

**Initiative on Future Management of Government Procurement**

6 December 2013

Voluntary Review Meeting

The Voluntary Review Meeting has compiled as detailed below initiatives on future management of government procurement, based on the follow-up study on the implementation of voluntary measures on government procurement and the hearing of requests and opinions from suppliers.

1. It must be notified that open tendering runs in principle. Otherwise when single tendering is applied exceptionally, efforts will be made to apply the conditions in Article 15 of the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement more strictly to each contract.
2. With regard to the application of the Overall Greatest Value (OGV) Evaluation Method, further efforts will be made to inform of the standard guides in each procurement field as a way to secure the transparency of procedures, and to work to ensure that the evaluation criteria for factors other than price and the distribution of marks are appropriate for each case, staying within the scope of the Standard Guides.  
In addition, efforts will be made to allow the paperwork to be carried out more efficiently, for both the procuring side as well as the suppliers, by, for example, keeping the number of materials requester for OGV Evaluation to a minimum and only to those needed to evaluate factors such as performance.
3. With regard to prescribing technical specifications of procurement for telecommunications products and services and for medical technology products and services, efforts will be made to steadily implement the following regulation of voluntary measures;
  - (i) Place greater emphasis on performance rather than design.
  - (ii) Base the specifications on international standards, where such exist.
  - (iii) Not require features not essential to the performance criteria.
  - (iv) Formulate specifications in an impartial manner.
4. With regard to the procurement of information systems, efforts will be made to engage in appropriate operation in accordance with the standard guidelines, concerning the OGV Evaluation Method that places importance on technological capabilities (price merits : technology merits = 1:3), which was introduced based on the Declaration to be the World's Most Advanced IT Nation (Cabinet decision of 14 June 2013).  
Furthermore, based on the abovementioned Declaration and the related schedule (decision by the Strategic Headquarters for the Promotion of an Advanced Information and Telecommunications Network Society of 14 June 2013), efforts will be made to engage in appropriate operation in accordance with the common rules, etc., relating to information systems procurement that are scheduled to be developed in the future.