



MINUTES OF BAC MEETING
HO-BAC-PGCS No. 096A-2020

DATE : 02 December 2020
TIME : 2:45 p.m.
VENUE : Function Room B, 7th Floor, PPA Bldg.
ATTENDANCE :

BAC Members:

Mark Jon S. Palomar	-	Chairperson
Angelina A. Llose	-	Vice-Chairperson
Danah S. Jaramillo	-	Regular Member (via zoom)
Josephine M. Napiere	-	Regular Member (via zoom)
Diane Steffi T. Guillamon	-	Regular Member
Eric E. Dimaculangan	-	Provisional Member
Gervacio N. Balatbat	-	Provisional Member, End-User, ICTD
M.A. Hiyasmin H. Delos Santos	-	Provisional Member, End-User, POSD

Other Attendees:

Lolita D. Solis	-	Head, Secretariat
Milagros Lourdes P. Perez	-	Assistant Head
Mitchie F. Manatad	-	Head, TWG
Charlemagne V. Santillan	-	Member, TWG
Janneliza D.L. Rebong	-	Member, TWG
Sharon V. Oliveros	-	Member, TWG
Aida T. Dela Cruz	-	Member, TWG
Rogelyn G. Mendoza	-	Member, TWG

CALL TO ORDER:

The Head, Secretariat read the attendance of the BAC Members, TWG and Secretariat Members. After the quorum had been duly certified, the Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

HIGHLIGHTS:

1. The Chairperson presented the Agenda items, as follows: a) Pre-Bid Conference for the Supply and Delivery of Utility Vests; b) Pre-Procurement Conference for the Supply and Delivery of Electronic Terminal Management System inclusive of Cloud-based Unified Electronic Ticketing Capabilities for the Philippine Ports.

2. Pre-Bid Conference for the Supply and Delivery of Utility Vests

2.1 The objective of the Pre-Bid Conference is to clarify and/or explain any of the requirements, terms, conditions, and specifications stipulated in the Bidding Documents.

2.2 The Head Secretariat informed the Committee that there were no prospective bidders yet for the project.

2.3 The Head, Secretariat read the schedule for the submission of bids which is on December 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., while the opening of bids is at 10:00 a.m. of the same date.

3. Pre-Procurement Conference for the Supply and Delivery of Electronic Terminal Management System inclusive of Cloud-based Unified Electronic Ticketing Capabilities for the Philippine Ports

3.1 The Chairperson raised the following comments and concerns:

a) On the concept of the project, Mr. Balatbat said that initially, the intention is to cover all ticketing process in the PPA port terminals, including that of the shipping lines. However, during the public hearing conducted, the shipping lines claimed that they have their own existing ticketing system. Hence, PPA cannot impose another system to them.

b) On whether the system is like the iPorts, Mr. Balatbat said that it is different. The project will have a program interface for the e-ticketing system of PPA and that of the shipping lines. The e-ticketing system will be a full-turnkey solution, complete with the essential technology stack such as infrastructure, network, hardware, kiosk, software, and cloud infrastructure (computer and storage).

Mr. Balatbat explained that the existing kiosk of the shipping lines will remain at the terminals. However, it will be designed with the required specifications and system configuration provided by PPA. The system must be capable of integrating via APIs with third-party or external systems as may be required by PPA. The system must be capable of interfacing with PPA's computerized accounting system for the reporting of collection and remittance.

c) On whether the online ticketing system will still be available to the stakeholders. Mr. Balatbat affirmed. He said that ticketing agents can still sell tickets. PPA is merely providing a system that will ease the difficulty of stakeholders in purchasing tickets. He detailed that with the system, the functionality to search for the route going to a specific port and fetch the list of applicable departures from the port will be provided. The system will enable with a standard map to calculate the directions and the time needed to arrive at the destination and it is possible to launch the map application to start the navigation to the selected port, thus, the passenger can plan their trips.

In addition, Mr. Balatbat explained that a centralized hub where the riding public can purchase tickets will be offered. The existing systems of the shipping lines will not be replaced, but rather an interconnectivity and interfacing will be provided. The shipping lines which do not have the capacity to put up their own e-ticketing system will also benefit from the project, considering that the system will be centralized.

- d) On whether the shipping lines nationwide are required to integrate their system in the interface. Mr. Balatbat affirmed. He manifested that initially a minimum of 15 ferry/vessel operator's systems will be interfaced and only 10 PMOs covered by the proposed project. According to him, the proposed number of kiosks is based on the volume of passengers in the concerned port.
- e) On what if the 10 PMOs will have more than 15 vessel operators, Mr. Balatbat stated that the proposed system of PPA can interface even more than 15 systems. He said that the 15 systems to be interfaced will be the minimum requirement from the bidder.
- f) With regard the payment for the tickets, Mr. Balatbat explained that the payment can be made either thru on-line or thru the kiosk. He said that the payment for the ticket will be accounted directly to the shipping lines, while the terminal fees will accrue directly to PPA.
- g) On whether PPA will charge a fee for the system, Mr. Balatbat said that initially, PPA will not charge anything. The system will be subsidized by PPA, as part of its regulatory function.
- h) On whether the system will cover Ro-Ro vehicles, Mr. Balatbat affirmed.
- i) The title of the project implies that the terminal management system is for the terminal fees to be collected by PPA. On the part of the passengers, the said system will ease the difficulty of paying the terminal fees. However, if the system of the vessel operator is not interfaced with PPA, the passenger will need to pay manually the terminal fee. According to him, said idea will encourage the vessel operators to interface their system. PPA cannot impose its mandate to the shipping lines since MARINA has the authority over them.

Atty. Delos Santos suggested that the project should be coordinated with MARINA because the shipping lines are under its mandate.

- j) On the documentation requirements from the passengers if they wish to log-in in the system, Mr. Balatbat manifested that they have not yet finalized the details of the required documentation.

When asked on the purpose of the registration, Mr. Balatbat stated that the registration is more advantageous to those frequent riders of vessels so that their account will be retained in case the system will be modified.

3.2 The Vice-Chairperson raised her comments and concerns, as follows:

- a) On whether PPA is competing with the other ticketing system of the shipping lines, the Chairperson clarified that PPA is unifying the systems and not competing with them. He explained that with the implementation of the system, a passenger need not go to each shipping line just to check the scheduled trips of the vessels in one destination to another. He added that the system will also provide a real time schedule of trips 24/7.
- b) On what will happen to those ticketing offices near or within the port area. Atty. Delos Santos said that ticketing agents and shipping lines can still sell tickets, and passengers can still buy from them. The intention of the project is to have a one stop shop centralized ticketing system where a passenger can process everything inside the terminal or within the port area. She explained that the existing ticketing system of the shipping lines only offers their own travel schedules for a specific destination they cater. However, with the interface system of PPA, the system will be like the system of the "booking.com," where the stakeholders can view all the possible options, if an individual is looking for hotel accommodation, in a particular date and at a specific destination. Atty. Delos Santos informed the Committee that proper guidelines on the matter will be provided.
- c) On whether the number of shipping lines which expressed intentions to interface their system with PPA was considered in the proposal, Mr. Balatbat stated that they will still need coordinate the said matter with the PMOs.
- d) On how to market the project to the shipping lines, as it will be hard to require a bidder to interface 15 systems, when the said number is not yet confirmed. She added that if the shipping line is not willing to be accredited by PPA, the planned trip of a passenger will also suffer because not all possible schedule of the vessels will be posted in the system. Meaning, the passenger will still do a manual booking, hence, the credibility of the system will be affected and the purpose of the project will be defeated.

The Vice-Chairperson expressed her reservation to approve the project, considering that the PhP500Million ABC is allocated for a pilot implementation of the said project. She opined that the project may be successful or not because the public has the option to utilize the system or not.

Mr. Balatbat commented that said scenario cannot be avoided especially during the initial implementation of the project. PPA cannot oblige the shipping lines to integrate their system with the Authority. However, they may see the benefit of enrolling in the system, considering that the shipping lines will not spend for the system to be provided, as well as its maintenance.

- 3.3. Considering the following concerns/issues to be verified by the proponent: a) the base ports covered by the project; b) the number of shipping lines in a concerned port and those who signified interest to interface their system with PPA; c) the volume percentage of the passengers; and d) the progression of the implementation of the project within the five (5)-year period, the Committee resolved to defer the approval of the procurement for the Supply and Delivery of Electronic terminal Management System inclusive of Cloud-based Unified Electronic Ticketing Capabilities for the Philippine Ports and to conduct another pre-procurement conference for the project.
4. There being no other matters to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Certified Correct:


LOLITA D. SOLIS
Head, BAC Secretariat

Approved:


MARK JON S. PALOMAR
Chairperson, BAC-PGCS