



PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AND DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC ASSETS AUTHORITY

**BRIEF ON 7TH EAST AFRICAN PROCUREMENT FORUM HELD IN NAIROBI –
KENYA; 19TH – 21ST NOVEMBER 2014**

December 4, 2014

1: Brief Background to the Project

The 7th edition of the East African Procurement Forum (EAPF) was held in Nairobi – Kenya from 19th – 21st November 2014 at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre. The Forum was hosted by the Public Procurement Oversight Authority (PPOA) of Kenya on the theme: *“Promoting Sustainable Socio-economic Development through Public Procurement.”*

The EAPF is an annual event that is hosted on a rotational basis by the public procurement regulatory authorities of the East African Community countries. The Forum aims at bringing together the public and private sector actors from the East Africa partner states to share best practices as well as challenges in public procurement and how to overcome them within the framework of benchmarking with each other on the respective public procurement systems, including policies and enforcement measures.

At the 7th edition of EAPF, several presentations were made and resolutions adopted centering on the theme of the forum and participants agreed to implement the resolutions with a view to ultimately improving public sector procurement. The three day event gave a platform for the over 300 participants to engage with peers in East Africa on matters regarding procurement in the region. The participants had innovative collaboration and engagement during the event so as to maximise resource value and ensure that procurement brings growth to the business in the East African Community (EAC) region.

The official opening ceremonies were graced by the presence of the National Treasury Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Henry Rotich, who acknowledged the need to streamline public procurement system in the region for effective service delivery for citizens of East Africa.

2. Participation

The forum was attended by delegates from the EAC region. This mix helped participants to benchmark on one another and share experiences. The delegates were from the regulatory authorities in the region, policy and decision makers, development partners, procurement practitioners, procurement professionals, academia, contractors, representatives from various professional bodies, researchers, the private sector and business community. In all, over 300 delegates attended the Forum, 49 of whom were from Uganda. The list of participants from Uganda is attached as **Annex 1**.

3. Presentations

3.1. Methodology

The methodology applied during the forum included PowerPoint presentations, breakout sessions, Q&A Sessions, and sharing of experiences from different countries. There were also parallel break-out sessions in thematic areas where delegates came up with proposals on how to move forward the procurement agenda in the sub-region.

3.2 Presentations

The presenters at the Forum were drawn from the procurement practitioners, academia, Development Partners, sponsors and the representatives of the public procurement regulatory authorities. The presentations were on the following themes:

a. Policy Reforms for Sustainable Public Procurement in Kenya

- Aspects of Policy Reforms for Sustainability
- Reservations for disadvantaged groups (Citizen Contractors, SMEs, Youth, Women, PWDs, etc.)
- Domestic preference for local contractors
- Building local capacity for contractors
- E-Procurement initiative update
- Public Private Partnerships (PPPs).

b. Policy, Oversight & Operation of Public Procurement: Drawing The Lines

- What entails procurement policy, Oversight and, operations in public procurement
- Where policy begins and ends
- What entails procurement operations
- Who should operate the procurement system
- Impact of conflicting roles
- Distinction of Roles
- Best practice for roles on policy, oversight and operation of public procurement.

c. Procurement Regulatory Oversight: Opportunities and Challenges

- Procurement reviews and audits
 - Procurement assessments and inspections
 - Procurement investigations
 - Debarment of suppliers
- Opportunities and challenges.

d. Extra-Regulatory Procurement Oversight

- Why procurement regulatory oversight is unique?
- Role of Accounting Officers and Internal administrative actions
- Bid protest mechanism
- Relationship of Regulator with other oversight agencies.

e. Complimentary Oversight Trends on Procurement

- Why complimentary oversight initiatives?
- Parliamentary Oversight
- Anti-corruption initiative
- Other Government Agencies
- Community and civil society monitoring
- Other ad hoc arrangements
- Sanctions against persons involved in procurement.

f. Operable Public Procurement System: Removing Bottlenecks

- Procurement Delays
- Operational Committees
- Framework contracting
- Clarity of roles of internal units of procuring entities
- Sanctions against errant procuring entities

- Upgrading of procurement function

g. Towards Strategic Procurement Operations

- Expeditious Procurement Procedures
- Supply Base Rationalisation
- Value for money
- Positioning of the procurement function
- Collaborative Relations with• Decisions – (Make or Buy)
- Open Communication (ICT)
- Capacity building
- Lean Storage
- Resource Mobilization, etc.

h. Professionalization of Procurement Operations

- Capacity of Procurement Professionals
- Quality and capacity of persons involved in procurement
- Integrated procurement training and knowledge development

i. Public e-Procurement

- Legal aspects of e-Procurement systems
- Statements of e-Procurement structural network and Procurement
- Software Configuration of end-to-end processes
- Oversight capabilities of e-procurement system
- Acceptance, advantages of system and Challenges of setting up system

The Executive Director, PPDA, made a country presentation on the topic under section C: **“Procurement Regulatory Oversight: Opportunities and Challenges”** which was well received by the audience.

4. Awards to the Best Entities in the Region

The following were recognised and awarded trophies on 20th November 2014 as the best performing Entities from the East African sub-region:

No.	Name of the Entity	Country
1.	National Water and Sewerage Corporate – Central Government Category	Uganda
2.	Entebbe Municipal Council – Local Government Category	Uganda
3.	Southern Province	Rwanda
4.	Nyauta District	Rwanda
5.	Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)	Tanzania
6.	Ukerewe District Council	Tanzania
7.	Ministry of National Defence and Veterans Affairs	Burundi
8.	Central Medical Purchasing of Burundi	Burundi
9.	Laikipia County Executive	Kenya
10.	Kiambu Country Assembly	Kenya

5. Resolutions

The following six (6) key resolutions were made during the Forum:

- a) All partner states need to develop a procurement policy.
- b) All partner states need to develop preferential scheme for its citizens.
- c) There is a need for a regional professional body for procurement professionals.
- d) Partner states need to enhance the capacity building initiatives for persons involved in procurement.
- e) Partner states should hasten the implementation and the development of e-procurement.
- f) Regulatory oversight of procurement activities by the civil society organisations, media and the private sector should be facilitated to complement government mandate.

6. Hosting the 7th East African Procurement Forum

The PPOA-Kenya Board of Directors and management handed over the mandate to host the 8th EAPF to the Board and management of the PPRA-Tanzania peacefully. The date and the theme of the 8th edition of EAPF will be communicated to delegates in due course.

7. Some Lessons Learnt for PPDA

a. Publication for the procurement sector: In Tanzania, the PPRA has constituted an editorial board for the weekly procurement bulletin comprising different stakeholders including: Development Partners, Research Agencies, Procurement Professional Agency, and the Ministry of Finance – Procurement Policy Department among others. The PPDA could borrow a leaf from this approach and also constitute the editorial team of the Procurement Digest comprising EPRC, IPPU, Ministry of Finance Procurement Policy Department, Development Partners, etc. This way, more thematic news items shall be generated to enrich the quarterly publication.

b. Research and Procurement: At the Kenya Institute of Management (KISM), there is a proportion of the budget that is devoted to research activities amounting to over UGX 100 million. Research is taken as a critical function of the Institute.

c. e-Procurement Governance Structure: In Kenya, at the apex level (Steering Committee in the case of Uganda) committee is chaired by a Cabinet Secretary (equivalent of a Minister In Uganda) with members comprising the Cabinet Secretaries of ICT, Devolution, Treasury, and the Central Bank among others. This is intended to garner commitment on the part of the Executive.

d. Representation: It was apparent from the forum that partner states were sending huge delegations to participate in the forum. PPDA needs to increase the budget under this line.

8. Conclusions

The forum was well organised and attended. The quality of presentations was rich and enlightening. The Authority needs to follow up on the implementation of all the resolutions of the Forum through conducting period reviews of the resolutions.

ANNEX 1: LIST OF UGANDAN DELEGATION TO THE 7TH EAPF IN NAIROBI – KENYA: 19-21 NOVEMBER 2014

No	Name	Position	Agency
1.	Prof. Simeon Wanyama	Chair/Board	PPDA
2.	Joseph Masiko	Member/Board	PPDA
3.	Lydia Obbo	Member/Board	PPDA
4.	Cornelia K. Sabiiti	ED	PPDA
5.	Benson Turamye	DPAI	PPDA
6.	Milton Tumutegereize	DTCB	PPDA
7.	Julius Mwesigye	DFA	PPDA
8.	Bradford Ochieng	Mcorp	PPDA
9.	Simon Onyango	M-eGP	PPDA
10.	Agnes Ojiambo	MIA	PPDA
11.	Aloysius Byaruhanga	Chair-TECOM	PPDA
12.	Speciose Mukazi	Proc. Specialist	ERT-MEMD
13.	Biganza Charles	Head - PDU	IGG
14.	Jeremy Nduru	Head - PDU	URA
15.	Godfrey Wanyoto	H/ Head - PDU	Electoral Commission
16.	Herbert Opolot	Head - PDU	UETCL
17.	James Kiyonga	CEO	IPC
18.	Gerald Mugabi	Head - PDU	NSSF
19.	Francis Baryahabwa-	Chairman C.C	NSSF
20.	Claire Lwasa	Proc. Manager/K-Goods, IT and Systems	BOU
21.	Eng. Isaac B. Mwesigye	Dep Dir/Proc (works & repairs)	BOU
22.	Arthur Kiweewa	Proc. Officer	BOU
23.	Nable A. Byaruhanga	Head - PDU	NWSC
26.	Peter Byomuhangi	PO	NWSC
24.	Dr. Eng. Mugisa	CEO	NWSC
25.	Dr. Eng. Ebal	Chairman Board	NWSC
27.	I.I. Igundura	Manager/PA	CAA
28.	Rose Namukwaya	Manager/HR	CAA
29.	Godfrey Matovu	Manager/Proc	CAA
30.	Sarah Nakibuuka	Proc. Officer	MUK

31.	John F. A. Etidau	Chairman	IPPU Council
32.	Mr. James Ekonga	Senior Finance Officer	URF
33.	Deo Kasozi	Head - PDU	MoWE
34.	Julius Kanakulya	PO	MoFPED
35.	Eliot Ainomugisha	Head - PDU	UCDA
36.	Peter Byomuhangi	PO	NWSC
37.	Erukwaire Godfrey	PPO	MoHUD
38.	Ms. Doreen Akatuhwera	Head - PDU	KCCA
39.	Stephen Kisuze	Chairman- C.C.	NMS
40.	William Mugasi	Head - PDU	NAADS
41.	Immaculate Asimwe	Proc. Officer	OPM
42.	Rehema Nakirunda	Proc. Officer	MoW&T
43.	Richard K. Mande	Accounting Officer	Entebbe Municipality
44.	Anna Nannyombi	HPDU	Entebbe Municipality
45.	Mugamba Elemegious	Procurement Officer	Min. of Agriculture
46.	David Kiyingi	Ag. Commissioner	Proc. Policy Dept MoFPED
47.	Patrick Bwayo	Princ. Pro Officer	MoEs
48.	Enoch Kalema	Manager Proc	UNRA
49.	Dr. Levi Kabagambe	Assoc. Dean	MUBS