

## ***Section IV. General Conditions of Contract***

### **Notes on the General Conditions of Contract**

The GCC in Section IV, read in conjunction with the SCC in Section V and other documents listed therein, should be a complete document expressing all the rights and obligations of the parties.

The GCC herein shall not be altered. Any changes and complementary information which may be needed shall be introduced only through the SCC in Section V.

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## 1) General Terms

In this Contract, the following terms shall be interpreted as indicated:

- 1.1 The **Intended Completion Date** refers to the date specified in the **SCC** when the Contractor is expected to have completed the Works. The intended Completion Date may be revised only by the Procuring Entity by issuing an extension of time or an acceleration order.
- 1.2 The **Procuring Entity** is the party who employs the Contractor to carry out the Works stated in the **SCC**.
- 1.3 The **Site** is the place provided by the Procuring Entity where the Works shall be executed and any other place or places which may be designated in the **SCC**, or notified to the Contractor by the Procuring Entity as forming part of the Site.
- 1.4 The **Start Date**, as specified in the **SCC**, is the date when the Contractor is obliged to commence execution of the Works. It does not necessarily coincide with any of the Site Possession Dates.
- 1.5 **Work(s)** refer to the Permanent Works and Temporary Works to be executed by the Contractor in accordance with this Contract, including (i) the furnishing of all labor, materials, equipment and others incidental, necessary or convenient to the complete execution of the Works; (ii) the passing of any tests before acceptance by the Procuring Entity; (iii) and the carrying out of all duties and obligations of the Contractor imposed by this Contract as described in the **SCC**. In line with this, Temporary Works are works designed, constructed, and installed by the Contractor that are needed for construction or installation of the Permanent Works, which are subsequently removed.

## 2) Interpretation

- 2.1 In interpreting the Conditions of Contract, singular also means plural, male also means female or neuter, and the other way around. Headings have no significance. Words have their normal meaning under the language of this Contract unless specifically defined. The Procuring Entity will provide instructions clarifying queries about the Conditions of Contract.
- 2.2 If sectional completion is specified in the **SCC**, references in the Conditions of Contract to the Works, the Completion Date, and the Intended Completion Date apply to any Section of the Works (other than references to the Completion Date and Intended Completion Date for the whole of the Works).
- 2.3 The documents forming this Contract shall be interpreted in the following order of priority:
  - a) Contract Agreement;
  - b) Bid Data Sheet;
  - c) Instructions to Bidders;
  - d) Addenda to the Bidding Documents;

- e) Special Conditions of Contract;
- f) General Conditions of Contract;
- g) Specifications;
- h) Bill of Quantities; and
- i) Drawings.

### 3) **Governing Language and Law**

- 3.1 This Contract shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Republic of the Philippines.
- 3.2 This Contract has been executed in the English language, which shall be the binding and controlling language for all matters relating to the meaning or interpretation of this Contract. All correspondence and other documents pertaining to this Contract which are exchanged by the parties shall be written in English.

### 4) **Communications**

Communications between parties that are referred to in the Conditions shall be effective only if made in writing. A notice shall be effective only when it is received by the concerned party.

### 5) **Possession of Site**

- 5.1 On the date specified in the **SCC**, the Procuring Entity shall grant the Contractor possession of so much of the Site as may be required to enable it to proceed with the execution of the Works. If the Contractor suffers delay or incurs cost from failure on the part of the Procuring Entity to give possession in accordance with the terms of this clause, the Procuring Entity shall give the Contractor a Contract Time Extension and certify such sum as fair to cover the cost incurred, which sum shall be paid by Procuring Entity.
- 5.2 If possession of a portion is not given by the date stated in the **SCC** Clause 1.3, the Procuring Entity will be deemed to have delayed the start of the relevant activities. The resulting adjustments in contract time to address such delay shall be in accordance with **GCC** Clause 44.
- 5.3 The Contractor shall bear all costs and charges for special or temporary right-of-way required by it in connection with access to the Site. The Contractor shall also provide at its own cost any additional facilities outside the Site required by it for purposes of the Works.
- 5.4 The Contractor shall allow the Procuring Entity and any person authorized by the Procuring Entity access to the Site and to any place where work in connection with this Contract is being carried out or is intended to be carried out.

## 6) The Contractor's Obligations

- 6.1 The Contractor shall carry out the Works properly and in accordance with this Contract. The Contractor shall provide all supervision, labor, Materials, Plant and Contractor's Equipment, which may be required. All Materials and Plant on Site shall be deemed to be the property of the Procuring Entity.
- 6.2 The Contractor shall commence execution of the Works on the Start Date and shall carry out the Works in accordance with the Program of Work submitted by the Contractor, as updated with the approval of the Procuring Entity, and complete them by the Intended Completion Date.
- 6.3 The Contractor shall be responsible for the safety of all activities on the Site.
- 6.4 The Contractor shall carry out all instructions of the Procuring Entity that comply with the applicable laws where the Site is located.
- 6.5 The Contractor shall employ the key personnel named in the Schedule of Key Personnel, as referred to in the **SCC**, to carry out the supervision of the Works. The Procuring Entity will approve any proposed replacement of key personnel only if their relevant qualifications and abilities are equal to or better than those of the personnel listed in the Schedule.
- 6.6 If the Procuring Entity asks the Contractor to remove a member of the Contractor's staff or work force, for justifiable cause, the Contractor shall ensure that the person leaves the Site within seven (7) days and has no further connection with the Work in this Contract.
- 6.7 During Contract implementation, the Contractor and its subcontractors shall abide at all times by all labor laws, including child labor related enactments, and other relevant rules.
- 6.8 The Contractor shall submit to the Procuring Entity for consent the name and particulars of the person authorized to receive instructions on behalf of the Contractor.
- 6.9 The Contractor shall cooperate and share the Site with other contractors, public authorities, utilities, and the Procuring Entity between the dates given in the schedule of other contractors particularly when they shall require access to the Site. The Contractor shall also provide facilities and services for them during this period. The Procuring Entity may modify the schedule of other contractors, and shall notify the Contractor of any such modification thereto.
- 6.10 Should anything of historical or other interest or of significant value be unexpectedly discovered on the Site, it shall be the property of the Procuring Entity. The Contractor shall notify the Procuring Entity of such discoveries and carry out the Procuring Entity's instructions in dealing with them.

## 7) Subcontracting

- 7.1 Unless otherwise indicated in the **SCC**, the Contractor shall not subcontract portions of the Works beyond the percentage specified in **BDS** Clause 8.1. If subcontracting is allowed, the arrangement, including the timing for submission of the subcontractor's eligibility documents, shall be disclosed.

7.2 For subcontracting arrangements, the following rules shall apply for both locally-funded projects and to projects financed through Official Development Assistance, except those covered by treaty, or international, or executive agreements:

- a) The subcontracted portion of the contract shall be subject to the approval of the HoPE and the following conditions:
  - i) The subcontracted portion shall not exceed fifty percent (50%), or a different percentage on a per project basis as approved by the GPPB. The threshold percentages fixed herein shall be subject to the periodic review and adjustments as may be deemed appropriate by the GPPB; and
  - ii) The subcontracted portion shall be limited to components that are not deemed "significant or material" to the project as determined by the Procuring Entity.
- b) Subcontracting arrangement, if allowed, including the time of submission of the eligibility documents of the subcontractor, shall be disclosed in the Bidding Documents;
- c) Subcontractors must meet the eligibility criteria and shall submit the same eligibility documents as the general contractor.

Failure of a subcontractor to meet the eligibility criteria does not affect the eligibility of the general contractor for the procurement project. In such case, the portion intended to be subcontracted to the ineligible subcontractor shall be assumed by the general contractor;
- d) The general contractor shall remain liable for the subcontractor's actions, defaults, delays, and negligence;
- e) The general contractor and the subcontractor are obliged to comply with the provisions of the contract and shall share liability, jointly and severally, in cases of violation of safety standards or other labor standards insofar as the subcontracted portion is concerned; and
- f) For purposes of post-qualification in accordance with its objective and process under the IRR, the value of the entire completed and accepted Project, including the subcontracted portion, shall be credited as experience of the general contractor. In the case of the subcontractor, the following rules shall apply:
  - i) The subcontractor shall get credit for one hundred percent (100%) of the value of the subcontracted portion of the project performed;
  - ii) Subcontractors shall be eligible to concessional windows of GFIs that treat receivables from the government as loan security; the receivables of subcontractors due from their general contractor shall similarly be accepted as loan security by GFIs; and

- iii) Contract performance monitoring, such as the use of CPES, among others, shall also be mandatorily applied to the work experience of the subcontractors.

## 8) Advance Payment

- 8.1 The Procuring Entity shall make an advance payment on the Contract Price to the Contractor in an amount not exceeding fifteen percent (15%) of the total contract price to be made in lump sum or, at the most, two installments according to a schedule specified in the **SCC**.
- 8.2 The advance payment shall be made only upon:
  - i) Written request of the contractor which shall form part of the contract document; and
  - ii) Submission of an irrevocable standby Letter of Credit of equivalent value from a bank as confirmed by the Procuring Entity; a bank guarantee; or a surety bond callable upon demand issued by a duly licensed surety or insurance company, at the option of the Procuring Entity.
- 8.3 The advance payment shall be recovered from the Contractor through deductions in amounts equivalent to the percentage of the total contract price that corresponds to the value of the advance payment granted.
- 8.4 Once a month, Contractors may submit documents, such as Monthly Certificates,<sup>9</sup> to show the progress or partial completion of a project. The Contractor may reduce its standby letter of credit or guarantee instrument by the amounts refunded by the Monthly Certificates, or any equivalent document subject to auditing and accounting rules, in the advance payment.

## 9) Progress Payments

- 9.1 Once a month, the Contractor may submit a statement of work accomplished (SWA) or progress billing and corresponding request for progress payment for work accomplished. The SWA should show the amounts which the Contractor considers itself to be entitled to up to the end of the month, to cover (i) the cumulative value of the Works it executed to date, based on the items in the Bill of Quantities, and (ii) adjustments made for approved Variation Orders executed. Alternatively, the Procuring Entity may require in the Bidding Documents that the SWA or progress billing and the corresponding request for progress payment may only be submitted upon actual completion of the Infrastructure Project or a specific portion, segment, milestone or phase thereof.

The Procuring Entity or Project Engineer shall check the Contractor's SWA and certify the amount to be paid to the Contractor as progress payment. Materials and equipment delivered onsite but not yet incorporated in the Works shall not be included for payment, except as otherwise stipulated in the **SCC**.

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<sup>9</sup> Commission on Audit (COA) Circular 2012-001.

- 9.2 The Procuring Entity shall deduct the following from the certified gross amounts to be paid to the Contractor as progress payment:
- a) Cumulative value of the work previously certified and paid for.
  - b) Portion of the advance payment to be recouped.
  - c) Retention money in accordance with the conditions of the contract.
  - d) Amount to cover third-party liabilities.
  - e) Amount to cover uncorrected discovered defects in the Works.
- 9.3 Payments shall be adjusted by deducting therefrom the amounts for advance payments and retention. The Procuring Entity shall pay the Contractor the amounts certified by the Procuring Entity within twenty-eight (28) days from the date each certificate was issued. No payment of interest for delayed payments and adjustments shall be made by the Procuring Entity.
- 9.4 The first progress payment may be paid by the Procuring Entity to the Contractor, as indicated in the **SCC**; Provided, That at least a percentage of the Works has been accomplished as certified by the Procuring Entity and as indicated in the **SCC**.
- 9.5 Items of the Works for which a price of "0" (zero) has been entered will not be paid for by the Procuring Entity and shall be deemed covered by other rates and prices in the Contract.

## **10) Payment Documents**

- 10.1 Subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations,<sup>10</sup> the Contractor shall submit to the Procuring Entity monthly statements of the estimated value of the work executed less the cumulative amount certified previously.
- 10.2 The Procuring Entity shall check the Contractor's monthly statement and certify the amount to be paid to the Contractor.
- 10.3 The value of Work executed shall:
- a) be determined by the Procuring Entity;
  - b) comprise the value of the quantities of the items in the Bill of Quantities completed; and
  - c) include the valuations of approved variations.
- 10.4 The Procuring Entity may exclude any item certified in a previous certificate or reduce the proportion of any item previously certified in any certificate in the light of later information.

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<sup>10</sup> COA Circular No. 2012-001.

## 11) Retention

11.1 The Procuring Entity shall retain from each payment due to the Contractor an amount equal to a percentage thereof using the rate as specified in GCC Clause 11.2. The said amount will serve to guarantee indemnity for uncorrected discovered defects and third-party liabilities arising from this Contract. This retention money shall be utilized if the contractor fails to repair the discovered defects. Should the retention money be insufficient, the PE may forfeit the performance security, which may ultimately lead to the termination of the contract.<sup>11</sup>

11.2 Progress payments are subject to retention of ten percent (10%) referred to as the retention money. Such retention shall be based on the total amount due to the Contractor prior to any deduction and shall be retained from every progress payment until fifty percent (50%) of the value of the Works, as determined by the Procuring Entity, are completed.

If, after fifty percent (50%) completion, the work is satisfactorily done and on schedule, no additional retention shall be made; otherwise, the ten percent (10%) retention shall be imposed, which may be decreased to 5 percent (5%) by the Procuring Entity based on justifiable causes.<sup>12</sup>

11.3 The total retention money shall be due for release upon final acceptance of the Works. The Contractor may, however, request the substitution of the retention money for each progress billing with irrevocable standby Letters of Credit from a bank, bank guarantees or surety bonds callable on demand, of amounts equivalent to the retention money substituted for and acceptable to Government; Provided, That the project is on schedule and is satisfactorily undertaken. Otherwise, the ten (10%) percent retention shall be made. Said irrevocable standby letters of credit, bank guarantees and/or surety bonds, to be posted in favor of the Government shall be valid for a duration to be determined by the concerned implementing office/agency or Procuring Entity and will answer for the purpose for which the ten (10%) percent retention is intended, *i.e.*, to cover uncorrected discovered defects and third party liabilities.

11.4 On completion of the whole Works, the Contractor may substitute retention money with an “on demand” Bank guarantee in a form acceptable to the Procuring Entity.

## 12) Performance Security

12.1 Within ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the Notice of Award from the Procuring Entity, but in no case later than the signing of the contract by both parties, the winning Contractor shall furnish the performance security in any of the forms prescribed in **ITB** Clause 30 in relation to **BDS** Clause 30.2 and 30.3.

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<sup>11</sup> Supreme Court rulings (e.g. New Bian Yek Commercial, Inc. vs. Office of the Ombudsman, et. al., GR No. 169338[2009], and Tondo Medical Center vs. Rante, G.R. No. 230645 [2019] have affirmed this purpose, stating that retention money is a form of security to ensure the satisfactory completion of works and to cover any defects or third-party claims that may arise after project completion.

<sup>12</sup> Section 71.2.8 of the IRR.

- 12.2 The performance security posted in favor of the Procuring Entity shall be forfeited in the event it is established that the Contractor is in default in any of its obligations under the contract.
- 12.3 The performance security shall remain valid until issuance by the Procuring Entity of the Certificate of Final Acceptance. In case the performance security issued is valid for a specific period shorter than the term of the contract, including the defects liability period, the same shall be renewed or extended as often as necessary and immediately submitted to the Procuring Entity. In case of approved contract time extensions, the Contractor shall cause the extension of the validity of the performance security to cover the said extensions.
- 12.4 The performance security may be released by the Procuring Entity after the issuance of the Certificate of Final Acceptance; Provided, That the Procuring Entity has no claims filed against the performance security.
- 12.5 The Contractor shall post an additional performance security following the amount and form specified in **ITB Clause 30** to cover any cumulative increase of more than ten percent (10%) over the original value of the contract as a result of change orders, extra work orders and supplemental agreements, as the case may be.
- 12.6 In case of a reduction in the contract value or for partially completed Works under the contract which are usable and accepted by the Procuring Entity the use of which, in the judgment of the implementing agency or the Procuring Entity, will not affect the structural integrity of the entire project, the Procuring Entity shall allow a proportional reduction in the original performance security, provided that any such reduction is more than ten percent (10%) and that the aggregate of such reductions is not more than fifty percent (50%) of the original performance security.
- 12.7 Unless otherwise indicated in the **SCC**, the Contractor, by entering into the Contract with the Procuring Entity, acknowledges the right of the Procuring Entity to institute action pursuant to Act No. 3688<sup>13</sup> against any subcontractor be they an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, or association supplying the Contractor with labor, materials and/or equipment for the performance of this Contract.

### **13) Detailed Engineering and Site Investigation Reports**

- 13.1 The Contractor, in preparing the Bid, shall rely on all Site Investigation Reports referred to in the **SCC** supplemented by any information obtained by the Contractor.
- 13.2 Detailed engineering shall proceed only on the basis of the feasibility or preliminary engineering study made which establishes the technical viability of the project and conformance to land use and zoning guidelines prescribed by existing laws. The findings contained in the feasibility study, if undertaken for the project, shall be examined. If, in the course of this exercise, it is found that amendments would be desirable in the design standards of principal features, as proposed, specific recommendations for such changes shall be supported

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<sup>13</sup> Also known as "An Act for the Protection of Persons Furnishing Material and Labor for the Construction Of Public Works".

by detailed justifications, including their effects on the cost, and the economic justifications, if necessary.

13.3 A schedule of detailed engineering activities shall include the following:

- a) Survey;
- b) Site Investigation;
- c) Soils and Foundation Investigation;
- d) Construction Materials Investigation;
- e) Preparation of Design Plans;
- f) Preparation of Technical Specifications;
- g) Preparation of Quantity and Cost Estimates;
- h) Preparation of Scope of Work;
- i) Preparation of Proposed Construction Schedule (and estimated Cash Flow for projects with Schedule over six (6) months);
- j) Preparation of Site or Right-of-Way Plans including Schedule of Acquisition;
- k) Preparation of Utility Relocation Plan;
- l) Preparation and Submission of Design Report;
- m) Environmental Impact Statement for critical project, as defined by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;
- n) Preparation of minimum requirements for a Construction Safety and Health Program for the project being considered;
- o) Value Engineering Studies; and
- p) Preparation of report on asset climate hazards, risk assessment, disaster response strategies, and readiness planning.

13.4 Work under detailed architectural and engineering design shall include, among others, the items stated in Section 8.3 of the IRR.

**14) Licenses and Permits**

The Procuring Entity may, if requested by the Contractor, assist him in applying for permits, licenses or approvals, which are required for the Works.

**15) Contractor's Risk and Warranty Security**

15.1 From the time project construction commenced up to final acceptance, the Contractor shall assume full responsibility for any damage or destruction of the works, except those occasioned by force majeure; and the safety, protection, security, and convenience of its personnel, third parties, and the public at large,

as well as the works, equipment, installation and the like to be affected by its construction work.

- 15.2 The defects liability period for infrastructure projects shall be one (1) year from project completion up to final acceptance by the Procuring Entity. During this period, the Contractor shall undertake the repair works, at its own expense, of any damage to the Works on account of the use of materials of inferior quality, defects in the construction, or due to any violation of the terms of the contract, within ninety (90) calendar days from the time the HoPE has issued an order to undertake repair. In case of failure or refusal to comply with this mandate, the Procuring Entity shall undertake such repair works and shall be entitled to full reimbursement of expenses incurred therein upon demand.
- 15.3 The defects liability period shall be covered by the performance security of the Contractor required in Section 68 of the IRR, which shall guarantee that the Contractor performs its responsibilities stated in **GCC** Clause 15.1 Unless otherwise indicated in the **SCC**, in case the Contractor fails to comply with the preceding paragraph, the Procuring Entity shall forfeit its performance security, subject its properties to attachment or garnishment proceedings, and may impose the appropriate penalty under Sections 99, 100, and 101 of the IRR. All payables of the GoP in its favor shall be offset to recover the costs.
- 15.4 The following persons shall be held responsible for “Structural Defects,” i.e., major faults or flaws or deficiencies in one or more key structural elements of the project which may lead to structural failure of the completed elements or structure, or “Structural Failures,” i.e., where one or more key structural elements in an infrastructure facility fails or collapses, thereby rendering the facility or part thereof incapable of withstanding the design loads, and/or endangering the safety of the users or the general public:
- a) Contractor – Where Structural Defects or Failures arise due to faults attributable to improper construction, use of inferior quality/substandard materials, and any violation of the contract plans and specifications, the Contractor shall be held liable;
  - b) Consultants – Where Structural Defects or Failures arise due to faulty and/or inadequate design and specifications as well as construction supervision, then the consultant who prepared the design or undertook construction supervision for the project shall be held liable;
  - c) Procuring Entity’s Representatives or Project Manager or Construction Managers and Supervisors – The project owner’s representative, project manager, construction manager, and supervisor shall be held liable in cases where the Structural Defects or Failures are due to their willful intervention in altering the designs and other specifications; negligence or omission in not approving or acting on proposed changes to noted defects or deficiencies in the design and/or specifications and the use of substandard construction materials in the project;
  - d) Third Parties - Third Parties shall be held liable in cases where Structural Defects or Failures are caused by work undertaken by them such as leaking pipes, diggings or excavations, underground cables and electrical wires, underground tunnel, mining shaft and the like, in which case the applicable warranty to such structure should be levied to third parties for their construction or restoration works; and

- e) Users - In cases where Structural Defects or Failures are due to abuse or misuse by the End-User or Implementing Unit of the constructed facility and/or non-compliance by a user with the technical design limits and/or intended purpose of the same, then the user concerned shall be held liable.

15.5 The warranty against Structural Defects or Failures, except those occasioned by force majeure, shall cover the period specified in the **SCC** reckoned from the date of issuance of the Certificate of Final Acceptance by the Procuring Entity. On the other hand, such warranty shall likewise be applied against non-structural defects for instances that pertain to faults or deficiencies in non-load bearing components or finishes of the Project, such as minor cracks, leaks, or defects in workmanship or materials, which do not affect the stability or safety of the structure but may impact its appearance, functionality, or usability.

15.6 To guarantee that the Contractor shall perform its responsibilities, it shall be required to post a warranty security, which shall be stated in Philippine Peso, in the form chosen by the Procuring Entity in accordance with the following schedule:

<b>Form of Warranty</b>	<b>Amount of Warranty Security Not less than the Percentage (%) of Total Contract Price</b>
(a) Cash or letter of credit issued by bank; Provided, however, that the letter of credit shall be confirmed or authenticated by a local bank, if issued by a foreign bank.  For biddings conducted by LGUs, the Letter of Credit may be issued by other banks certified by the BSP as authorized to issue such financial instrument.	Five Percent (5%)
(b) Bank guarantee confirmed by bank.  For biddings conducted by LGUs, the bank draft/guarantee may be issued by other banks certified by the BSP as authorized to issue such financial instrument.	Ten Percent (10%)
(c) Surety bond callable upon demand issued by GSIS or any surety or insurance company duly certified by the Insurance Commission	Thirty Percent (30%)

15.7 The warranty security shall be stated in Philippine Peso and shall remain effective within one (1) year from the date of issuance of the Certificate of Final Acceptance by the Procuring Entity, and returned only after the lapse of the said one (1) year period. This one (1) year period shall cover both structural and non-structural defects or failures; Provided, That in cases of structural defects or failures, warranties beyond the one (1) year period shall be subject to applicable laws, rules, and regulations such as the New Civil Code of the Philippines.

15.8 In case of structural/non-structural defects or failure occurring during the applicable warranty period provided in **GCC** Clause 15.5, the Procuring Entity shall undertake the necessary restoration or reconstruction works and shall be entitled to full reimbursement by the parties found to be liable for expenses incurred therein upon demand, without prejudice to the imposition of administrative sanctions as prescribed by RA No. 12009 and without prejudice to the imposition of civil and criminal sanctions as provided under applicable laws against the responsible persons as well as the forfeiture of the warranty security posted in favor of the Procuring Entity.

## **16) Procuring Entity's Risk**

16.1 From the Start Date until the Certificate of Final Acceptance has been issued, the following are risks of the Procuring Entity:

- a) The risk of personal injury, death, or loss of or damage to property (excluding the Works, Plant, Materials, and Equipment), which are due to:
  - i) any type of use or occupation of the Site authorized by the Procuring Entity after the official acceptance of the Works; or
  - ii) negligence, breach of statutory duty, or interference with any legal right by the Procuring Entity or by any person employed or contracted by it, except the Contractor.
- b) The risk of damage to the Works, Plant, Materials, and Equipment to the extent that it is due to a fault of the Procuring Entity or in the Procuring Entity's design, or due to war or radioactive contamination directly affecting the country where the Works are to be executed.

## **17) Insurance**

17.1 The Contractor shall, under its name and at its own expense, obtain and maintain, for the duration of this Contract, the following insurance coverage:

- a) Contractor's All Risk Insurance, with an exception for Simple Infrastructure Projects, as applicable;
- b) Transportation to the project Site of Equipment, Machinery, and Supplies owned by the Contractor;
- c) Personal injury or death of Contractor's employees; and
- d) Comprehensive insurance for third party liability to Contractor's direct or indirect act or omission causing damage to third persons.

17.2 The Contractor shall provide evidence to the Procuring Entity that the insurances required under this Contract have been effected and shall, within a reasonable time, provide copies of the insurance policies to the Procuring Entity.

17.3 The Contractor shall notify the insurers of changes in the nature, extent, or program for the execution of the Works and ensure the adequacy of the insurances at all times in accordance with the terms of this Contract and shall

produce to the Procuring Entity the insurance policies in force including the receipts for payment of the current premiums.

The above insurance policies shall be obtained from any reputable insurance company approved by the Procuring Entity.

- 17.4 If the Contractor fails to obtain and keep in force the insurances referred to herein or any other insurance required to be obtained under the terms of this Contract, the Procuring Entity may obtain and keep in force any such insurances and pay such premiums as may be necessary for the purpose. From time to time, the Procuring Entity may deduct the amount it shall pay for said premiums including twenty five percent (25%) therein from any monies due, or which may become due, to the Contractor, without prejudice to the Procuring Entity exercising its right to impose other sanctions against the Contractor pursuant to the provisions of this Contract.
- 17.5 In the event the Contractor fails to observe the above safeguards, the Procuring Entity may, at the Contractor's expense, take whatever measure is deemed necessary for its protection and that of the Contractor's personnel and third parties, and/or order the interruption of dangerous Works. In addition, the Procuring Entity may refuse to make the payments under **GCC** Clause 9 until the Contractor complies with this Clause.
- 17.6 The Contractor shall immediately replace the insurance policy obtained as required in this Contract, without need of the Procuring Entity's demand, with a new policy issued by a new insurance company acceptable to the Procuring Entity for any of the following grounds:
- a) The issuer of the insurance policy to be replaced has:
    - i) become bankrupt;
    - ii) been placed under receivership or under a management committee;
    - iii) been sued for suspension of payment;
    - iv) been suspended by the Insurance Commission and its license to engage in business or its authority to issue insurance policies has been cancelled; or
    - v) Where reasonable grounds exist that the insurer may not be able, fully and promptly, to fulfill its obligation under the insurance policy.

## **18) Liquidated Damages**

- 18.1 When the Contractor fails to satisfactorily complete the Works under the contract within the specified contract duration, inclusive of duly granted time extensions, if any, the Contractor shall be liable for liquidated damages in an amount equal to at least one-tenth (1/10) of one percent (1%) of the cost of the unperformed portion of the Works for every day of delay.
- 18.2 In computing liquidated damages, the Procuring Entity shall determine the usability of the project. A project or a portion thereof may be deemed usable

when it starts to provide the desired benefits as certified by the End-User or Implementing Unit and approved by the HoPE.

- 18.3 To be entitled to liquidated damages, the Procuring Entity does not have to prove that it has incurred actual damages. Such amount shall be deducted from any money due, or which may become due the Contractor under the contract, collected from the retention money or other securities posted by the Contractor, or a combination thereof, whichever is convenient to the Procuring Entity.
- 18.4 In case the total sum of liquidated damages reaches ten percent (10%) of the total contract price, the Procuring Entity may rescind or terminate the contract, without prejudice to other courses of action and remedies available under the circumstances.
- 18.5 If the Intended Completion Date is extended after liquidated damages have been paid, the Procuring Entity shall correct any overpayment of liquidated damages by the Contractor by adjusting the next payment schedule.

## **19) Settlement of Disputes**

- 19.1 Any dispute arising from the implementation of a contract covered by the Act and the IRR shall primarily be resolved and settled amicably by mutual consultation or agreement.
- 19.2 In case of failure to settle the dispute amicably, the parties may mutually agree in writing to resort to other modes of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) to promote efficiency in the procurement process. Accordingly, they are encouraged to select the most expeditious mode of ADR available.  
  
If arbitration is chosen as the ADR method, this shall be incorporated as a provision in the contract and referred to the Arbitrator specified in the **SCC**.
- 19.3 If the dispute remains unresolved after exhausting the remedies provided above, it may be submitted to other forms of ADR, such as mediation, conciliation, early neutral evaluation, mini-trial, or any combination thereof, in accordance with RA No. 9285, otherwise known as the "Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 2004". However, disputes that are within the competence or jurisdiction of the Construction Industry Arbitration Commission shall be referred to the same for resolution.<sup>14</sup>

## **20) Liability of the Contractor**

Subject to additional provisions, if any, set forth in the **SCC**, the Contractor's liability under this Contract shall be as provided by the laws of the Republic of the Philippines.

## **21) Termination for Breach of Contract**

- 21.1 The Procuring Entity shall terminate the contract for breach thereof when any of the following conditions are present:

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<sup>14</sup> Executive Order No. 1008 (Construction Industry Arbitration Law); and Construction Industry Arbitration Commission Revised Rules of Procedure.

- a) Due to the Contractor's fault and while the project is on-going, it has incurred negative slippage of fifteen percent (15%) or more in accordance with Presidential Decree No. 1870, s. 1983;
- b) Due to the Contractor's fault and after the contract time has expired, it has incurred a negative slippage of ten percent (10%) or more in the completion of the work;
- c) The Contractor abandons the contract works, plainly demonstrates an intention not to continue the performance of the Contractor's obligations under the contract, refuses or fails to comply with the Procuring Entity's instructions, or fails to proceed expeditiously and without delay despite a written notice by the Procuring Entity;
- d) When the Contractor, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with the Notice of Rejection given by the Project Engineer that, after examination therein, the Infrastructure Project is found to be defective or otherwise not in accordance with the Contract, or a Project Engineer's instruction to conduct remedial work, within 30 days after receiving the said notice;
- e) The Contractor does not actually have on the project site the minimum essential equipment listed on the Bid necessary to prosecute the Works in accordance with the approved work plan and equipment deployment schedule as required for the project;
- f) The Contractor does not execute the Works in accordance with the contract or persistently or flagrantly neglects to carry out its obligations under the contract;
- g) The Contractor neglects or refuses to remove materials or to perform a new work that has been rejected as defective or unsuitable;
- h) The Contractor subcontracts any part of the contract works without approval by the Procuring Entity; or
- i) The Contractor becomes bankrupt or insolvent; goes into liquidation, administration, reorganization, winding-up, or dissolution; becomes subject to the appointment of a liquidator, receiver, administrator, manager, or trustee; enters into a composition or arrangement with the Contractor's creditors; or any act is done or any event occurs which is analogous to or has a similar effect to any of these acts or events under applicable laws.

21.2 All materials on the Site, Plant, Works, including Equipment paid under this Contract, including those identified by the Procuring Entity in the **SCC** pursuant to GCC Clause 9.1, shall be deemed to be the property of the Procuring Entity if this Contract is terminated because of the Contractor's breach.

## **22) Termination Due to Force Majeure**

22.1 For purposes of this Contract the terms "*force majeure*" and "fortuitous event" may be used interchangeably. In this regard, a fortuitous event or *force majeure* shall be interpreted to mean an event which could not have been foreseen, or though foreseen, was inevitable. It shall not include ordinary

unfavorable weather conditions, and any other cause the effects of which could have been avoided with the exercise of reasonable diligence by the Contractor.

- 22.2 If this Contract is discontinued by an outbreak of war or by any other similar event entirely outside the control of either the Procuring Entity or the Contractor, the Procuring Entity shall certify that this Contract has been discontinued. The Contractor shall make the Site safe and stop work as quickly as possible after receiving the certificate and shall be paid for all Works carried out before receiving it and for any Work carried out afterwards to which a commitment was made by the Procuring Entity.
- 22.3 If the event continues for a period of eighty-four (84) days, either party may then give notice of termination, which shall take effect twenty-eight (28) days after the giving of the notice.
- 22.4 After termination, the Contractor shall be entitled to payment of the unpaid balance of the value of the Works executed and of the materials and Plant, in relation to GCC Clause 9.1 and 21.2, adjusted by the following:
- (a) any sum to which the Contractor is entitled under **GCC** Clause 30; and
  - (b) any sum to which the Procuring Entity is entitled.
- 22.5 The net balance due shall be paid or repaid within a reasonable time period from the time of the notice of termination.

### **23) Termination by Contractor**

The Contractor may terminate this Contract with the Procuring Entity if the Works are completely stopped for a continuous period of at least sixty (60) calendar days through no fault of its own, due to any of the following reasons:

- a) Failure of the Procuring Entity to deliver, within a reasonable time, supplies, materials, right-of-way, or other items it is obligated to furnish under the terms of this Contract;
- b) Substantial failure of the Procuring Entity to perform its obligations under the contract, and such failure constitutes a material breach of the Procuring Entity's obligations under the contract;
- c) Prolonged suspension by the Procuring Entity, through no fault of the Contractor, which affects the substantial part of the Infrastructure Project; or
- d) The prosecution of the Work is disrupted by the adverse peace and order situation, as certified by the Armed Forces of the Philippines Provincial Commander and approved by the Secretary of National Defense.

### **24) Termination for Convenience**

The Procuring Entity, by notice sent to the Contractor, may terminate the Contract, in whole or in part, at any time, if it has determined the existence of any of the following conditions that make contract implementation economically, financially, or technically impractical or unnecessary:

- a) If physical and economic conditions have significantly changed so as to render the project no longer economically, financially, or technically feasible, as determined by the HoPE; or
- b) The HoPE has determined the existence of conditions that make project implementation impractical or unnecessary, such as, but not limited to, fortuitous events, changes in laws and government policies.

**25) Termination for Unlawful Acts**

The Procuring Entity may terminate the contract in case it is determined prima facie that the Contractor, including any joint venture partner therein, has engaged, before or during the implementation of the contract, in unlawful deeds and behaviors relative to contract acquisition and implementation. These unlawful acts include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, and obstructive practices as defined in **ITB Clause 3.1**, unless otherwise specified in the **SCC**;
- b) Drawing up or using forged documents;
- c) Using adulterated materials, means, or methods, or engaging in production contrary to rules of science or trade; or
- d) Any other act analogous to the foregoing.

**26) Termination for Other Causes**

26.1 The Procuring Entity may terminate this Contract, in whole or in part, at any time for its convenience. The HoPE may terminate this Contract for the convenience of the Procuring Entity if physical and economic conditions have significantly changed so as to render the project no longer economically, financially, or technically feasible, as determined by the HoPE; or if the HoPE has determined the existence of conditions that make project implementation impractical or unnecessary, such as, but not limited to, fortuitous events, changes in laws and government policies.

26.2 The Procuring Entity or the Contractor may terminate this Contract if the other party causes a fundamental breach of this Contract.

26.3 Other breaches of Contract shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- a) The Contractor stops work for twenty-eight (28) days when no stoppage of work is shown on the current Program of Work and the stoppage has not been authorized by the Procuring Entity;
- b) The Procuring Entity instructs the Contractor to delay the progress of the Works, and the instruction is not withdrawn within twenty-eight (28) days;
- c) A payment certified by the Procuring Entity is not paid to the Contractor within eighty-four (84) days from the date of the Procuring Entity's certificate;

- d) The Procuring Entity gives Notice that failure to correct a particular Defect is a fundamental breach of Contract and the Contractor fails to correct it within a reasonable period of time determined by the Procuring Entity;
  - e) The Contractor does not maintain a Security, which is required; and
  - f) The Contractor has delayed the completion of the Works by the number of days for which the maximum amount of liquidated damages can be paid, as defined in the **GCC** 18.
- 26.4 The Funding Source or the Procuring Entity, as appropriate, will seek the imposition of administrative sanctions as prescribed by RA No. 12009 and without prejudice to the imposition of civil and criminal sanctions as provided under applicable against individuals and organizations deemed to be involved with corrupt, fraudulent, or coercive practices.
- 26.5 When persons from either party to this Contract gives notice of a fundamental breach to the Procuring Entity in order to terminate the existing contract for a cause other than those listed under **GCC** Clause 26.3, the Procuring Entity shall decide whether the breach is fundamental or not.
- 26.6 If this Contract is terminated, the Contractor shall stop work immediately, make the Site safe and secure, and leave the Site as soon as reasonably possible.

## **27) Procedures for Termination of Contracts**

- 27.1 The following provisions shall govern the procedures for the termination of this Contract:
- a) **Verification** - Upon receipt of a written report of acts or causes which may constitute grounds for termination as aforementioned, or upon its own initiative, the End-User or Implementing Unit shall, within a period of seven (7) calendar days, verify the existence of such grounds and cause the execution of a Verified Report, with all relevant evidence attached;
  - b) **Notice to Terminate** - Upon recommendation by the End-User or Implementing Unit, the HoPE shall terminate contracts only by written notice to the Contractor conveying the termination of the contract. The notice shall state:
    - (i) that the Contract is being terminated for any of the grounds aforementioned, and a statement of the acts that constitute the grounds constituting the same;
    - (ii) the extent of termination, whether in whole or in part;
    - (iii) an instruction to the Contractor to show cause as to why this contract should not be terminated; and
    - (iv) special instructions of the Procuring Entity, if any.

The Notice to Terminate shall be accompanied by a copy of the Verified Report;

- c) **Show Cause** - Within a period of seven (7) calendar days from receipt of the Notice of Termination, the Contractor shall submit to the HoPE a verified position paper stating why the contract should not be terminated. If the Contractor fails to show cause after the lapse of the seven (7) day period, either by inaction or by default, the HoPE shall issue an order terminating the contract;
- d) **Rescission of Notice of Termination** - The Procuring Entity may, at any time before receipt of the Contractor's verified position paper, withdraw the Notice to Terminate if it is determined that certain items or works subject of the notice had been completed, delivered, or performed before the Contractor's receipt of the notice;
- e) **Decision** - Within a non-extendible period of ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the verified position paper, the HoPE shall decide whether or not to terminate the contract. It shall serve a written notice to the Contractor of its decision and, unless otherwise provided, the contract is deemed terminated from receipt of the Contractor of the notice of the decision. The termination shall only be based on the grounds stated in the Notice to Terminate.
- f) **Contract Termination Review Committee (CTRC)** - The HoPE may create a committee to assist him in the discharge of its functions under the IRR. All decisions recommended by the CTRC shall be subject to the approval of the HoPE
- g) **Take-over of Contracts** - If a Procuring Entity terminates the contract due to default, insolvency, or for cause, it may enter into a Negotiated Procurement (Take-over of Contracts) pursuant to Section 35.3 of the IRR.
- h) **Notice by Contractor** - The Contractor must serve a written notice to the Procuring Entity of its intention to terminate the contract at least thirty (30) calendar days before its intended termination. The contract is deemed terminated if it is not resumed in thirty (30) calendar days after the receipt of such notice by the Procuring Entity.

27.2 Notwithstanding Section 99 of RA No. 12009 and as provided by applicable laws, the Procuring Entity shall impose on Contractors after the termination of the contract, the penalty of suspension for one (1) year for the first offense, suspension for two (2) years for the second offense from participating in the public bidding process, for violations committed during the contract implementation stage, as stated in the **SCC**.

## 28) **Approval of Drawings and Temporary Works by the Procuring Entity**

- 28.1 All Drawings prepared by the Contractor for the execution of the Temporary Works, are subject to prior approval by the Procuring Entity before its use.
- 28.2 The Contractor shall be responsible for design of Temporary Works.
- 28.3 The Procuring Entity's approval shall not alter the Contractor's responsibility for design of the Temporary Works.

28.4 The Contractor shall obtain approval of third parties to the design of the Temporary Works, when required by the Procuring Entity.

**29) Acceleration and Delays Ordered by the Procuring Entity**

29.1 When the Procuring Entity wants the Contractor to finish before the Intended Completion Date, the Procuring Entity will obtain priced proposals for achieving the necessary acceleration from the Contractor. If the Procuring Entity accepts these proposals, the Intended Completion Date will be adjusted accordingly and confirmed by both the Procuring Entity and the Contractor.

29.2 If the Contractor's Financial Proposals for an acceleration are accepted by the Procuring Entity, they are incorporated in the Contract Price and treated as a Variation.

**30) Contractor's Right to Claim**

If the Contractor incurs cost as a result of any of the events under **GCC** Clauses 22, 23 and 24 in relation to **GCC** Clause 20, the Contractor shall be entitled to the amount of such cost. If as a result of any of the said events, it is necessary to change the Works, this shall be dealt with as a Variation.

**31) Dayworks**

31.1 Subject to **GCC** Clause 40 on Variation Order, and if applicable as indicated in the **SCC**, the Contractor shall determine the Dayworks rates to be included or indicated in the Bid. The Dayworks rates in the Contractor's bid shall be used for small additional amounts of work only when the Procuring Entity has given written instructions in advance for additional work to be paid for in that way.

31.2 All work to be paid for as Dayworks shall be recorded by the Contractor on forms approved by the Procuring Entity. Each completed form shall be verified and signed by the Procuring Entity within two (2) days of the work being done.

31.3 The Contractor shall be paid for Dayworks subject to obtaining signed Dayworks forms from both the Procuring Entity and Contractor.

**32) Early Warning**

32.1 The Contractor shall warn the Procuring Entity at the earliest opportunity of specific likely future events or circumstances that may adversely affect the quality of the work, increase the Contract Price, or delay the execution of the Works.

32.2 The Contractor shall cooperate with the Procuring Entity in making and considering proposals for how the effect of such an event or circumstance can be avoided or reduced by anyone involved in the work and in carrying out any resulting instruction of the Procuring Entity. Should such events or circumstances arise which increase the Contract price or delay the execution of Works, the provisions on variation order shall apply.

**33) Program of Work**

33.1 Within the time stated in the **SCC**, the Contractor shall submit to the Procuring Entity for approval a Program of Work showing the general methods, arrangements, order, and timing for all the activities in the Works.

- 33.2 An update of the Program of Work shall show the actual progress achieved on each activity and the effect of the progress achieved on the timing of the remaining work, including any changes to the sequence of the activities.
- 33.3 The Contractor shall submit to the Procuring Entity for approval an updated Program of Work at intervals no longer than the period stated in the **SCC**. If the Contractor does not submit an updated Program of Work within this period, the Procuring Entity may withhold the amount stated in the **SCC** from the next payment schedule and continue to withhold this amount until the next payment after the date on which the overdue Program of Work has been submitted.
- 33.4 The Procuring Entity's approval of the Program of Work shall not alter the Contractor's obligations. A revised Program of Work produced by the Contractor shall show the effect of any approved Variations, and shall include all Variations. The Contractor may revise the Program of Work, based on the Variation Order, and submit it to the Procuring Entity again.
- 33.5 When the Program of Work is updated, the Contractor shall provide the Procuring Entity with an updated cash flow forecast. The cash flow forecast shall include different currencies, as defined in the Contract, converted as necessary using the Contract exchange rates.

#### **34) Management Conferences**

- 34.1 Either the Procuring Entity or the Contractor may require the other to attend a Management Conference. The Management Conference shall review the plans for remaining work and deal with matters raised in accordance with the early warning procedure.
- 34.2 The Procuring Entity shall record the business of Management Conferences and provide copies of the record to those attending the Conference and to the Procuring Entity. The responsibility of the parties for the actions to be taken shall be decided by the Procuring Entity either at the Management Conference or after the Management Conference. The Procuring Entity shall communicate these responsibilities in writing to all who attended the Conference.

#### **35) Bill of Quantities**

- 35.1 The Bill of Quantities shall contain items of work for the construction, installation, testing, commissioning of work, materials, and labor among others, to be done by the Contractor.
- 35.2 The Bill of Quantities is used to calculate the Contract Price. The Contractor is paid for the quantity of the work done at the rate in the Bill of Quantities for each item.
- 35.3 If the final quantity of any work item completed differs from the quantity indicated in the Bill of Quantities, and the difference does not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the original quantity for that item, the Procuring Entity shall adjust the Contract accordingly.

This shall be allowed only if the total amount of all such changes does not go beyond ten percent (10%) of the total Contract price, subject to applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

- 35.4 If requested by the Procuring Entity, the Contractor shall provide the Procuring Entity with a detailed cost breakdown of any rate in the Bill of Quantities.

**36) Instructions, Inspections and Audits**

- 36.1 The Procuring Entity shall at all reasonable times during construction of the Works be entitled to examine, inspect, measure and test the materials and workmanship, and to check the progress of the construction.
- 36.2 If the Procuring Entity instructs the Contractor to carry out a test not specified in the Specification to check whether any work has a defect and the test shows that it does, the Contractor shall pay for the test and any samples. In the absence of any defect, the test shall be a compensation event with no adverse consequences to the contractor.
- 36.3 The Contractor shall permit the Funding Source named in the **SCC** to inspect the Contractor's accounts and records relating to the performance of the Contractor and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the Funding Source, if so required by the Funding Source.

**37) Identifying Defects**

The Procuring Entity shall check the Contractor's work and notify the Contractor of any defects that are found. Such checking shall not affect the Contractor's responsibilities. The Procuring Entity may instruct the Contractor to check noted defects and test any work that the Procuring Entity considers as substandard and/or defective.

**38) Correction of Defects**

- 38.1 The Procuring Entity shall give notice to the Contractor of any defects before the end of the Defects Liability Period, which is one (1) year from project completion up to final acceptance by the Procuring Entity.
- 38.2 Every time notice of a defect is given, the Contractor shall correct the notified defect within ninety (90) calendar days from the time the HoPE has issued an order to undertake repair.
- 38.3 The Contractor shall correct the defects which they notice themselves before the end of the Defects Liability Period.
- 38.4 The Procuring Entity shall certify that all defects have been duly corrected.

**39) Uncorrected Defects**

- 39.1 The Procuring Entity shall give the Contractor at least fourteen (14) days' notice of its intention to use a third party to correct a Defect. If the Contractor does not correct the Defect himself within the period, the Procuring Entity may have the Defect corrected by the third party. The cost of the correction will be deducted from the Contract Price.
- 39.2 The use of a third party to correct defects that are uncorrected by the Contractor will in no way relieve the Contractor of its liabilities and warranties under the Contract.

#### 40) Variation Orders

40.1 Variation Orders may be issued by the Procuring Entity to cover any increase or decrease in quantities, including the introduction of new work items that are not included in the original contract or reclassification of work items that are either due to change of plans, design or alignment to suit actual field conditions resulting in disparity between the preconstruction plans used for purposes of bidding and the "as staked plans" or construction drawings prepared after a joint survey by the Contractor and the Government after award of the contract.

Provided, That in case of positive or additive Variation Order/s, the cumulative amount thereof shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the original contract price; Provided, further, That the scope of works shall not be reduced as to accommodate a positive Variation Order. In all cases, the addition of works under Variation Orders should be within the general scope of the project as bid and awarded.

40.2 Any cumulative positive Variation Order beyond ten percent (10%) of the original contract price shall be the subject of another procurement project to be bid out if the Works are separable from the original contract. In exceptional cases where it is urgently necessary to complete the original scope of work, the HoPE, upon the recommendation of the End-User or Implementing Unit, may authorize positive Variation Order/s resulting to a cumulative value of the positive Variation Orders beyond ten percent (10%) but not more than twenty percent (20%) of the original contract price.

All progress payments shall first be charged against the advance payment until the latter has been fully exhausted, at the option of the Procuring Entity.

40.3 A Variation Order may either be in the form of a Change Order or Extra Work Order:

- a) A Change Order may be issued by the HoPE or duly authorized representative to cover any increase or decrease in quantities of original work items in the contract.
- b) An Extra Work Order may be issued by the implementing official to cover the introduction of new work necessary for the completion, improvement or protection of the project which was not included as items of work in the original contract, such as, where there are subsurface or latent physical conditions at the site differing materially from those indicated in the contract, or where there are duly unknown physical conditions at the site of an unusual nature differing materially from those ordinarily encountered and generally recognized as inherent in the work or character provided for in the contract.

40.4 For Variation Orders, the Contractor shall be paid for additional work items whose unit prices shall be derived based on the following:

- a) For additional or extra works duly covered by Change Orders involving work items which are exactly the same or similar to those in the original contract, the applicable unit prices of work items original contract shall be used.

- b) For additional or extra works duly covered by Extra Work Orders involving new work items that are not in the original contract, the unit prices of the new work items shall be based on the direct unit costs used in the original contract (e.g., unit cost of cement, rebars, form lumber, labor rate, equipment rental, etc.). All new components of the new work item shall be fixed prices; Provided, The same is acceptable to both the Government and the Contractor; Provided further, That the direct unit costs of new components shall be based on the Contractor's estimate as validated by the Procuring Entity concerned via documented canvass in accordance with existing rules and regulations. The direct cost of the new work item shall then be combined with the mark-up factor (i.e., taxes and profit) used by the Contractor in its bid to determine the unit price of the new work item.

40.5 Under no circumstances shall a Contractor proceed to commence work under any Change Order or Extra Work Order unless it has been approved by the HoPE or its duly authorized representative. However, under any of the following conditions, the Procuring Entity's representative or Project Engineer may, subject to the availability of funds and within the limits of its delegated authority, allow the immediate start of work under any Change Order or Extra Work Order:

- a) In the event of an emergency where the prosecution of the work is urgent to avoid detriment to public service, or damage to life and/or property; and/or
- b) When time is of the essence;

Provided, however, That such approval is valid on work done up to the point where the cumulative increase in value of work on the project which has not yet been duly fully approved does not exceed five percent (5%) of the adjusted original contract price.

Provided, further, That immediately after the start of work, the corresponding Change Order or Extra Work Order shall be prepared and submitted for approval in accordance with the abovementioned rules. Payments for Works satisfactorily accomplished on any Change Order or Extra Work Order may be made only after approval of the same by the HoPE or its duly authorized representative.

Provided, finally, That for a Change Order or Extra Work Order involving a cumulative amount exceeding five percent (5%) of the original contract price, no work thereon may be commenced unless said Change Order or Extra Work Order has been approved by the HoPE or its duly authorized representative.

#### **41) Contract Completion**

Once the project reaches an accomplishment of ninety-five percent (95%) of the total contract amount, the Procuring Entity may constitute an inspectorate team to conduct preliminary inspection and submit a punch-list to the Contractor in preparation for the final turnover of the project. Said punch-list will contain, among others, the remaining Works, Work deficiencies for necessary corrections, and the specific duration/time to fully complete the project within the approved remaining contract time. This, however, shall not preclude the claim of the Procuring Entity for liquidated damages, if applicable.

## 42) Suspension of Work

- 42.1 The Procuring Entity shall have the authority to suspend the work wholly or partly by written order for such period as may be deemed necessary, due to *force majeure* or any fortuitous event or for failure on the part of the Contractor to correct bad conditions which are unsafe for workers or for the general public, to carry out valid orders given by the Procuring Entity or to perform any provisions of the contract, or due to adjustment of plans to suit field conditions as found necessary during construction. The Contractor shall immediately comply with such order to suspend the work wholly or partly.
- 42.2 The Contractor or its duly authorized representative shall have the right to suspend work operation on any or all projects or activities along the critical path of activities after fifteen (15) calendar days from date of receipt of written notice from the Contractor to the district engineer, regional director, consultant or equivalent official, as the case may be, due to the following:
- a) There exist right-of-way problems which prohibit the Contractor from performing work in accordance with the approved construction schedule.
  - b) Requisite construction plans which must be owner furnished are not issued to the Contractor precluding any work called for by such plans.
  - c) Peace and order conditions that make it extremely dangerous, if not possible, to work. However, this condition must be certified in writing by the Philippine National Police station which has responsibility over the affected area and confirmed by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Regional Director.
  - d) There was a failure on the part of the Procuring Entity to deliver government-furnished materials and equipment as stipulated in the contract.
  - e) Delay in the payment of Contractor's claim for progress billing beyond forty-five (45) calendar days from the time the Contractor's claim has been certified by the Procuring Entity's authorized representative that the documents are complete, unless there are justifiable reasons for the delay in payment which shall be communicated in writing to the Contractor.
- 42.3 In case of total suspension, or suspension of activities along the critical path, which is not due to any fault of the Contractor, the elapsed time between the effectivity of the order suspending operation and the order to resume work shall be allowed to the Contractor by adjusting the contract time accordingly.

## 43) Payment on Termination

- 43.1 If the Contract is terminated because of a breach of Contract by the Contractor, the Procuring Entity shall issue a certificate for the value of the work done and Materials ordered less advance payments received up to the date of the issue of the certificate, and less the percentage to apply to the value of the work not completed, as indicated in the **SCC**. Additional liquidated damages shall not apply. If the total amount due to the Procuring Entity exceeds any payment

due to the Contractor, the difference shall be a debt payable to the Procuring Entity.

- 43.2 If the Contract is terminated for the Procuring Entity's convenience, or due to a breach of Contract by the Procuring Entity, the Procuring Entity shall issue a certificate for the value of the work done, Materials ordered, the reasonable cost of removal of Equipment, repatriation of the Contractor's personnel employed solely on the Works, and the Contractor's costs of protecting and securing the Works, and less advance payments received up to the date of the certificate.
- 43.3 The net balance due shall be paid or repaid within twenty-eight (28) days from the notice of termination.
- 43.4 If the Contractor has terminated the Contract under **GCC** Clauses 23 to 24, the Procuring Entity shall promptly return the Performance Security to the Contractor.

#### **44) Extension of Contract Time**

- 44.1 Should the amount of additional work or other special circumstances warrant the entitlement of the Contractor to an extension of contract time, the Procuring Entity shall determine the amount of such extension; Provided, That the Contractor has notified the Procuring Entity of its claim for extension of contract time prior to the expiration of the contract time, and within thirty (30) calendar days after the additional work has been commenced or the circumstances leading to such claim have arisen, as the case may be, in order to give the Procuring Entity the opportunity to investigate the claim. Failure to provide such notice shall constitute a waiver of such a claim by the Contractor. Upon receipt of full and detailed particulars, the Procuring Entity shall examine the facts and extent of the delay and shall extend the contract time to complete the contract work when, in the Procuring Entity's opinion, the findings of facts justify an extension.
- 44.2 No extension of contract time shall be granted to the Contractor due to ordinary unfavorable weather conditions and inexcusable negligence of the Contractor to provide the required equipment, supplies, or materials.
- 44.3 Extension of contract time may be granted only when the affected activities fall within the critical path of the PERT, CPM, Precedence Diagram Method or any other project management tool.
- 44.4 No extension of contract time shall be granted when the reason given to support the request for extension was already considered in the determination of the original contract time during the conduct of detailed engineering and in the preparation of the contract documents as agreed upon by the parties before contract perfection.
- 44.5 Extension of contract time may be granted in the cases indicated in the **SCC**.
- 44.6 The written consent of the bank, or surety or insurance company, as the case may be, must be attached to any request of the Contractor for extension of contract time and submitted to the Procuring Entity for consideration and the validity of the Performance Security shall be correspondingly extended.

- 44.7 The Procuring Entity shall extend the Intended Completion Date if a Variation is issued which makes it impossible for the Intended Completion Date to be achieved by the Contractor without taking steps to accelerate the remaining work, which would cause the Contractor to incur additional costs. No payment shall be made for any event which may warrant the extension of the Intended Completion Date.
- 44.8 The Procuring Entity shall decide whether and by how much to extend the Intended Completion Date within twenty (20) days of the Contractor asking the Procuring Entity for a decision thereto after fully submitting all supporting information. If the Contractor has failed to give early warning of a delay or has failed to cooperate in dealing with a delay, the delay by this failure shall not be considered in assessing the new Intended Completion Date.

**45) Price Escalation**

In the event of an extraordinary increase in prices of specific components of the Infrastructure Project, price escalation may be considered, subject to prior approval of the GPPB. If the cost of construction components increases by more than ten percent (10%) of the unit price of work items, as determined against the prevailing price indices of the PSA, a price escalation may be authorized at a no-loss, no-gain basis, using the appropriate formula prescribed by the GPPB. For the purpose of this Section, the PSA shall ensure that its price indices are region-specific and updated on a monthly basis

**46) Completion**

The Contractor shall request the Procuring Entity to issue a Certificate of Completion of the Works, and the Procuring Entity will do so upon determining that the work is completed.

**47) Taking Over**

The Procuring Entity shall take over the Site and the Works within seven (7) days from the date of issuance of a Certificate of Completion; Provided, That it shall not release the Contractor of its responsibilities within the defects liability period.

**48) Operating and Maintenance Manuals**

- 48.1 If “as built” Drawings and/or operating and maintenance manuals are required, the Contractor shall supply them by the dates stated in the **SCC**.
- 48.2 If the Contractor does not supply the Drawings and/or manuals by the dates stated in the **SCC**, or they do not receive the Procuring Entity’s approval, the Procuring Entity shall withhold the amount stated in the **SCC** from payments due to the Contractor.