

## **ANNEX I: GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT**

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# **ANNEX I: GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT**

## **PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS**

### ***Article 1 – Definitions***

1. The following definitions shall apply to the Contract:

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

Any written or verbal instruction or order issued by the Project Manager to the Contractor regarding the performance of the services.

#### **CONTRACT**

The signed agreement entered into by the Contracting Authority and the Contractor for the performance of the Contract Scope, together with all attachments thereto and all documents incorporated therein, including the present General Conditions.

#### **CONTRACTING AUTHORITY**

The Contracting Authority or the Contracting Entity entered into an agreement with the Contractor for executing the Contract.

#### **CONTRACTOR**

The natural or legal person or the consortium of natural and/or legal persons entering into an agreement with the Contracting Authority for performing the services.

#### **CONTRACT SCOPE**

The provision by the Contractor of all the services under the contract.

#### **CONTRACT VALUE**

The amount specified in article 3 of the Agreement- Special Conditions of Contract, Part B.

#### **DAY**

Calendar day.

#### **~~FEE-BASED / LABOUR-BASED CONTRACT~~**

~~A contract whereby services are provided for an agreed fee per working day, week or month, for each category of personnel employed.~~

#### **GENERAL DAMAGES**

The amount, not stated previously in the Contract, which is awarded by a Court or determined by arbitration procedure, or agreed between the parties, as compensation payable to the injured party in the event of breach of contract by the other party.

#### **~~GLOBAL PRICE CONTRACT~~**

~~A contract whereby services are provided for a total agreed price, or for individual agreed prices~~

~~for the individual services under the total Contract Scope.~~

**LIQUIDATED DAMAGES OR PENALTY CLAUSE**

The compensation specified in the Contract as being payable by one contracting party to the other for failure by the latter to fulfil their obligations as set out in the Contract.

**MONTH**

A calendar month.

**PROJECT MANAGER**

The natural person responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Contract and for handling the Contract on behalf of the Contracting Authority.

**REGULATIONS**

The Regulations of 2016 (KDP 138/2016) on the Execution of Public Contracts (Supplies, Works and Services), including any amendments thereto.

**SERVICES**

The activities to be performed by the Contractor under the Contract, such as advisory support, technical assistance, translation services.

2. Where the Contract provides for time limits or periods of time, these shall start from the day following the day on which the action or event which serves as the starting point of such a period occurs. Should the last day of the period fall upon a non-working day, then the period shall expire at the end of the first working day following the last day of the period.
- ~~3. If the Contract is signed in more than one language, the Greek version shall prevail in the event of inconsistencies between the different language versions.~~
4. The headings and titles in the present General Conditions shall not be taken as part thereof or be taken into consideration in the interpretation of the Contract.
5. Were the context so permits, words in the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa, and words in the masculine shall be deemed to include the feminine and vice versa.

***Article 2 – Notices and Written Communications***

1. Whenever there is a deadline for the receipt of a written communication, the sender shall take all necessary measures to ensure timely receipt of the communication.
2. Any notice, consent, approval, certificate or decision by any person required under the Contract shall be in writing, unless otherwise specified in the Contract.
3. Any verbal instructions or orders shall take effect as of their transmission and shall be subsequently confirmed in writing.

### ***Article 3 – Ownership - Intellectual and Property Rights***

1. All Contract deliverables, interim and final reports, and data such as maps, diagrams, drawings, specifications, plans, statistics, calculations, as well as any and all other relevant document or material acquired, compiled or prepared by the Contractor in the execution of the Contract, shall be treated as confidential and shall be the absolute property of the Contracting Authority. The Contractor is obliged to deliver all such documents and data to the Contracting Authority upon completion of the Contract.
2. The Contractor may retain copies of such documents and data, but is not allowed to use them for purposes other than the purposes of the Contract.
3. Any results or rights thereon, including copyright and other intellectual rights obtained in the execution of the Contract, shall become the absolute property of the Contracting Authority, which may use, publish, assign or transfer them as it sees fit, without geographical or other limitation, except where intellectual rights already exist.
4. The Contractor shall defend itself, at its own expense, against infringements or alleged infringements which may be reported by third parties with regard to patents, plans, intellectual property or trade secrets and, in the event that the Contracting Authority is prevented from using the Contract deliverables on account of such a reason, shall modify or replace the deliverables at its own expense, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF THE CONTRACTING AUTHORITY**

### ***Article 4 – Obligations of the Contracting Authority***

1. The Contracting Authority shall provide to the Contractor as soon as possible any information and/or documentation at its disposal which may be relevant to the execution of the Contract. If this information is contained in documents, such documents shall be returned to the Contracting Authority at the end of the period of execution of the Contract.
2. The Contracting Authority shall co-operate with the Contractor for providing information which the latter may reasonably request in order to execute the Contract.
3. In discharging their duties, the Project Manager and all persons authorised by him or by the Contracting Authority must not divulge to any person other than those entitled to know, any information which they have obtained in the course and on occasion of the execution of the Contract and which refers to technical or commercial matters or to work or production methods of the Contractor.
4. The Contracting Authority shall inform its employees, agents and representatives of all such instructions or information as may be necessary or appropriate to facilitate prompt and effective performance of the services by the Contractor.
5. The Contracting Authority shall provide to the Contractor, if the latter so requests, information in connection with securing copies of laws, regulations and information on personnel insurance and

the protection of employees, on local customs, taxation, orders or by-laws of the Republic of Cyprus, which may affect the Contractor in the performance of its obligations under the Contract.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF THE CONTRACTOR**

### ***Article 5 – Assignment – Not Applicable***

### ***Article 6 – Subcontracting – Not Applicable***

### ***Article 7 – Compliance Obligations and Legal Liability***

1. The Contractor shall respect and abide by all laws and regulations in force in the Republic of Cyprus and shall ensure that its personnel, its dependants, and any of its subcontractors or associates also respect and abide by all such laws and regulations. The Contractor shall indemnify the Contracting Authority against any claims and proceedings arising from any infringement by the Contractor, its employees and dependants, of such laws and regulations.
2. In the case of Contracts relating to matters relevant to the processing of personal data, the Contractor warrants that it will respect and comply with all applicable laws and regulations on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and that it will assume responsibility and will be able to prove compliance to such laws and regulations. In addition, it will ensure that its personnel and any subcontractors or affiliates and persons under its control will also respect and comply with these laws and regulations. (Relevant is EU Regulation 2016/679 of 27 April 2016 of the European Parliament and of the Council).
3. The Contractor warrants to the Contracting Authority that the Contract Scope shall be performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract, the technical rules and the internationally recognised standards applicable to the modern methods for the provision of the specific services, shall have all the properties and features provided for in the present Contract and shall meet the specifications, results and properties as specified in the Tender Documents or as allowed to be defined by the Contracting Authority during the execution of the Contract.
4. The Contractor shall comply with the Administrative Orders given by the Project Manager. Where the Contractor considers that the requirements of an Administrative Order exceed the authority of the Project Manager or the scope of the Contract, it shall notify in writing the Contracting Authority, justifying its opinion, within 30 days of receipt of such Administrative Order. Execution of the Administrative Order shall not be suspended because of this notice.
5. The Contractor is obliged to provide the Contracting Authority or the Project Manager or any person authorised by the Contracting Authority with evidence regarding the execution of the Contract as well as with any information concerning the Contract Scope.
6. In cases of contracts the control of which, in accordance with the European Law, falls within the jurisdiction of the European Commission or the European Court of Auditors or the European Anti-Fraud Office or any other European body, the Contractor warrants that it shall allow the

unobstructed conduct of accounting audits and of other checks or verifications in its premises and in the records that it keeps, and undertakes that the same shall apply to its subcontractors and to any associate under the Contract, both during the execution of the Contract and for a period of seven (7) years thereafter.

7. In cases of contracts the control of which, in accordance with the National Law, falls within the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Internal Audit or the Auditor General or any other authorised body of the Republic of Cyprus, the Contractor warrants that it shall allow the unobstructed conduct of accounting audits and of other checks or verifications in its premises and in the records that it keeps, and undertakes that the same shall apply to its subcontractors and to any associate under the Contract, for such a period time as provided for by the provisions of the legislation in force.
8. If the Contractor is a consortium of two or more persons, all such persons shall be jointly and severally bound to fulfil the terms of the Contract. The person designated by such consortium to act on its behalf for the purposes of this Contract shall have the authority to bind the consortium.
9. Any change in the composition of the consortium without the prior written consent of the Contracting Authority shall be considered to be a breach of contract.

#### ***Article 8 – Confidentiality - Secrecy***

1. All documents, data and information which the Contractor receives from the Contracting Authority as part of its contractual obligations or of which it becomes aware on account of its contractual relation with the Contracting Authority or which are the result of studies, tests or research conducted during the Contract or for the purposes of the execution thereof, are confidential.
2. The Contractor is not entitled to publish or disclose such information and data to any third party, save only to the persons employed by it or associated with it who are directly involved with the contents of the Contract and with the performance of its Scope, and shall ensure that such employees are informed of and agree with the confidentiality obligation, the Contractor being further obliged to impose such obligation to its subcontractors, if any.
3. Should the Contractor be in breach of its obligation as above, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to terminate the Contract as per the provisions of Article 23 and seek payment for all losses which it estimates it may have suffered on account of the leak.
4. The Contractor shall not make any public statements regarding the Contract Scope or the Services that it provides without the prior authorisation of the Contracting Authority, and shall not engage in any activity which is in conflict with its obligations towards the Contracting Authority under the Contract. The Contractor shall not bind the Contracting Authority in any way without its prior written consent and shall clarify, where required, this obligation to third parties.
5. The Contractor shall not be subject to the obligations of the present Article as regards the know-how which it may acquire on account of the execution of the Contract Scope.

## ***Article 9 – Code of Ethics***

1. The Contractor and its personnel shall respect human rights and undertake not to offend the political, cultural and religious practices prevailing in the Republic of Cyprus.
2. If the Contractor or any of its subcontractors, personnel, agents or employees offers to give or agrees to offer or to give or gives to any person, any bribe, gift, gratuity or commission as an inducement or reward for doing or forbearing to do any act in relation to the Contract or any other contract with the Contracting Authority, or for showing favour or disfavour to any person in relation to the Contract or any other contract with the Contracting Authority, then the Contracting Authority may terminate the Contract, without prejudice to any accrued rights of the Contractor under the Contract.
3. The payments to the Contractor under the Contract shall constitute the only income or benefit it may derive in connection with the Contract, and neither it nor its personnel shall accept any commission, discount, allowance, indirect payment or other consideration in connection with, or in relation to, or in discharge of, its obligations under the Contract.
4. The Contractor shall not have the benefit, whether directly or indirectly, of any royalty, gratuity or commission in respect of any patented or protected article or process used for the purposes of the Contract, without the prior written approval of the Contracting Authority.

## ***Article 10 – Conflict of interests***

1. The Contractor shall take all necessary measures to prevent or end any situation that could compromise the impartial and objective execution of the Contract. Such conflict of interests could arise in particular as a result of economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties, or any other relevant connection or shared interest. Any conflict of interests which could arise during the execution of the Contract must be notified in writing to the Contracting Authority without delay.
2. The Contracting Authority reserves the right to verify that such measures are adequate and may request that additional measures be taken, if this is considered necessary. The Contractor shall ensure that its personnel, including its Management, are not involved in a situation which could give rise to conflict of interests. The Contractor shall replace immediately and without compensation from the Contracting Authority any member of its personnel exposed to such a situation.
3. The Contractor shall refrain from any contact which would compromise its independence or that of its personnel. If the Contractor fails to maintain such independence, the Contracting Authority may, without prejudice to compensation for any damage which it may have suffered on this account, terminate the Contract immediately.
4. Contractor shall be excluded from participation in future tender procedures in case those procedures are connected /related with the present contract and conflict of interest is present which endangers the compliance to principle of equal treatment, in accordance with Article 38 of Law 73(I)/2016.



### ***Article 11 – Protection of employees***

1. The Contractor must fulfil its obligations deriving from the provisions of the legislation in force in the Republic of Cyprus, in relation to the protection of its employees and to working conditions.
2. The Contractor is obliged to insure its personnel with the competent insurance organisations and maintain such insurance in effect throughout the execution of the Contract Scope, and shall ensure that its subcontractors shall do the same.
3. The Contracting Authority undertakes that it shall take all appropriate measures for the protection and safety of the personnel of the Contractor and of its subcontractors in the event that implementation of the Contract Scope shall take place at its own premises, and especially that it shall advise the Contractor in writing of the peculiarities, if any, of its premises.

### ***Article 12 – Trainees - Not Applicable***

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTRACT SCOPE**

### ***Article 13 – Approval of Reports - Acceptance of Deliverables***

1. The approval by the Contracting Authority of the reports and deliverables prepared and submitted by the Contractor shall certify that they comply with the terms of the Contract.
2. The Contracting Authority shall inform the Contractor of its decision regarding the reports and/or deliverables it has received within fifteen (15) days of receiving them, giving reasons should it reject the reports and/or deliverables or request amendments.
3. The reports and/or deliverables shall be deemed to have been approved by the Contracting Authority if it does not expressly inform Contractor of any comments within the specified time constraints.
4. Where a report and/or deliverable is approved by the Contracting Authority subject to amendments to be made by the Contractor, the Contracting Authority shall prescribe ten (10) days for making the amendments requested.
5. Where the final progress report is not approved, the dispute settlement procedure shall be automatically invoked.
6. Where the Contract is executed in stages-activities, the execution of each stage-activity shall be subject to the approval by the Contracting Authority of the preceding stage-activity, except in cases where the phases-stages-activities are carried out concurrently.

### ***Article 14 – Amendment to the Contract***

1. Any amendment to the Contract must be of a form that shall not substantially impair competition, and should be specified in writing by way of an Addendum to the Contract, to be concluded under the same terms as the original Contract.

2. If the request for an amendment comes from the Contractor, the latter must submit such a request to the Contracting Authority at least thirty (30) days before the amendment is intended to enter into force, except in cases which are duly substantiated by the Contractor and accepted by the Contracting Authority.
3. Prior to any administrative order for variation issued by the Contracting Authority, the Project Manager shall notify the Contractor of the nature and form of such variation. As soon as possible after receiving such notice, the Contractor shall submit to the Project Manager a written proposal containing:
  - The description of the service to be performed or of the measures to be taken and the programme for execution, and
  - Any necessary modifications to the programme of execution or to any of the Contractor's obligations under the Contract.
4. Following the receipt of the Contractor's proposal, the Competent Body, in accordance with the Regulation, shall decide as soon as possible whether or not the variation shall be carried out. If the variation is approved, then the Project Manager shall issue a relevant administrative order.
5. Upon receipt of the administrative order requesting the variation, the Contractor shall proceed to carry out the variation and in so doing shall be bound by the present General Conditions as if such variation were specified in the Contract.
6. No amendment shall be made retroactively.

### ***Article 15 – Suspension of Execution***

1. The Contracting Authority shall be entitled to suspend performance of the Services or of any part thereof for such time and in such a manner as it may deem necessary.
2. If the period of suspension exceeds one hundred and twenty (120) days and the suspension is not due to the Contractor's default, the Contractor may, by notice to the Project Manager, request permission to resume the relevant activities within thirty (30) days or terminate the Contract.
3. Where the award procedure or execution of the Contract is vitiated by substantial errors or irregularities or by fraud, the Contracting Authority shall suspend execution of the Contract to verify whether or not any alleged substantial errors and irregularities or fraud have indeed occurred. If they are not confirmed, execution of the Contract shall resume as soon as possible.
4. Where such errors, irregularities or fraud are attributable to the Contractor, the Contracting Authority may in addition refuse to make payments or may recover monies already paid, in proportion to the seriousness of the errors, irregularities or fraud.

## **PAYMENTS AND DEBT RECOVERY**

### ***Article 16 – Payments***

1. Upon commencement of the Contract, the Contractor shall notify in writing to the Contracting Authority the bank account to which it wishes the payments of the Contract Value to be made by completing the Form provided by the Contracting Authority.
2. All payments made by the Contracting Authority into the above bank account shall have releasing effect.
3. The Contract Value shall be paid to the Contractor in the manner described in articles 3 and 7 of the Special Conditions.
4. If any of the following events occurs and persists, the Contracting Authority may, by written notice to the Contractor, suspend, in whole or in part, the payments due to the Contractor under the Contract:
  - The Contractor defaults in the execution of the contract.
  - Any other condition for which the Contractor is responsible and which, in the opinion of the Contracting Authority, interferes, or threatens to interfere, with the successful completion of the Contract.

### ***Article 17 – Recovery of debts from the Contractor***

1. Any amount which the Contracting Authority has paid in excess of the Contractor's rights under the Contract, shall be repaid by the Contractor to the Contracting Authority within thirty (30) days of receipt by the Contractor of the request for repayment.
2. Amounts to be repaid to the Contracting Authority may be offset against amounts of any kind due to the Contractor.
3. Bank charges arising from the repayment of amounts due to the Contracting Authority shall be borne entirely by the Contractor.

## **BREACH OF CONTRACT – CONTRACT TERMINATION**

### ***Article 18 – Breach of contract***

1. The parties shall be in breach of contract when either one of them fails to discharge any of its contractual obligations.
2. Where a breach of contract occurs, the party injured by the breach shall be entitled to the following remedies:
  - Damages, and/or
  - Termination of the Contract for the reasons specified in Articles 21 and 22 of the present Annex.

3. In any case where the Contracting Authority is entitled to damages, it may deduct such damages from any amounts due to the Contractor.

### ***Article 19 – Insurance – Indemnification***

1. At its own expense, the Contractor shall indemnify, protect and defend the Contracting Authority and its employees from and against all actions, claims, losses or damage arising from the execution of the Contract by the Contractor.
2. At its own expense, the Contractor shall, upon request of the Contracting Authority, remedy any defect in the performance of the services in the event of the Contractor's failure to perform its obligations under the contract.
3. The Contractor shall have no liability for actions, claims, losses or damage which the Contractor may prove, by presenting the true facts to the Contracting Authority, that they are caused by:
  - The Contracting Authority omitting to act on any justified recommendation of the Contractor, or requiring the Contractor to apply a decision or recommendation with which the Contractor justifiably disagrees or about which it is expressing serious and justified reservations,
  - Improper execution, by the employees or independent contractors of the Contracting Authority, of the Contractor's instructions which have been adopted by the Contracting Authority.
4. The Contractor shall remain responsible for any breach of its obligations under the Contract for such period after the Services have been performed as may be provided for by the legislation governing the Contract or specified in the Tender Documents.

### ***Article 20 – Administrative and financial penalties to the Contractor***

1. In the event that Article 21 on termination of the Contract is applied, then, in addition to the provisions of the said Article, the Contractor may be deprived of the right to participate in future tender procedures, either permanently or for a specific period of time, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation.
2. In the event of damage suffered by the Contracting Authority, then the Contracting Authority shall reserve the right to take against the Contractor the legal or other measures which it considers necessary in order to redress the situation.
3. As regards penalties for delay, the specific provisions of the article 8 of the Special Conditions of Contract shall apply.

### ***Article 21 – Termination by the Contracting Authority***

1. To the grounds for termination defined in the present General Conditions, the Contracting Authority may, after giving seven (7) days' notice to the Contractor, terminate the Contract in any of the following cases:

- the contract has been subject to a substantial modification, which would have required a new procurement procedure pursuant to Article 72 of Law 73(I)/2016
  - the contractor has, at the time of contract award, been in one of the situations referred to in Article 57(1) of Law 73(I)/2016.
    - the contract should not have been awarded to the contractor in view of a serious infringement of the obligations under the Treaties and this Directive that has been declared by the Court of Justice of the European Union in a procedure pursuant to Article 258 TFEU.
    - The Contractor fails substantially to fulfil its contractual obligations.
    - The Contractor does not comply within a reasonable time with the notice given by the Project Manager, whereby the Contractor is requested to repair every negligence or failure to perform its contractual obligations which seriously affects the proper execution of the Contract within the deadlines prescribed.
    - The Contractor refuses or neglects to carry out Administrative Orders given by the Project Manager.
    - The Contractor assigns the Contract or subcontracts a part thereof or replaces subcontractors without the authorisation of the Contracting Authority.
    - Any other legal disability hindering execution of the Contract occurs.
2. In addition to the grounds for termination defined in the present General Conditions, the Contracting Authority may, after giving thirty (30) days' notice to the Contractor, terminate the Contract when the circumstances under which the tender procedure was announced was published have changed to such an extent that the scope of the contract is no longer necessary or when any other serious grounds apply.
  3. Except in the case of termination of Contract mentioned in the above paragraph 3, the Contracting Authority may thereafter complete the Services itself or conclude any other contract with a third party for implementation of the specific scope of the present Contract, the Contractor covering the difference, if any, in price. The Contractor's liability for delay in completion shall cease immediately upon termination of the contracts by the Contracting Authority, without prejudice to any liability which may have already been incurred.
  4. Upon receiving notice of termination of the Contract, the Contractor shall take immediate measures to bring the Services to a prompt and orderly close and in such a way as to keep costs to a minimum.
  5. The Project Manager shall, as soon as possible after termination, certify the value of the Services and all amounts due to the Contractor as at the date of termination.
  6. The Contracting Authority shall not be obliged to make any further payments to the Contractor until the Services are completed.
  7. If the Contracting Authority terminates the Contract, it shall be entitled to recover from the Contractor any loss it has suffered up to the maximum amount determined in the Contract. If no maximum amount is determined, the Contracting Authority shall be entitled, without prejudice to its

other remedies provided for by the Contract, to recover such part of the Contract value as is attributable to the part of the Contract Scope which has not, by reason of the Contractor's failure, been satisfactorily completed.

8. Additionally, the Contractor may be subject to administrative and financial penalties as described in Article 20.
9. The Contractor shall not be entitled to claim, over and above the amounts due to it for work already performed, compensation for any damage or loss it has suffered.
10. If the Contractor is a consortium of legal and/or natural persons and one or more of the grounds for termination of the Contract listed in paragraph 3 refers to one of the consortium members, the other consortium members, being jointly responsible, shall be obliged to complete the implementation of the Contract Scope without differentiation regarding the contractual obligations of the Contractor. In any case, the Contracting Authority shall reserve the right to terminate the Contract if the consortium member for which the grounds for disqualification apply is the coordinator of the consortium, or if the participation percentage of this member gives rise to reasonable suspicions of inability of the other members to fulfil the contractual obligations.

### ***Article 22 – Termination by the Contractor***

1. The Contractor may, after giving thirty (30) days' notice to the Contracting Authority, terminate the Contract if the Contracting Authority:
  - Suspends the progress of the Services or of any part thereof for more than one hundred and twenty (120) days for reasons not stated in the Contract or for which the Contractor is not responsible.
2. Such termination shall not affect any other rights of the Contracting Authority or the Contractor which derive from the Contract.

### ***Article 23 – Force Majeure***

1. Neither party shall be considered to be in default of its contractual obligations if the fulfilment of such obligations is prevented by any force majeure event which arises after the date of signature of the Contract by both parties.
2. For the purposes of this Article, the term "Force Majeure" shall mean acts of God, strikes (except if these are limited to the persons in the Contractor's employment), lock-outs or other industrial disturbances, hostilities, wars (whether declared or not), blockades, insurrection, riots, epidemics, landslides, earthquakes, storms, lightning, floods, washouts, civil disturbances, explosions and any other similar unforeseeable events which are beyond the control of the parties, are occurring in the territory of the Republic of Cyprus over which Government exercises effective control or in the place where the Contractor is established, and cannot be overcome by due diligence by either party.
3. If the Contractor invokes the occurrence of force majeure, it shall be obliged, within twenty (20)

days of the occurrence of the events constituting the force majeure, to report these in writing and to present, if required, the necessary evidence to the Contracting Authority.

4. If, within the above deadline, the Contractor does not report the events and does not present the necessary evidence, then it shall be deprived of the right to invoke the existence of force majeure.
5. The Contracting Authority shall be obliged to reply, within twenty-five (25) days of receiving the aforementioned report of the Contractor. If the Contracting Authority does not reply within the above period of time, it shall be deemed to have accepted such force majeure event.
6. If the Contracting Authority invokes the occurrence of force majeure, it shall be obliged to inform the Contractor within twenty (20) days of the occurrence of the events constituting the force majeure. If the force majeure affects the Contractor's activities, the Contracting Authority shall suspend performance of the Services.

#### ***Article 24 – Death***

1. If the Contractor is a natural person, the Contract shall be automatically terminated if that person dies. However, the Contracting Authority shall examine any proposal made by that person's heirs or beneficiaries, should they express their wish, within fifteen (15) days of the date of decease, to continue the Contract. The decision of the Contracting Authority shall be notified to the parties concerned within thirty (30) days of receipt of the said proposal.
2. If the Contractor is a group of natural persons and one or more of them die, a report shall be drawn up, which shall be agreed between the parties, on the progress of the Services. The Contracting Authority shall decide whether to terminate or continue the Contract in accordance with the undertaking given by the survivors and by the heirs or beneficiaries, as the case may be, within fifteen (15) days of the date of death. The decision of the Contracting Authority shall be notified to the parties concerned within twenty (20) days of receipt of such a proposal.
3. Such persons shall be jointly and severally liable for the proper execution of the Contract to the same extent as the Contractor. Continuation of the Contract shall be subject to the rules relating to issue of the guarantee provided for in the Contract.

#### ***Article 25 – Settlement of disputes***

1. If a dispute arises between the Contracting Authority and the Contractor in connection with, or as a result of, the Contract or its execution, either during or after such execution, including any dispute arising from any decision, opinion or Administrative Order of the Project Manager, then either the Contracting Authority or the Contractor shall notify the other party accordingly, with notification to the Project Manager. The notification must state that it is submitted in accordance with the present article.
2. In such an event, both parties shall make every effort to settle amicably such dispute within the next fifty-six (56) days.
3. Any dispute for which amicable settlement has not been reached within fifty-six (56) days of the

date on which the above notification has been served, shall be settled finally in the Courts of the Republic of Cyprus.