

[GPPB RESOLUTION NO. 02-2011, January 28, 2011]

APPROVING THE REVISED GUIDELINES ON RECOGNITION OF UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION OF CONSULTANTS

Pursuant to Section 24.6.1 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) Part-A of Republic Act No. 9184 (RA 9184), the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) approved the "*Guidelines for Recognition of the Umbrella Organization of Consultants under Section 24.6 of the IRR-A of RA 9184*", through GPPB Resolution No. 014-2004 dated 22 November 2004.

The objectives of the guidelines is to identify and recognize organization of consultants that will promote the growth and national development of the consulting industry in the Philippines, in general, and the Filipino consultants, in particular.

During the 5th Regular Meeting of the Inter Agency Technical Working Group (IATWG) held last 18 May 2007, the IATWG unanimously agreed to revise the Guidelines in order to clarify the duties and responsibilities of umbrella organization of consultants (UOCs). Likewise, the IATWG created a small IATWG composed of representatives from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) for the matter.

During the meeting held last 14 December 2007, the GPPB and the IATWG unanimously agreed to recognize several UOCs for each major sector which will be included in the revised Guidelines, with a view to encourage and foster the development of an umbrella organization that will cover all professions and disciplines.

On its 5th Regular Meeting held last 16 May 2008, the IATWG discussed and resolved the issues on (i) the necessity of amending Section 24.6.1 of the IRR-A of RA 9184, (ii) the identification of the major sectors of the Philippine consulting industry, and (iii) the procedure for recognition of UOCs. It also agreed to include the Department of Trade and Industry and the private sector representatives in the composition of the small IATWG for the Guidelines. The Government Procurement Policy Board - Technical Support Office (GPPB-TSO) was tasked to draft the revised Guidelines incorporating the recommendations of the IATWG.

During the 6th GPPB Meeting last 27 June 2008, the GPPB-TSO presented for the information of the Board the salient features of the draft revised Guidelines, viz: (1) policy statement; (2) guiding principles; (3) criteria; (4) procedure for recognition; (5) duties and responsibilities; and (6) treatment of complaints in case of failure to comply with the its duties and responsibilities. The GPPB-TSO also presented the list of major sectors of the consulting industry and the suggested specific sub-categories per major sector. The GPPB, however, resolved to defer the approval of the draft revised Guidelines and instructed the GPPB-TSO to further study the