



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM

E PROCUREMENT TENDER PORTAL

On 23 March 2020, the Honourable President Cyril Ramaphosa announced that South Africa will be placed on lockdown for 21 days from midnight, Thursday, 26 March 2020, which was subsequently extended by another two weeks, to 30 April 2020, where after, the lockdown category would be revised from level 5 to level 4, or any other level deemed appropriate during the lockdown period.

Given the afore-mentioned emergency protocol that has been instituted, it is prudent for organs of state to adjust their procurement timelines to take cognisance of the current set of circumstances in which we find ourselves as a country, to ensure that the procurement processes followed are still fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective.

The coronavirus crisis is a story with an unclear ending. What is clear is that the human impact is already tragic, and that companies have an imperative to act immediately to protect their employees, address business challenges and risks, and help to mitigate the outbreak in whatever ways they can.

Institutions must be cognisant of the relevant lockdown level applicable to their institutions as, depending on the geographical area in which the institution is based, different lockdown levels may apply, with different associated lockdown restrictions. As such, when issuing any new bids during the lockdown period, institutions must do so in a manner that ensures that no prospective bidder is deprived of the opportunity to be able to respond to such tender advertisement.

Different lockdown levels allow certain industries/ suppliers to open for business, and the decision on whether or not to advertise a bid must take cognisance of this. If an institution decides to advertise a bid, the bid must be related to the industries which are open for business during that specific level of lockdown, and must ensure that submission of responses is done in a manner that is compliant to SCM prescripts and the Disaster Management Act and Regulations.

It is against this backdrop that SA Tourism have developed and implemented an on-line e-Procurement Portal (hereinafter the "Portal") which will enable bidders to respond to procurement opportunities as and when they are issued by SA Tourism.

The portal is the official portal for SA Tourism, which ensures open, transparent, and competitive environment for any person participating in the procurement processes. The portal enables a bidder to register as a supplier on the system and to RSVP to tender briefings and to submit tender responses on the portal.

The Portal's URL (<https://e-procurement.southafrica.net>) is compatible to Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Internet Explorer, Fire Fox and Safari. Interested bidders should with immediate effect consider registering and submitting their bid proposals on the portal which has specifically been developed and implemented for this purpose.

The supplier user manual can be viewed and downloaded on SA Tourism's website at <https://www.southafrica.net/gl/en/corporate/page/tenders>.

All bidders should therefore take note that the paragraph 3 of all SA Tourism's Request for Proposals (RFP's) is hereby amended where the physical drop-offs and courier of bid responses to SA Tourism's physical address is no longer permitted until further notice.

All technical queries on the RFP's should still be directed to the SA Tourism dedicated official as per paragraph 4.1 of the respective RFP's.

Yours in Tourism

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Theo Thumbbran', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Theo Thumbbran

Head of Supply Chain Management