

## REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SECRETARY

13 January 2021

To: All Ministry Secretaries and All Heads of Government Departments and Agencies

(see distribution list)

From: Office of the Chief Secretary

Re: New RMI Government Procurement Regulations

Iokwe HODs.

Please find attached **RMI Government Procurement Regulations** which were recently approved by the Cabinet on 22 December 2020 (CM 269 2000) for your information and adherence to. The regulations provide guidelines or rules on any government procurements as per the existing Procurement Code 1988, and are aimed to help improve and enhance our government procurement processes, which involve purchasing of goods and services paid for by our government.

Government Procurement requirements are part of good-governance and accountability of using public moneys in the purchase of goods and services for use by the government, and so by having such rules and laws, the government is able to safeguard public funds against abuse and fraud because with procurement law, the government purchases goods and services based on the following principles:

- (1) Best value for money as there is competition between vendors for government spending hence preventing price monopoly and price gauging by any one vendor;
- (2) Fairness where everyone is given equal chance and access to government contract and purchases; and
- (3) Indemnification against loss or liability on the government as every purchase or contract obtained is through an agreement spelling out the respective requirements on each party to meet, so no hidden or unexpected and detrimental provisions that pose risks to both parties.

These regulations will make the procurement process much easier and more cost effective so the Policy Office, which is part of the Office of the Chief Secretary as accorded by the Procurement Code, is in charge of these regulations and will make sure the Bid Committee and all government offices follow these regulations whenever there is purchase of goods or services using public funds, worth \$25,000 or more according to the Code.

These regulations are subject to change and revision. Case in point, the following will be worked on for further inclusion into the Regulations e.g. change order, prescribed forms, recent amendments to the Code, and any other matters deemed necessary

I encourage all offices to read these regulations to become more familiar with. Should you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact my Office (DCS Jefferson Barton).

Sincerely,

Kino S. Kabua Chief Secretary

copy to:

Deputy Chief Secretary, Policy Office

RMI Bid Committee Chair - Chief of Procurement and Supply

File