

Minutes of the Pre-Proposal Conference
“Provision of Services for the Final Disposal of PCB-containing Wastes from the Maldives”



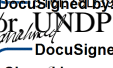

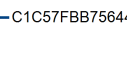
RFQ No: MDV/RFQ/22/15

Country: Maldives

Date of Pre-Proposal Conference Meeting: Monday, 12 September 2022

Facilitators:

- Hassan Azhar, Project Manager/PMU/MECCT
- Mahmut Osmanbasoglu, Chief Technical Advisor, UNDP
- Fizan Ahmed, Programme Associate, UNDP
- Aishath Loona Moosa, Executive Assistant, UNDP
- Nazli Alavi, Procurement Analyst, UNDP

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Background of the Bidding Process:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Maldives intends to conduct a competitive process to hire a firm for the Provision of services for the final disposal of PCB containing waste from the Maldives.

To this end, a Request for Quotation (RFQ) package was prepared and advertised through UNDP e-tendering system on 1 September 2022 with the deadline of 22 September 2022. The pre-proposal conference was held on 12 September 2022 at 6:00 pm (MVT) virtually with participation of representatives of the interested bidders as well as Government and UNDP's officials. The purpose of the meeting was explaining the RFQ package, objectives of the work and responding to the raised questions.

Detail of Pre-proposal Conference:

The meeting was opened by introduction session and was followed by explanations provided by the Government and Programme officials on the Terms of Reference (TOR). The different sections of RFQ were elaborated with emphasis on the eligibility criteria, required documents and the forms that need to be filled by the interested bidders.

Below technical points were discussed and elaborated:

The proposed disposal work is to be carried under a GEF-funded project entitled *Elimination of POPs through Safe Management of Chemicals*. The project itself is nationally implemented by the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology (MECCT) with oversight and limited execution support carried out by UNDP (including the proposed work under this RFQ). The project has three components: 1) strengthening policies related to hazardous chemicals in the Maldives, 2) establishing an environment for safe management of hazardous chemicals and 3) knowledge management and M&E.

The Government noted that mapping of the PCB-containing equipment (i.e., 16 switchgears and 14 transformers) already conducted under the PPG stage; these are located in the southernmost two atolls of the Maldives (Addu and Fuvahmulah cities). MECCT in the process of establishing an interim hazardous waste storage facility in Addu City to store the material before they are exported for final disposal. It was noted that some of PCB-contaminated equipment were in operation as late as 2021 but most of them are now decommissioned and replaced with newer equipment that do not use PCB oils. Existing ones that used PCB oils were retrofitted with mineral-based oils; an analysis was undertaken of existing equipment and PCB detection was very low to non-existent. Weight of equipment needing export is estimated to be 24 tonnes. The Government proposed potential bidders to arrange export of the equipment in Addu City (with its interim facility) due to the city containing an international port facilities instead of transporting them to the capital region. An additional point raised by the CTA was noting that the Maldives does not have any capacity to dispose PCB-containing liquids or solids so potential bidders should consider exporting all contaminated

material. The bidders should design a turnkey solution that covers packaging, transport and final disposal of the equipment.

One question was raised by one of bidders about possibility of extension the deadline for receiving offers which was answered to be decided later if not enough applicants are received. Nevertheless, they were asked to send their request through email. It was also highlighted that any extension or amendments to the RFQ, including the minutes of pre-proposal meeting is uploaded in e-tendering and applicants who have been registered and accepted the invitation will be automatically informed by the system.