



October 18, 2016
Ref: UNDP-RFP-2016-216

MINUTES OF PRE-BID MEETING

Subject: Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Transportation handling of POPs

Background:

Pakistan signed the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) on December 6th 2004 and ratified on April 14th 2008.

As result of the enabling activities on POPs, Pakistan developed a National Implementation Plan (NIP) under the support of the UNDP and the GEF. This NIP is a very comprehensive document **in line with the National Environment Policy and Reduction of Poverty and the Pakistan's Development Vision 2020**, both of which call for improvement of quality of life and social wellbeing¹.

The NIP identified approximately 6033 MT of obsolete stocks of POPs pesticides, many of those stockpiles are located in areas (towns or villages) near to water bodies. In 2010 a disastrous flood affected some areas where pesticide stockpiles were stored in very old and poorly **developed infrastructure**. During **site visits carried out under GEF's Project Preparation Grant** activities to District Rahim Yar Kahn, Bahawalpur and parts of Sindh province were observed that a large proportion of pesticides were leaking into soil during the heavy rains causing environmental pollution. As this information is under verification process by the government, it is urgent the elimination of those chemicals.

In general terms, the sound treatment of PCBs and POPs is costly and most of developing countries do not have dedicated hazardous waste incinerators or other technologies (thermal or non-combustion technologies), available for local disposal and normally they cannot afford elimination abroad. However, cement kilns, under well-managed and controlled operational conditions can be a real alternative to eliminate such waste streams. In addition, cement kilns are among the thermal technologies feasibly for POPs treatment according to Basel Convention². The treatment of organic hazardous chemicals as PCBs and POPs pesticides in cement kiln is possible due to the high temperature (over 1300°C) reached at the furnace, together with long residence times (several seconds), alkaline environment, good turbulence and mixed conditions.

¹ National Implementation Plan (NIP) for phasing out and elimination of POPs from Pakistan under Stockholm Convention, article 7 (a). Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Environment Islamabad. POPs Enabling Project, Islamabad, PAKISTAN.

² Basel Convention, 2007. Updated general technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs. <http://www.basel.int/meetings/sbc/workdoc/techdocs.html>

In this perspective, an RFP was launched on October 10, 2016. It was advertised on UNDP Pakistan Official Website and UNGM. Since holding of a pre-bid meeting was emphasized in the RFP therefore, the meeting was held on Tuesday October 18, 2016 at UNDSS Conference Room, 5th Floor, Serena Business Complex, at Islamabad. Two (02) representatives from the NOHA Group participated.

Following were present from UNDP's side.

1. Mr. Usman Manzoor, Programme Officer
2. Mr. Anees Khan, Procurement Associate
3. Mr. Rana Muhammad Naeem, Programme Associate

Following were present from Project Side.

- 1- Mr. Sadaf Iqbal, Technical Advisor
- 2- Dr. Sardar Ahsan Younus, Consultant

The meeting started with a run down on ITB Data Sheet given by UNDP Procurement later the floor was opened for question and answer session, details of which are as below.

Question No.1

The NOHA Group representative requested for the details about what exactly the RFP wants the companies to do.

Answer No.1

It was informed to the participants that this RFP wants the companies to do the three tasks in accordance with the guidelines for handling of POPs by Stockholm Convention. The three tasks include handling for loading of POPs from various locations including packing of POPs; transportation from location sites to destination point in secured and specified containers and vehicles; and unloading at destination point.

Question No.2

What are the requirements of transportation of POPs?

Answer No.2

The Technical Advisor POPs Project replied that the related information is available at Stockholm Convention website. Moreover the website for Basel Convention also has information about transportation guidelines of POPs.

Question No.3

Can we submit bids in the form of consortium with international partners?

Answer No.3

The Technical Advisor POPs Project replied that bidders can submit bids on behalf of consortium for which scoring is also available in the RFP scoring criteria.

Question No.4

Which guideline is to be used for storage and disposal of POPs activity?

Answer No.4

The Technical Advisor POPs project answered to follow the Basal and Stockholm Conventions guidelines and also make sure to comply with local laws which are mandatory for handling and transport of POPs/hazardous materials.

Question No.5

Is it so that handling and transportation of POPs activity is the first of its kind in Pakistan?

Answer No.5

The Technical Advisor POPs project answered affirmatively that POPs pesticides are being dealt for the first time in Pakistan although the stocks are lying at various sites since decades ago but not used due to imposition of ban on their use in accordance with the Stockholm Convention.

Question No.6

Please explain a little about the required certifications and licenses?

Answer No.6

The Technical Advisor POPs project informed that the successful bidder will be required to obtain NOC from relevant EPAs for transportation of POPs plus the certification from authorities on health of the vehicles.