



RESOLUTION NO. 17-2012

MANDATORY GRANT OF TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE TO NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION (NGO) / CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION (CSO) OBSERVERS PARTICIPATING IN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) No. 9184, entitled “An Act Providing for the Modernization, Standardization and Regulation of the Procurement Activities of the Government and For Other Purposes,” took effect on 26 January 2003, while its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) Part A took effect on 8 October 2003;

WHEREAS, the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB), under Section 63 of RA 9184 and its IRR, is mandated to formulate and amend public procurement policies, rules and regulations, and amend the IRR, whenever necessary;

WHEREAS, Section 13 of RA 9184 and its IRR provide that in all stages of the procurement process, the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) shall invite, in addition to the representative of the Commission on Audit (COA), at least two (2) Observers to sit in its proceedings, one (1) from a duly recognized private group in a sector or discipline relevant to the procurement at hand, and the other from an NGO;

WHEREAS, the presence of Observers is integral to the principles of transparency, accountability, and public monitoring enshrined in RA 9184 and its IRR.

WHEREAS, the Philippines’ Country Procurement Assessment Report (CPAR) dated 03 October 2008 has identified and recommended the need to strengthen the capacity of NGOs/CSOs to participate in the procurement process as well as the need for the government to inform NGOs/CSOs of alternative sources of funding to sustain their participation in government procurement activities.

WHEREAS, in the 2010 Agency Procurement Compliance Performance Indicators (APCPI) exercise, the average rating of Observer attendance in the procurement activities of seventeen (17) pilot agencies is only thirty five percent (35%).

WHEREAS, on 5 July 2012, GPPB-Technical Support Office (GPPB-TSO) has received a letter from the Honorable Undersecretary of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and Chairperson of the Committee on CSO Engagement, Mario L. Relampagos, referring for appropriate action Resolution No. 45, Series of 2012 of the Regional Development Council (RDC) XI, requesting GPPB to consider issuing guidelines to support the travel expenses of NGO/CSO Observers in the procurement activities of government agencies.

WHEREAS, in the meeting held on 13 July 2012, the GPPB Inter-Agency Technical Working Group (IATWG) agreed to recommend the issuance of a GPPB Resolution supporting and recommending inclusion in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) of a provision mandating the grant of transportation allowance to NGO/CSO Observers.

WHEREAS, after a careful and judicious deliberation of the advantages and disadvantages of providing transportation allowance to NGO/CSO Observers, the members of the Board unanimously approved to support and recommend to the DBM the mandatory grant of transportation allowance to NGOs/CSOs to be reflected in the General Provisions of the GAA.

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 to support and recommend to the DBM the inclusion of a provision in the General Provisions of the 2013 GAA mandating the grant of transportation allowance to NGO/CSO Observers participating in government procurement activities.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED this 27th day of July 2012 at Pasig City, Philippines.

**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND
MANAGEMENT**

(Sgd.)

**NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

(Sgd.)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

(Sgd.)

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

(Sgd.)

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

(Sgd.)

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

(Sgd.)

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

(Sgd.)

**DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL
DEFENSE**

(Sgd.)

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS**

(Sgd.)

**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

(Sgd.)

**DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND
INDUSTRY**

(Sgd.)

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND COMMUNICATIONS**

(Sgd.)

PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE

Attested by:

(Sgd.)

DENNIS S. SANTIAGO
Board Secretary, GPPB
Executive Director, GPPB-TSO