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1.1 Definitions Unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms whenever used in this Contract have the following meanings:

- (a) “Applicable Law” means the laws and any other instruments having the force of law in Eswatini, or in such other country as may be specified in the Special Conditions of Contract (SC), as they may be issued and in force from time to time.
- (b) Blank.
- (c) “Consultant” means any private or public entity that will provide the Services to the Client under the Contract.
- (d) “Contract” means the Contract signed by the Parties and all the attached documents listed in its Clause 1, that is these General Conditions (GC), the Special Conditions (SC), and the Appendices.
- (e) “Contract Price” means the price to be paid for the performance of the Services, in accordance with Clause 6;
- (f) “Effective Date” means the date on which this Contract comes into force and effect pursuant to Clause GC 2.1.
- (g) “Foreign Currency” means any currency other than the currency of Eswatini.
- (h) “GC” mean these General Conditions of Contract.
- (i) “Government” means the Government of Eswatini.
- (j) “Local Currency” means the currency of Eswatini.
- (k) “Member” means any of the entities that make up the joint venture/consortium/association, and “Members” means all these entities.
- (l) “Party” means the Client or the Consultant, as the case may be, and “Parties” means both of them.
- (m) “Personnel” means persons hired by the Consultant or by any Sub-Consultants and assigned to the performance of the Services or any part thereof.
- (n) “SC” means the Special Conditions of Contract by which the GC may be amended or supplemented.
- (o) “Services” means the work to be performed by the Consultant pursuant to this Contract, as described in Appendix A hereto.



- (p) “Sub-Consultants” means any person or entity to whom/which the Consultant subcontracts any part of the Services.
- (q) “In writing” means communicated in written form with proof of receipt.

- 1.2 Law Governing Contract** This Contract, its meaning and interpretation, and the relation between the Parties shall be governed by the Applicable Law.
- 1.3 Language** This Contract has been executed in the language specified in the SC, which shall be the binding and controlling language for all matters relating to the meaning or interpretation of this Contract.
- 1.4 Notices**
 - 1.4.1** Any notice, request or consent required or permitted to be given or made pursuant to this Contract shall be in writing. Any such notice, request or consent shall be deemed to have been given or made when delivered in person to an authorized representative of the Party to whom the communication is addressed, or when sent to such Party at the address specified in the SC.
 - 1.4.2** A Party may change its address for notice hereunder by giving the other Party notice in writing of such change to the address specified in the SC.
- 1.5 Location** The Services shall be performed at such locations as are specified in Appendix A hereto and, where the location of a particular task is not so specified, at such locations, whether in Eswatini or elsewhere, as the Client may approve.
- 1.6 Authority of Member in Charge** In case the Consultant consists of a joint venture/ consortium/ association of more than one entity, the Members hereby authorize the entity specified in the SC to act on their behalf in exercising all the Consultant’s rights and obligations towards the Client under this Contract, including without limitation the receiving of instructions and payments from the Client.
- 1.7 Authorized Representatives** Any action required or permitted to be taken, and any document required or permitted to be executed under this Contract by the Client or the Consultant may be taken or executed by the officials specified in the SC.





1.8 Taxes and Duties The Consultant, Sub-Consultants, and their Personnel shall pay such indirect taxes, duties, fees, and other impositions levied under the Applicable Law as specified in the SC, the amount of which is deemed to have been included in the Contract Price.

1.9 Fraud and Corruption

1.9.1 Definitions It is the Matsapha Council’s policy to require that Consultants under contracts observe the highest standard of ethics during the selection and execution of such contracts. In pursuance of this policy, the Council:

- (a) defines, for the purpose of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:
- (i) “corrupt practice” means the offering, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence the action of a public official in the selection process or in contract execution;
 - (ii) “fraudulent practice” means a misrepresentation or omission of facts in order to influence a selection process or the execution of a contract;
 - (iii) “collusive practices” means a scheme or arrangement between two or more consultants, with or without the knowledge of the Client, designed to establish prices at artificial, non-competitive levels;
 - (iv) “coercive practices” means harming or threatening to harm, directly or indirectly, persons or their property to influence their participation in a procurement process, or affect the execution of a contract;

1.9.2 Measures to be taken (b) will cancel the contract if it determines at any time that representatives of the Consultant or the Client were engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices during the selection process or the execution of that contract, without the Client having taken timely and appropriate action satisfactory to remedy the situation;

(c) will sanction a Consultant, including declaring the Consultant ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract if it at any time determines that the Consultant has, directly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent,



- collusive or coercive practices in competing for, or in executing, a contract;
- 1.9.3 Commissions and Fees** (d) will require the successful Consultant to disclose any commissions or fees that may have been paid or are to be paid to agents, representatives, or commission agents with respect to the selection process or execution of the contract. The information disclosed must include at least the name and address of the agent, representative, or commission agent, the amount and currency, and the purpose of the commission or fee.

2. COMMENCEMENT, COMPLETION, MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

- 2.1 Effectiveness of Contract** This Contract shall come into effect on the date the Contract is signed by both Parties and such other later date as may be stated in the SC. The date the Contract comes into effect is defined as the Effective Date.
- 2.2 Commencement of Services** The Consultant shall begin carrying out the Services not later than the number of days after the Effective Date specified in the SC.
- 2.3 Expiration of Contract** Unless terminated earlier pursuant to Clause GC 2.6 hereof, this Contract shall expire at the end of such time period after the Effective Date as specified in the SC.
- 2.4 Modifications or Variations** Any modification or variation of the terms and conditions of this Contract, including any modification or variation of the scope of the Services, may only be made by written agreement between the Parties. However, each Party shall give due consideration to any proposals for modification or variation made by the other Party.
- 2.5 Force Majeure**
- 2.5.1 Definition** For the purposes of this Contract, “Force Majeure” means an event which is beyond the reasonable control of a Party and which makes a Party’s performance of its obligations under the Contract impossible or so impractical as to be considered impossible under the circumstances.
- 2.5.2 No Breach of Contract** The failure of a Party to fulfil any of its obligations under the contract shall not be considered to be a breach of, or default under, this Contract insofar as such inability arises from an event of Force Majeure, provided that the Party affected by such an event (a) has taken all reasonable precautions, due care and reasonable alternative measures in order to carry out the terms and conditions



of this Contract, and (b) has informed the other Party as soon as possible about the occurrence of such an event.

2.5.3 Extension of Time Any period within which a Party shall, pursuant to this Contract, complete any action or task, shall be extended for a period equal to the time during which such Party was unable to perform such action as a result of Force Majeure.

2.5.4 Payments During the period of their inability to perform the Services as a result of an event of Force Majeure, the Consultant shall be entitled to continue to be paid under the terms of this Contract, as well as to be reimbursed for additional costs reasonably and necessarily incurred by them during such period for the purposes of the Services and in reactivating the Service after the end of such period.

2.6 Termination

2.6.1 By the Client The Client may terminate this Contract in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this Clause GC 2.6.1. In such an occurrence the Client shall give a not less than thirty (30) days' written notice of termination to the Consultant, and sixty (60) days' in the case of the event referred to in (e).

- (a) If the Consultant does not remedy a failure in the performance of their obligations under the Contract, within thirty (30) days after being notified or within any further period as the Client may have subsequently approved in writing.
- (b) If the Consultant becomes insolvent or bankrupt.
- (c) If the Consultant, in the judgment of the Client has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for or in executing the Contract.
- (d) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultant are unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) days.
- (e) If the Client, in its sole discretion and for any reason whatsoever, decides to terminate this Contract.
- (f) If the Consultant fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration proceedings pursuant to Clause GC 8 hereof.



- 2.6.2 By the Consultant** The Consultants may terminate this Contract, by not less than thirty (30) days' written notice to the Client, such notice to be given after the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (c) of this Clause GC 2.6.2:
- (a) If the Client fails to pay any money due to the Consultant pursuant to this Contract and not subject to dispute pursuant to Clause GC 7 hereof within forty-five (45) days after receiving written notice from the Consultant that such payment is overdue.
 - (b) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultant is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) days.
 - (c) If the Client fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration pursuant to Clause GC 8 hereof.
- 2.6.3 Payment upon Termination** Upon termination of this Contract pursuant to Clauses GC 2.6.1 or GC 2.6.2, the Client shall make the following payments to the Consultant:
- (a) payment pursuant to Clause GC 6 for Services satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of termination;
 - (b) except in the case of termination pursuant to paragraphs (a) through (c), and (f) of Clause GC 2.6.1, reimbursement of any reasonable cost incident to the prompt and orderly termination of the Contract, including the cost of the return travel of the Personnel and their eligible dependents.

3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CONSULTANT

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 Standard of Performance** The Consultant shall perform the Services and carry out their obligations hereunder with all due diligence, efficiency and economy, in accordance with generally accepted professional standards and practices, and shall observe sound management practices, and employ appropriate technology and safe and effective equipment, machinery, materials and methods. The Consultant shall always act, in respect of any matter relating to this Contract or to the Services, as faithful advisers to the Client, and shall at all times support and safeguard the Client's legitimate interests in any dealings with Sub-Consultants or third Parties.



- 3.2 Conflict of Interests** of The Consultant shall hold the Client’s interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and strictly avoid conflict with other assignments or their own corporate interests.
- 3.2.1 Consultants Not to Benefit from Commissions, Discounts, etc.** The payment of the Consultant pursuant to Clause GC 6 shall constitute the Consultant’s only payment in connection with this Contract or the Services, and the Consultant shall not accept for their own benefit any trade commission, discount, or similar payment in connection with activities pursuant to this Contract or to the Services or in the discharge of their obligations under the Contract, and the Consultant shall use their best efforts to ensure that the Personnel, any Sub-Consultants, and agents of either of them similarly shall not receive any such additional payment.
- 3.2.2 Consultant and Affiliates Not to be Otherwise Interested in Project** The Consultant agrees that, during the term of this Contract and after its termination, the Consultant and any entity affiliated with the Consultant, as well as any Sub-Consultants and any entity affiliated with such Sub-Consultants, shall be disqualified from providing goods, works or services (other than consulting services) resulting from or directly related to the Consultant’s Services for the preparation or implementation of the project.
- 3.2.3 Prohibition of Conflicting Activities** The Consultant shall not engage, and shall cause their Personnel as well as their Sub-Consultants and their Personnel not to engage, either directly or indirectly, in any business or professional activities which would conflict with the activities assigned to them under this Contract.
- 3.3 Confidentiality** Except with the prior written consent of the Client, the Consultant and the Personnel shall not at any time communicate to any person or entity any confidential information acquired in the course of the Services, nor shall the Consultant and the Personnel make public the recommendations formulated in the course of, or as a result of, the Services.
- 3.4 Insurance to be Taken Out by the Consultant** The Consultant (a) shall take out and maintain, and shall cause any Sub-Consultants to take out and maintain, at their (or the Sub-Consultants’, as the case may be) own cost but on terms and conditions approved by the Client, insurance against the risks, and for the coverage, as shall be specified in the SC; and (b) at the Client’s request, shall provide evidence to the Client showing that such insurance has been taken out and maintained and that the current premiums have been paid.



- 3.5 Consultant's Actions Requiring Client's Prior Approval** The Consultant shall obtain the Client's prior approval in writing before taking any of the following actions:
- (a) entering into a subcontract for the performance of any part of the Services,
 - (b) appointing such members of the Personnel not listed by name in Appendix C, and
 - (c) any other action that may be specified in the SC.
- 3.6 Reporting Obligations**
- (a) The Consultant shall submit to the Client the reports and documents specified in Appendix B hereto, in the form, in the numbers and within the time periods set forth in the said Appendix.
 - (b) Final reports shall be delivered in CD ROM in addition to the hard copies specified in said Appendix.
- 3.7 Documents Prepared by the Consultant to be the Property of the Client**
- (a) All plans, drawings, specifications, designs, reports, other documents and software submitted by the Consultant under this Contract shall become and remain the property of the Client, and the Consultant shall, not later than upon termination or expiration of this Contract, deliver all such documents to the Client, together with a detailed inventory thereof.
 - (b) The Consultant may retain a copy of such documents and software. Restrictions about the future use of these documents, if any, shall be specified in the SC.
- 3.8 Accounting, Inspection and Auditing** The Consultant (i) shall keep accurate and systematic accounts and records in respect of the Services hereunder, in accordance with internationally accepted accounting principles and in such form and detail as will clearly identify all relevant time changes and costs, and the bases thereof, and (ii) shall periodically permit the Client or its designated representative, and up to two years from the expiration or termination of this Contract, to inspect the same and make copies thereof as well as to have them audited by auditors appointed by the Client, if so required by the Client as the case may be.

4. CONSULTANT'S PERSONNEL

- 4.1 Description of Personnel** The Consultant shall employ and provide such qualified and experienced Personnel and Sub-Consultants as are required to carry out the Services. The titles, agreed job descriptions, minimum qualifications, and estimated periods of engagement in the carrying out of the Services of the Consultant's Key Personnel are described in Appendix C. The Key



Personnel and Sub-Consultants listed by title as well as by name in Appendix C are hereby approved by the Client.

- 4.2 Removal and/or Replacement of Personnel**
- (a) Except as the Client may otherwise agree, no changes shall be made in the Key Personnel. If, for any reason beyond the reasonable control of the Consultant, such as retirement, death, medical incapacity, among others, it becomes necessary to replace any of the Key Personnel, the Consultant shall provide as a replacement a person of equivalent or better qualifications.
 - (b) If the Client finds that any of the Personnel have (i) committed serious misconduct or have been charged with having committed a criminal action, or (ii) have reasonable cause to be dissatisfied with the performance of any of the Personnel, then the Consultant shall, at the Client's written request specifying the grounds thereof, provide as a replacement a person with qualifications and experience acceptable to the Client.
 - (c) The Consultant shall have no claim for additional costs arising out of or incidental to any removal and/or replacement of Personnel.

5. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CLIENT

- 5.1 Assistance and Exemptions** The Client shall use its best efforts to ensure that the Government shall provide the Consultant such assistance and exemptions as specified in the SC.
- 5.2 Change in the Applicable Law Related to Taxes and Duties** If, after the date of this Contract, there is any change in the Applicable Law with respect to taxes and duties which increases or decreases the cost incurred by the Consultant in performing the Services, then the remuneration and reimbursable expenses otherwise payable to the Consultant under this Contract shall be increased or decreased accordingly by agreement between the Parties, and corresponding adjustments shall be made to the amounts referred to in Clauses GC 6.2 (a) or (b), as the case may be.
- 5.3 Services and Facilities** The Client shall make available free of charge to the Consultant the Services and Facilities listed under Appendix F.

6. PAYMENTS TO THE CONSULTANT



- 6.1 Lump-Sum Payment** The total payment due to the Consultant shall not exceed the Contract Price which is an all-inclusive fixed lump-sum covering all costs required to carry out the Services described in Appendix A. Except as provided in Clause 5.2, the Contract Price may only be increased above the amounts stated in Clause 6.2 if the Parties have agreed to additional payments in accordance with Clause 2.4.
- 6.2 Contract Price** (a) The price payable in foreign currency/currencies is set forth in the SC.
(b) The price payable in local currency is set forth in the SC.
- 6.3 Payment for Additional Services** For the purpose of determining the remuneration due for additional services as may be agreed under Clause 2.4, a breakdown of the lump-sum price is provided in Appendices D and E.
- 6.4 Terms and Conditions of Payment** Payments will be made to the account of the Consultant and according to the payment schedule stated in the SC. Unless otherwise stated in the SC, the first payment shall be made against the provision by the Consultant of an advance payment guarantee for the same amount, and shall be valid for the period stated in the SC. Such guarantee shall be in the form set forth in Appendix G hereto, or in such other form, as the Client shall have approved in writing. Any other payment shall be made after the conditions listed in the SC for such payment have been met, and the Consultant has submitted an invoice to the Client specifying the amount due.
- 6.5 Interest on Delayed Payments** If the Client has delayed payments beyond thirty (30) days after the due date stated in the Clause SC 6.4, interest shall be paid to the Consultant for each day of delay at the rate stated in the SC.

7. GOOD FAITH

- 7.1 Good Faith** The Parties undertake to act in good faith with respect to each other's rights under this Contract and to adopt all reasonable measures to ensure the realization of the objectives of this Contract.

8. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

- 8.1 Amicable Settlement** The Parties agree that the avoidance or early resolution of disputes is crucial for a smooth execution of the Contract and the success of the assignment. The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably all disputes arising out of or in connection with this Contract or its interpretation.
- 8.2 Dispute Resolution** Any dispute between the Parties as to matters arising pursuant to this Contract that cannot be settled amicably within thirty (30) days after



receipt by one Party of the other Party's request for such amicable settlement may be submitted by either Party for settlement in accordance with the provisions specified in the SC.

