and EO No. 40, s. 2001, shall continue to be managed by the Procurement Service (PS) under the supervision of the GPPB, in accordance with the IRR;

WHEREAS, Section 8.2.4.3 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184 provides that “[t]he PhilGEPS may support the implementation of e-Bid submission processes, which includes the creation of electronic bid forms, creation of bid box, delivery of bid submissions, notification to the supplier of receipt of bids, bid receiving and electronic bid evaluation”;

WHEREAS, the PhilGEPS was tasked to draft the Guidelines on Electronic Bidding (E-Bidding) to support its implementation and to promote transparency and efficiency, alongside the use of information and communications technology in the conduct of procurement;

WHEREAS, on 30 July 2013, the GPPB issued Resolution No. 23-2013 approving the Guidelines for E-Bidding with the PhilGEPS conducting a pilot test of the E-Bidding platform with the PS and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). However, based on the results of the pilot testing, the full implementation was halted as the platform was found to be not fully functional as it would require a change in the system;

WHEREAS, the PhilGEPS continued with its modernization efforts to expand its current features for the government to have a fully electronic government procurement system with functionalities for each stage of the procurement process, from procurement planning to contract implementation;

WHEREAS, on 22 October 2020, the GPPB issued Resolution No. 21-2020 approving the conduct of Pilot Testing of the Electronic Bidding Facility and other Functionalities of the Modernized PhilGEPS (mPhilGEPS) and Creation of a Technical Working Group (TWG) to review the proposed E-Bidding Guidelines. Included in the same resolution is the submission of PhilGEPS of the Implementation Plan for the mPhilGEPS and the instruction that the TWG

will review the proposed E-Bidding Guidelines and submit its recommendation to the IATWG after the pilot testing on or before the end of the first quarter of 2021;

WHEREAS, on 09, 10, 11, 23, and 24 November 2020,¹ by invite of PhilGEPS, thirteen (13) agencies were trained on the use of mPhilGEPS phase one (1) and two (2) functionalities. Thereafter, on 09, 15, 17, and 18 December 2020, seven (7) agencies from those trained advanced to pilot testing the facility using simulated bidding activities;

WHEREAS, on 01 March 2021, the TWG for E-Bidding met to discuss the updates on the review of the draft E-Bidding Guidelines, the conducted trainings, and the results of the simulated activities. Subsequently, on 17 March 2021, the TWG conducted a line-by-line discussion with the PhilGEPS, where it was also agreed that the latter will submit their written comments on 22 March 2021;

WHEREAS, the PhilGEPS informed the GPPB-Technical Support Office (TSO) of the following changes in the Implementation Plan for the mPhilGEPS which would require amendment of the earlier directives of the Board embodied in GPPB Resolution No. 21-2020:

1. Implementation of the mPhilGEPS is in phases instead of the total e-Government procurement solution, wherein all stages of government procurement are covered;
2. Pilot implementation will now only cover three National Capital Region (NCR) agencies instead of the whole of NCR and Region IV-A agencies, namely: the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the PS, and the GPPB-TSO; and
3. No definite period for the implementation of the phase 2 functionalities, containing the E-Bidding modules;

WHEREAS, on 25 March 2021, during the 3rd GPPB meeting, the GPPB-TSO apprised the Board of the status of the review of the E-Bidding Guidelines and its facilities, and its recommendations based on the assessments made after several meetings and coordination with the PhilGEPS;

WHEREAS, in the same meeting, the PhilGEPS representative informed the Board that the phased implementation of the mPhilGEPS functionalities will no longer push through, considering that PhilGEPS has just been informed by its system provider that the modules of the E-Bidding Facility will be completed by April 2021 and there is a need to test and ensure that the system is consistent with the existing provisions of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184. Thereafter, the PhilGEPS presented its revised Implementation Plan to the Board;

WHEREAS, in the same meeting, the Board deliberated on the readiness of the stakeholders, hence a transition mechanism was proposed to be included in the E-Bidding Guidelines. The GPPB-TSO also recommended to include the DPWH, one State University and Colleges (SUC) and one Local Government Unit (LGU) to be part of the pilot agencies, meanwhile the PhilGEPS suggested to include the municipality of Bayambang, Pangasinan as a pilot agency;

WHEREAS, the Board discussed the GPPB-TSO recommendation alongside the PhilGEPS revised Implementation Plan and agreed on the following:

1. Extend the deadline for the review of the proposed E-Bidding Guidelines from March 2021 to July 2021;

¹ Conducted via Zoom and Google Meets.

2. Include a transition mechanism in the E-Bidding Guidelines to allow the Procuring Entities, Bidders, and Observers alike to be familiar with, and make the necessary adjustment in, the use of the mPhilGEPS;
3. Conduct of in-depth training of the pilot agencies after approval of the E-Bidding Guidelines, which shall include training for the contractors, manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, consultants, and Observers by August 2021; and
4. In addition to the DBM, the PS, and the GPPB-TSO, include as among the pilot agencies, the DPWH, and the University of the Philippines (UP) and City of Pasig, subject to concurrence. In case the UP and or the City of Pasig declines, other SUC and or LGU shall be invited to partake in the said pilot implementation;

The period of pilot implementation shall commence in the last quarter of 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing, **WE**, the Members of the **GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT POLICY BOARD**, by virtue of the powers vested on **US** by law, hereby **RESOLVE** to confirm, adopt and approve, as **WE** hereby confirm, adopt and approve the following:

1. **EXTEND** the deadline for review of the proposed E-Bidding Guidelines by the Technical Working Group from March 2021 to not later than the end of July 2021 to provide the PhilGEPS time to test the system and correct any changes *vis-a-vis* the existing provisions of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184;
2. **INCLUDE** a transition mechanism in the said Guidelines to give time for the stakeholders to make the necessary adjustments and be familiar with the E-Bidding functionality in the mPhilGEPS;
3. **DIRECT** the PhilGEPS to conduct the training of the selected pilot agencies, contractors, manufacturers, suppliers, distributors consultants, and Observers after approval of the E-Bidding Guidelines by August 2021; and
4. **APPROVE** the pilot implementation of the mPhilGEPS by the following agencies from October to December 2021:
 - a. Department of Budget and Management;
 - b. Department of Public Works and Highways;
 - c. Government Procurement Policy Board - Technical Support Office; and
 - d. Procurement Service-DBM.

Additionally, the UP and the City of Pasig shall be invited in the pilot implementation. In case either of them declines the said invitation, other SUC and or LGU shall be invited to be part of the pilot implementation.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED this 25th day of March 2021 at Pasig City, Philippines.

Sgd.

WENDEL E. AVISADO
GPPB, Chairperson
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND
MANAGEMENT**

Sgd.

LAURA B. PASCUA
Alternate to the Chairperson
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND
MANAGEMENT**

**NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Sgd.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Sgd.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

Sgd.

**DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL
DEFENSE**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS**

Sgd.

**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND
INDUSTRY**

Sgd.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY**

Sgd.

PHILIPPINE SPACE AGENCY

Sgd.

PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE