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July 2, 2015

To: All Executing and Implementing Agencies

Subject: Mandatory Usage of Harmonized Standard Bidding Documents for Procurement of Goods and Works in the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank Financed Projects

Following the approval of Law on Procurement No. 43/2013/QH13 dated November 26, 2013 and Decree No. 63/2014/ND-CP dated June 26, 2014, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank (WB) in collaboration with the Public Procurement Agency (PPA) of Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) have jointly prepared harmonized standard bidding documents.

In accordance with para 2, Article 1 of Circular 03/2015/TT-BKHDT dated May 06, 2015 and Circular 05/2015/TT-BKHDT dated June 16, 2015 issued by Ministry of Planning and Investment: "When procuring goods and works contracts through national competitive bidding under ADB and World Bank funded projects, the standard bidding documents in Vietnamese issued by ADB and World Bank shall be used".

Consequently, these harmonized standard bidding documents shall be used for goods and works contracts under ADB and WB investment financed projects, procured through National Competitive Bidding (NCB), whose invitations for bids are scheduled to be issued on or after July 15, 2015. These documents however are not applicable to procurement under WB's Program for Results (PforR) financing and ADB's Results Based for Programs.

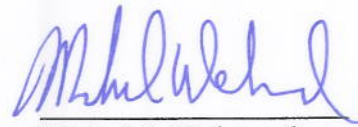
For those contracts whose bidding documents have been prepared using WB/ADB's earlier templates prior to July 15, 2015, Implementing Agencies or Project Management Units may proceed with the procurement using those documents subject to WB/ADB's prior agreement.

It shall be mandatory for all Project Management Units or Implementing Agencies under ADB and World Bank funded projects to use such standard bidding documents from the date set forth above. Project Management Units or Implementing Agencies may contact the designated procurement specialists and task team/project team leaders of WB or ADB for their project in case of the need for clarifications or soft copies of the documents.

These are living documents that may be updated from time to time to incorporate useful feedbacks and lessons learned from its implementation. Users are therefore encouraged to provide useful feedbacks to the Banks' procurement staff where necessary.



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