

*[To be executed on plain paper and applicable for all tenders of value above Rs. 10 Crore]*

## **INTEGRITY PACT**

Between

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) hereinafter referred to as "The Principal",

And

.....hereinafter referred to as "The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier".

### **Preamble**

The Principal intends to award, under laid down organization procedures, contract/s for ..... The Principal values full compliance with all relevant laws and regulations, and the principles of economic use of resources, and of fairness and transparency in its relations with its Bidder/s, Contractor/s and Supplier/s.

In order to achieve these goals, the Principal cooperates with the renowned international Non-Governmental Organization "Transparency International" (TI). Following TI's national and international experience, the Principal will appoint Independent External Monitor who will monitor the tender process and the execution of the contract for compliance with the principles mentioned above.

### **Section 1 - Commitments of the Principal**

- (1) The Principal commits itself to take all measures necessary to prevent corruption and to observe the following principles:
  - a) No employee of the Principal, personally or through family members, will in connection with the tender, or the execution of the contract, demand, take a promise for or accept, for himself/ herself or third person, any material or immaterial benefit which he/she is not legally entitled to.
  - b) The Principal will, during the tender process, treat all Bidders with equity and reason. The Principal will, in particular, before and during the tender process, provide to all Bidders the same information and will not provide to any Bidder confidential/ additional information through which the Bidder could obtain an advantage in relation to the tender process or the contract execution.

- c) The Principal will exclude from the process all known persons having conflict of interest.
- (2) If the Principal obtains information on the conduct of any of its employees which is a criminal offence under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) 1860 (replaced by Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023) and Prevention of Corruption Act 1988, or if there be a substantive suspicion in this regard, the Principal will inform its Vigilance Office and in addition can initiate disciplinary actions.

### **Section 2 - Commitments of the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier**

- (1) The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier commits itself to take all measures necessary to prevent corruption. He commits himself to observe the following principles during his participation in the tender process and during the contract execution.
  - a) The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier will not, directly or through any other person or firm, offer, promise or give to any of the Principal's employees involved in the tender process or the execution of the contract or to any third person, any material or immaterial benefit which he/she is not legally entitled to, in order to obtain in exchange, any advantage of any kind whatsoever during the tender process or during the execution of the contract.
  - b) The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier will not enter with other Bidders into any undisclosed agreement or understanding, whether formal or informal, in violation of Competition Act 2022 (as amended from time to time). This applies in particular to prices, specifications, certifications, subsidiary contracts, submission or non-submission of bids or any other actions to restrict competitiveness or to introduce cartelization in the bidding process.
  - c) The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier will not commit any offence under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) 1860 (replaced by Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023) and Prevention of Corruption Act 1988; further the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier will not use improperly, for purposes of competition or personal gain, or pass on to others, any information or document provided by the Principal as part of the business relationship, regarding plans, technical proposals and business details, including information contained or transmitted electronically.
  - d) The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier will, when presenting his bid, disclose any and all payments he has made, is committed to, or intends to make to agents, brokers or any other intermediaries in connection with the award of the contract.

- e) The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier shall make sure that the terms of this Integrity Pact are also adopted by its sub-contractors, sub-sub-contractors etc, if any and submit such adoption confirmation proof to the Principal. The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier shall be solely responsible for the adherence to the provisions of IP by its sub-contractors, sub-sub-contractors etc.
  - f) The bidder / contractor of foreign origin shall disclose the name and address of agents and representatives in India related to this tender. Similarly, the bidder / contractor of Indian nationality shall furnish the name and address of their foreign principals or associates, if any, related to this tender. Further details, as mentioned in the “Guidelines on Indian Agents of Foreign Suppliers,” shall be disclosed by the Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) as per Annex.
- (2) The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier will not instigate third persons to commit offences outlined above or be an accessory to such offences.

### **Section 3 - Disqualification from Tender Process and Exclusion from Future Contracts**

If the Bidder, before contract award, has committed a transgression through a violation of Section 2 or in any other form such as to put his reliability or credibility as Bidder into question, the Principal is entitled to disqualify the Bidder from the tender process or to terminate the contract, if already signed, for such reason or take action as per laid down procedure to debar the Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) from participating in the future procurement processes.

- (1) If the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier has committed a transgression through a violation of Section 2 such as to put his reliability or credibility into question, the Principal is also entitled to exclude the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier from future contract award processes. The imposition and duration of the exclusion will be determined by the severity of the transgression. The severity will be determined by the circumstances of the case, in particular the number of transgressions, the position of the transgressors within the company hierarchy of the Bidder and the amount of the damage. The exclusion will be imposed for a minimum of 6 months and maximum of 3 years.
- (2) A transgression is considered to have occurred if the Principal after due consideration of the available evidences, concludes that no reasonable doubt is possible.
- (3) The Bidder accepts and undertakes to respect and uphold the Principal's absolute right to resort to and impose such exclusion and further accepts and undertakes not to challenge or question such exclusion on any ground, including the lack of any hearing before the decision to resort to such exclusion is taken.

This undertaking is given freely and after obtaining independent legal advice.

- (4) If the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier can prove that he has restored/ recouped the damage caused by him and has installed a suitable corruption prevention system, the Principal may revoke the exclusion prematurely.

#### **Section 4 – Compensation for Damages**

- (1) If the Principal has disqualified the Bidder from the tender process prior to the award according to Section 3, the Principal is entitled to demand and recover from the Bidder liquidated damages equivalent to Earnest Money Deposit/Bid Security.
- (2) If the Principal has terminated the contract according to Section 3, or if the Principal is entitled to terminate the contract according to Section 3, the Principal shall be entitled to demand and recover from the Contractor/ Supplier liquidated damages equivalent to Security Deposit/ Performance Bank Guarantee.
- (3) The Bidder agrees and undertakes to pay the said amounts without protest or demur subject only to condition that if the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier can prove and establish that the exclusion of the Bidder from the tender process or the termination of the contract after the contract award has caused no damage or less damage than the amount of the liquidated damages, the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier shall compensate the Principal only to the extent of the damage in the amount proved.

#### **Section 5 - Previous Transgression**

- (1) The Bidder declares that no previous transgression occurred in the last 3 years from the date of bid submission with any other Company in any country conforming to the TI / Anti-corruption approach or with any other Public Sector Enterprise in India that could justify his exclusion from the tender process.
- (2) If the Bidder makes incorrect statement on this subject, he can be disqualified from the tender process or the contract, if already awarded, can be terminated for such reason.

#### **Section 6 - Equal treatment of all Bidders/ Contractors/Suppliers/ Subcontractors**

- (1) The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier undertakes to demand from all subcontractors a commitment in conformity with this Integrity Pact, and to submit it to the principal before contract signing. In case of a joint venture, all the partners of the joint venture should sign

the Integrity Pact. In case of sub-contracting, the principal contractor shall be solely responsible for the adherence to the provisions of IP by subcontractor.

- (2) The Principal will enter into agreements with identical conditions as this one with all Bidders and Contractors/ Suppliers.
- (3) The Principal will disqualify from the tender process all Bidders who do not sign this Pact or violate its provisions.

#### **Section 7 - Punitive Action against Violating Bidders/ Contractors/ Suppliers/ Subcontractors**

If the Principal obtains knowledge of conduct of a Bidder, Contractor, Supplier or Subcontractor, or of an employee or a representative or an associate of a Bidder, Contractor, Supplier or Subcontractor which constitutes corruption, or if the Principal has substantive suspicion in this regard, the Principal will inform the Vigilance Office.

#### **Section 8 - Independent External Monitors**

- (1) The Principal has appointed competent and credible Independent External Monitors for this Pact after approval by the Central Vigilance Commission. The task of the Monitor is to review independently and objectively, whether and to what extent the parties comply with the obligations under this agreement.
- (2) The Monitor is not subject to instructions by the representatives of the parties and performs his functions neutrally and independently. He reports to the Chairperson of the Board of the Principal.
- (3) The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier accepts that the Monitor has the right to access without restriction to all Project documentation of the Principal including that provided by the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier. The Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier will also grant the Monitor, upon his request and demonstration of a valid interest, unrestricted and unconditional access to this project documentation. The same is applicable to Subcontractors. The Monitor is under contractual obligation to treat the information and documents of the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier/ Subcontractor with confidentiality. The Monitor has also signed declarations on 'Non disclosure of Confidential Information' and 'Absence of Conflict of Interest'. In case of any conflict of interest arising later, the IEM shall inform the Management of the Principal and recuse themselves from that case.
- (4) The Principal will provide to the Monitor sufficient information about all meetings among the parties related to the Project provided such meetings could have an impact on the

contractual relations between the Principal and the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier. The parties offer to the Monitor the option to participate in such meetings.

- (5) As soon as the Monitor notices, or believes to notice, a violation of this agreement, he will so inform the Management of the Principal and request the Management to discontinue or heal the violation, or to take other relevant action. The Monitor can in this regard submit non-binding recommendation. Beyond this, the Monitor has no right to demand from the parties that they act in a specific manner, refrain from action or tolerate action. However, the Independent External Monitor shall give an opportunity to the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier to present its case before making its recommendations to the Principal.
- (6) The Monitor will submit a written report to the Chairperson of the Board of the Principal within 8 to 10 weeks from the date of reference or intimation to him by the 'Principal' and, should the occasion arise, submit proposals for correcting problematic situations.
- (7) If the Monitor has reported to the Chairperson of the Board a substantiated suspicion of an offence under relevant Indian Penal Code (IPC) 1860 (replaced by Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023) and Prevention of Corruption Act 1988, and the Chairperson has not, within reasonable time, taken visible action to proceed against such offence or reported it to the Vigilance Office, the Monitor may also transmit this information directly to the Central Vigilance Commissioner, Government of India.
- (8) The word 'Monitor' would include both singular and plural.

#### **Section 9 - Pact Duration**

This Pact begins when both parties have legally signed it. It expires for the Contractor/ Supplier 12 months after the last payment under the respective contract, and for all other Bidders 6 months after the contract has been awarded. Any violation of the same would entail disqualifying the bidders and exclusion from future business dealings.

If any claim is made/ lodged during this time, the same shall be binding and continue to be valid despite the lapse of this pact as specified above, unless it is discharged/ determined by Chairperson of the Principal.

#### **Section 10 - Other Provisions**

- (1) This agreement is subject to Indian Law. Place of performance and jurisdiction is the Registered Office of the Principal, i.e. Mumbai. The Arbitration clause provided in the main

tender document/ contract shall not be applicable for any issue/ dispute arising under Integrity Pact.

- (2) Changes and supplements as well as termination notices need to be made in writing. Side agreements have not been made.
- (3) If the Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier is a partnership or a consortium, this agreement must be signed by all partners or consortium members.
- (4) Should one or several provisions of this agreement turn out to be invalid, the remainder of this agreement remains valid. In this case, the parties will strive to come to an agreement to their original intentions.
- (5) If any Bidder/ Contractor/ Supplier entering into Integrity Pact, aggrieved by any decision / action of the Principal, shall approach the IEMs and await their decision before pursuing any other remedy available to him in law.
- (6) Issues like Warranty / Guarantee, etc., shall be outside the purview of IEMs.

For & On Behalf of the Principal  
(Office Seal)

For & On Behalf of Bidder / Contractor / Supplier  
(Office Seal)

Place.....  
Date .....

Witness 1  
(Name & Address)

Witness 1  
(Name & Address)

## **Annex– Guidelines on Indian Agents of Foreign Suppliers**

- 1.1 There shall be compulsory registration of agents for all Global Tender Enquiries (GTE) and Limited Tender Enquiries (LTE). An agent not registered with the Procuring Entity shall apply for registration with them.
  - 1.2 Registered agents shall file an authenticated Photostat copy duly attested by a Notary Public / Original certificate of the Principal confirming the agency agreement and giving the status being enjoyed by the agent and the commission/remuneration/salary/ retainer ship being paid by the Principal to the agent before the placement of an order by the Procuring Entity.
  - 1.3 Wherever the Indian representatives have communicated on behalf of their principals and the foreign parties, have stated that they are not paying any commission to the Indian agents, and the Indian representative is working based on salary or as a retainer, a written declaration to this effect should be submitted by the party (i.e., Principal) before finalising the Contract.
- 2.0 Disclosure of Particulars of Agents/ Representatives in India, if any.

### **2.1 Bidders of Foreign nationality shall furnish the following details in their offer:**

2.1.1 The name and address of the agents/representatives in India, if any and the extent of authorisation and authority given to commit the Principals. If the agent/representative is a foreign Company, it shall be confirmed whether it is a real functioning Company, and details of the same shall be furnished.

2.1.2 The amount of commission/remuneration included in the quoted price(s) for such agents/representatives in India.

2.1.3 Confirmation of the Bidder that the commission/ remuneration, if any, payable to his agents/representatives in India, may be paid by the Procuring Entity in Indian Rupees only.

### **2.2 Bidders of Indian Nationality shall furnish the following details in their offers:**

2.2.1 The name and address of the foreign principals indicating their nationality as well as their status, i.e., whether manufacturer or agents of manufacturer holding the Letter of Authority of the Principal specifically authorising the agent to make an offer in India in response to tender either directly or through the agents/representatives.

2.2.2 The amount of commission/remuneration included in the price (s) quoted by the Bidder for himself.



2.2.3 Confirmation of the foreign principals of the Bidder that the commission/remuneration, if any, reserved for the Bidder in the quoted price (s) may be paid by the Procuring Entity in India in equivalent Indian Rupees on satisfactory completion of the Project or supplies of Stores and Spares in case of operation items.

- 2.3 In either case, in the event of the contract materialising, the payment terms shall provide for payment of the commission /remuneration, if any, payable to the agents/representatives in India in Indian Rupees on expiry of 90 days after the discharge of the obligations under the contract.
- 2.4 Failure to furnish correct and detailed information as called for in paragraph - 2.0 above shall render the concerned bid liable to rejection or, in the event of a contract materialising, the same liable to termination by the Procuring Entity. Besides this, there would be a penalty of banning business dealings with the Procuring Entity or damage or payment of a named sum.