# LAW OF GEORGIA ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

## Chapter I - General Provisions

## Article 1 - Scope of the Law

- 1. This Law determines the general legal, organisational and economic principles for conducting public procurement.
- 2. The procedures determined by this Law apply to all types of public procurement, except for public procurement related to state secrets defined in the Law of Georgia on State Secrets.
- 3. The Government of Georgia shall approve the list of subjects of public procurement related to state secrets as defined in the Law of Georgia on State Secrets and the procedure for conducting such procurement.
- 3<sup>1</sup>. This Law shall not apply to the following types of public procurement:
- a) public procurement related to the implementation of monetary and exchange rate policies and to the provision of the country's economy with cash by the National Bank of Georgia under the Organic Law of Georgia on the National Bank of Georgia; also public procurement of audit firm service for the conduction of external audit of the accounting records of the National Bank of Georgia. Procurements under the administrative and capital expenditures budget approved by the Board of the National Bank of Georgia, except for the public procurements related to intangible assets, gold bars, collectible GEL banknotes and coins and/or GEL banknotes and coins intended for other purposes, also except for public procurements related to the reproduction of GEL banknotes and coins, shall be regulated by this Law;
- b) public procurement to be performed with funds of the legal entities under public law that are regarded as religious organisations under the legislation of Georgia;
- c) public procurement of electricity, firm capacity, natural gas and water supply;
- d) (Deleted);
- d<sup>1</sup>) public procurement of motor vehicles for Georgia's diplomatic missions and consular offices abroad, for defence attachés, or for representatives of the Ministries of Defence and Internal Affairs of Georgia and the State Security Service of Georgia;
- e) public procurement for organising meetings and visits of the President of Georgia, the Chairperson of the Parliament of Georgia, the Prime Minister of Georgia, Ministers of Georgia, State Ministers of Georgia and/or the Mayor of Tbilisi, for organising the reception of delegations at the Parliament of Georgia and visits of delegations of the Parliament of Georgia abroad, for organising the reception of delegations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia and visits of delegations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia abroad, as well as public procurement to be performed with funds allocated from the reserve funds of the President of Georgia, the Government of Georgia and the Tbilisi City Hall;
- f) public procurement of services of persons employed under administrative contracts and labour contracts provided for in the budget classification 'Goods and Services', as well as public procurement to be performed during a business trip;
- g) (Deleted);
- h) public procurement of expert services, provided these services are procured under Articles 144-147 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Georgia;
- i) public procurement of immovable property, as well as public procurement related to the acquisition of immovable property with the right of use;
- j) financing of relevant education, health and social protection services/goods through a voucher, as well as voucher redemption and transactions relating to redemption;
- k) public procurement related to renting of a space for holding meetings;
- $k^1$ ) public procurement relating to dissemination of public service advertisements through mass media, including through websites and social networks (except for public procurement relating to the purchase of television and radio broadcasting time under this Law and Article  $66^1(2)$  of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting;
- l) <u>public</u> procurement by the Legal Entity under Public Law called the Public Broadcaster from a non-resident person of TV and radio products, <u>the products</u> <u>intended for a w ebpage and social network</u> (programmes, shows, films, <u>plays</u>, <u>s eries</u>, reports, cultural events) and/or <u>related</u> services <u>required</u> for <u>the creation thereof</u>, as well as of services relating to

- the broadcasting and/or receipt of TV <u>and</u> / radio products (<u>programmes</u>, <u>shows</u>, <u>films</u>, <u>reports</u>, <u>cultural events</u>) through a <u>satellite</u> (<u>except for the public procurement of goods a nd construction work s required for the creation and/or broadcasting of TV and radio product s<sub>2</sub> as well as other services not provided for by this <u>sub-paragraph</u>);</u>
- m) procurement of sovereign credit rating services and credit rating services related to government securities, as well as to reimbursement of accompanying costs to the supplier of these services;
- n) public procurement of services related to safekeeping of lottery tickets by a lottery organiser or a lottery agent defined by the Law of Georgia on Organising Lotteries, Games of Chance and other Winning Games and to free distribution of marketing and/or promotional goods of a lottery operator;
- o) public procurement of services by a lottery operator defined by the Law of Georgia on Organising Lotteries, Games of Chance and other Winning Games from a person who has the right to manage the state-owned share in the given enterprise;
- p) public procurement by a lottery operator defined by the Law of Georgia on Organising Lotteries, Games of Chance and other Winning Games of information and technology support necessary for organising and/or conducting a lottery;
- q) public procurement of goods purchased by the LLC Georgian Post from retail facilities for sales purposes;
- r) public procurement by a contracting authority of postal and courier services of the LLC Georgian Post;
- s) public procurement by a contracting authority of services of the Legal Entity under Public Law Levan Samkharauli National Forensics Bureau;
- t) according to the Agreement between the Government of Georgia and the Government of the United State of America Concerning the Transition of Sustainment Costs and Responsibilities Over the Unified Laboratory System for Detection, Epidemiological Surveillance and Response to Especially Dangerous Pathogens, and the Richard G. Lugar Centre for Public Health Research in Georgia, public procurement of goods entered in the Unified Laboratory System, the list of which shall be determined by ordinance of the Government of Georgia.
- 4. Procurement procedures determined by the World Bank, the United Nations Organization, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Asian Development Bank, the German Reconstruction Credit Bank (KFW) and the European Investment Bank (EIB) may be applied when conducting public procurement, if these organisations are involved in the legal relations related to implementation of the procurement. If these organisations are not involved in the legal relations related to implementation of the procurement, the procurement procedures of these organisations, as well as those of other organisations, may be applied only by decree of the Government of Georgia.

#### 5. (Deleted).

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 294 of 26 September 2008 - LHG I, No 22, 9.10.2008, Art. 152

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 1236 of 19 June 2009 - LHG I, No 13, 2.7.2009, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 1690 of 24 September 2009 - LHG I, No 29, 12.10.2009, Art. 173

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3353 of 6 July 2010 - LHG I, No 35, 12.7.2010, Art. 217

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3619 of 24 September 2010 - LHG I, No 51, 29.9.2010, Art. 332

Law of Georgia No 4068 of 15 December 2010 - LHG I, No 74, 24.12.2010, Art. 458

Law of Georgia No 5011 of 1 July 2011 - website, 15.7.2011

Law of Georgia No 5169 of 28 October 2011 - website, 11.11.2011

Law of Georgia No 5454 of 9 December 2011 - website, 22.12.2011

Law of Georgia No 6389 of 5 June 2012 - website, 19.6.2012

Law of Georgia No 6577 of 28 June 2012 - website, 10.7.2012

Law of Georgia No 1255 of 20 September 2013 - website, 2.10.2013

Law of Georgia No 1284 of 24 September 2013 - website, 8.10.2013

Law of Georgia No 2761 of 31 October 2014 - website, 18.11.2014

Law of Georgia No 2960 of 24 December 2014 - website, 30.12.2014

Law of Georgia No 3018 of 4 February 2015 - website, 16.2.2015

Law of Georgia No 3133 of 4 March 2015 - website, 23.3.2015

Law of Georgia No 3967 of 8 July 2015 – website, 15.7.2015

Law of Georgia No 4349 of 27 October 2015 – website, 11.11.2015

Law of Georgia No 152 of 21 December 2016 – website, 28.12.2016

Law of Georgia No 1015 of 15 June 2017 – website, 29.6.2017

Law of Georgia No 1687 of 7 December 2017 – website, 14.12.2017

<u>Law of Georgia No 19 67 of 21 February 201 8 – website, 5 . 3 .201 8</u>

## Article 2 - Purpose of the Law

The purpose of this Law is to:

- a) ensure rational spending of monetary funds designated for public procurement;
- b) promote effective competition in the area of production of goods, performance of services and construction works necessary for the State;
- c) ensure a proportionate, non-discriminatory approach and equal treatment to participants of a procurement when performing public procurement;
- d) ensure publicity of public procurement;
- e) create a Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement and build public confidence in the System.

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

#### Article 3 - Definition of terms used in the Law

- 1. The terms used in this Law have the following meanings:
- a) public procurement procurement of any goods, services and construction works by a contracting authority in cases determined by this Law, through electronic or other means, using the funds:
- a.a) from the State Budget of Georgia and those consolidated in the State Budget;
- a.b) from the budgets of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara;
- a.c) from the budgets of local self-government units;
- a.d) of organisations and institutions funded by the State Budget of Georgia, the budgets of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara, and by the budgets of local self-government units;
- a.e) received in the form of a grant or a credit by budgetary organisations, legal entities under public law, non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entities a higher education institution and the higher education institution development fund, and by enterprises engaged in public procurement under sub-paragraph (a.h) of this paragraph, from foreign states and international organisations on the basis of international contracts, as well as from residents of other states, except as provided in Article 1(4) of this Law;
- a.f) credit and investment funds received under state guarantees;
- a.g) of non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entities a higher education institution and a higher education institution development fund, as well as of legal entities under public law (except for membership-based legal entities under public law), irrespective of the source of origin of these funds, except for the exclusions provided by Article 1(3<sup>1</sup>)(a) and (b) of this Law;
- a.h) of an enterprise in which more than 50% of the interest or shares is owned by the State or a local self-government body, except when this enterprise, in the course of procuring goods or services related to the special aspects of its activities, follows a special procedure established by the Government of Georgia for the procurement of those goods or services, the term of which shall not exceed two years. The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia or the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia shall, on the basis of suggestions from relevant enterprises and local self- government bodies, prepare and submit for approval to the Government of Georgia the special procedure to be established by the Government of Georgia. If the Government of Georgia does not establish special procedures, procurement shall be performed according to this Law;
- b) contracting authority an entity performing procurement using funds under sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph, which is registered in the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement according to the procedures determined by a

- subordinate normative act approved by the chairperson of the Public Procurement Agency;
- c) procurement object goods, services or construction works to be procured;
- d) (Deleted);
- d¹) similar procurement objects identical procurement objects, as well as those that are not identical, but have similar components, technical specifications (characteristics) and/or functions. The similarity of procurement objects shall be established under procedures determined by a subordinate normative act approved by the chairperson of the Public Procurement Agency.
- e) (Deleted);
- f) goods objects of every kind and description (except for immovable property) both in a solid and in a liquid or gaseous form, as well as services incidental to the supply of goods, provided that the value of those services does not exceed the value of the goods;
- g) construction works ('works') any work related to the construction, reconstruction, demolition, repair or renovation of a building, structure or other facility (including site preparation, excavation of soil, erection, building, installation of equipment, decoration and finishing, setting-up communication networks related to construction), as well as the services incidental to the construction, such as drilling, geodesic works, satellite imagery and aerial photography, seismic investigations and other similar services under a public procurement contract, if the value of those services does not exceed the value of the construction work;
- h) services any procurement object, except for goods and works. In the case of public procurement of services, the issues related to the announcement of a competition, an electronic tender or a consolidated tender, to tender/design contest documentation, to an estimated value of the procurement object or to the value of a tender/design contest proposal shall be determined in a subordinate normative act approved by the chairperson of the Public Procurement Agency;
- h¹) a person interested in participating in procurement a person who is interested in participating in procurement procedures;
- i) (Deleted);
- i<sup>1</sup>) bidder a person who has paid a fee to participate in a public procurement procedure;
- j) supplier a person who was awarded a public procurement contract by a contracting authority;
- k) urgent necessity a situation that poses a real threat to the functioning of a contracting authority and that could not have been foreseen, and/or the occurrence of which is not a result of a contracting authority's action, or which may cause a significant damage to Georgia's state and/or public interests or to the contracting authority's property;
- l) register of mala fide participants of the procurement ('the Black List') the Black List that the Public Procurement Agency maintains electronically and publishes on its official website. The Black List shall include the data on mala fide persons, bidders and suppliers participating in public procurement, who may not participate in public procurement and be awarded a public procurement contract within one year after they are entered into the Black List. The Black List shall be available to every person. The procedures and conditions for maintaining the Black List shall be defined in a subordinate normative act approved by the chairperson of the Public Procurement Agency ('a subordinate normative act');
- l¹) register of qualified suppliers participating in procurements ('the White List') the White List that the Public Procurement Agency maintains electronically and publishes on its official website. The White List includes data on qualified suppliers participating in procurements who meet the criteria determined by a subordinate normative act for inclusion in the White List. When participating in public procurement, qualified suppliers registered in the White List shall enjoy simplified procedures provided under a subordinate normative act. The procedures and conditions for maintaining the White List shall be defined in a subordinate normative act;
- l<sup>2</sup>) general guarantee a guarantee securing, in the case of an advance payment, the supplier's obligations to all the contracting authorities with which the supplier will conclude public procurement contracts. A general guarantee may also be applied to secure the performance of a public procurement contract. The validity of a general guarantee, the procedures and conditions for its issuance and presentation shall be defined in a subordinate normative act;
- m) (Deleted);
- n) fee a mandatory payment to the account of the Public Procurement Agency in the amount determined under this Law for submission of tender or design contest proposals, which is not refundable, unless paid by mistake;
- $n^{l}$ ) publication fee a mandatory payment to the account of the Public Procurement Agency made by a contracting authority for publishing electronically a design contest notice and design contest documents or a tender notice and tender documents. In the case of a design contest and an electronic tender, the amount of the publication fee and the payment procedures shall be determined by a subordinate normative act;

- n<sup>2</sup>) filing fee the amount established by this Law to be paid to the State Budget by a bidder to submit a complaint to the Public Procurement Agency;
- o) electronic means equipment for processing (including digital processing) storing, transmitting, receiving and disseminating by wire, optical, radio and/or other electronic means;
- p) electronic tender a method of public procurement of similar procurement objects with a value of GEL 5 000 or above (except for the exceptional cases provided for by sub-paragraph (r<sup>1</sup>) of this paragraph), which encompasses the procedures determined by this Law and a subordinate normative act for an electronic tender;
- q) (Deleted 6.4.2017, No 617).
- r) (Deleted);
- r¹) simplified procurement a procurement method used in cases provided in Article10¹(3) of this Law, or in the case of public procurement of similar procurement objects with a value of up to GEL 5 000 (procurement of similar procurement objects with a value of up to GEL 50 000 by Georgia's diplomatic missions and consular offices abroad, as well as public procurement of similar procurement objects related to defence, security and maintenance of public order with a value of up to GEL 20 000 by contracting authorities operating within the system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia and the State Security Service of Georgia, by contracting authorities operating within the system of the Ministry of Defence of Georgia and by the Special State Protection Service of Georgia);
- s) electronic reverse auction a procedure of an electronic tender, when a bidder may, within the time frame determined under the legislation of Georgia, reduce the price quoted by him/her/it through the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement to win in the procurement procedure;
- s<sup>1</sup>) status a certain phase in a contest, an electronic tender or consolidated tender;
- t) (Deleted);
- u) consolidated tender a procedure implemented by the Public Procurement Agency in cases determined by the Government of Georgia to procure a similar procurement object, during which the best tender proposal is identified;
- v) representation expenses representation expenses as defined under the Tax Code of Georgia, taking into account the special aspects of this Law;
- w) alternative procurement alternative procurement of communication services from a different supplier based on a substantiated decision of a contracting authority, to ensure stable and safe operation of the relevant information and technology system. In that case, the current supplier of communication services may not participate in the procurement procedures. Additional conditions related to alternative procurement shall be defined in a subordinate normative act;
- x) design contest for the purposes of this Law, an alternative method of public procurement of design services, which is used by decision of a contracting authority;
- y) affidavit for the purposes of this Law, a written document, the signer of which confirms the authenticity of information and facts stated in the document and is responsible for the authenticity of this information and facts under the legislation of Georgia;
- z) artificial division of public procurement procurement of similar procurement objects in an artificially reduced quantity and/or volume by a contracting authority using the same source of funding during a single budget year or other action that aims to evade the monetary thresholds and other requirements determined by this Law and subordinate normative acts adopted according to this Law.
- 2. (Deleted).
- 3. For the purposes of this Law, the term 'person' shall mean a natural or legal person of Georgia or of a foreign country, or an entity as provided by the legislation of Georgia or of the relevant country.
- 4. For the purposes of this Law, the term 'day' shall mean a calendar day, unless a working day is explicitly indicated.

Law of Georgia No 3524 of 25 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 239

Law of Georgia No 4095 of 26 December 2006 - LHG I, No 49, 29.12.2006, Art. 373

Law of Georgia No 4408 of 2 March 2007 - LHG I, No 8, 23.3.2007, Art. 72

Law of Georgia No 5664 of 28 December 2007 - LHG I, No 50, 29.12.2007, Art. 438

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 1236 of 19 June 2009 - LHG I, No 13, 2.7.2009, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 2760 of 12 March 2010 - LHG I, No 12, 24.3.2010, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

Law of Georgia No 4068 of 15 December 2010 - LHG I, No 74, 24.12.2010, Art. 458

Law of Georgia No 4272 of 25 February 2011 - website, 2.3.2011

Law of Georgia No 4273 of 25 February 2011 - website, 2.3.2011

Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011

Law of Georgia No 4950 of 24 June 2011 - website, 11.7.2011

Law of Georgia No 4959 of 24 June 2011 - website, 11.7.2011

Law of Georgia No 5559 of 20 December 2011 - website, 28.12.2011

Law of Georgia No 5975 of 30 March 2012 - website, 19.4.2012

Law of Georgia No 2163 of 21 March 2014 - website, 27.3.2014

Law of Georgia No 3967 of 8 July 2015 – website, 15.7.2015

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 - website, 21.4.2017

## Article 4 - Authorised body

- 1. An independent legal entity under public law the Public Procurement Agency ('the Agency') set up under this Law shall be a body authorised to ensure compliance with and fulfilment of the provisions of this Law. The Prime Minister of Georgia shall appoint and dismiss the chairperson of the Agency.
- 2. The legal basis for the activities of the Agency shall be the Constitution of Georgia, treaties and international agreements, this Law, and the Statute of the Agency developed according to these acts.
- 3. The Government of Georgia shall approve the structure and the Statute of the Agency.
- 3<sup>1</sup>. The Agency shall be reorganised and liquidated by ordinance of the Government of Georgia.
- 4. The Government of Georgia shall exercise state control over the activities of the Agency.
- 5. The Agency shall be funded from:
- a) targeted funds allocated from the State Budget of Georgia;
- b) fees paid by persons interested in participating in procurements;
- c) other revenues permitted by the legislation of Georgia.
- 6. Principal functions of the Agency shall be to:
- a) prepare and issue subordinate normative acts and standard tender documents necessary for the operation of this Law, and harmonise them with international rules;
- b) on the basis of the reports received from contracting authorities, regularly study and analyse the situation in the field of procurement in the country and submit suggestions to the Government of Georgia to make relevant decisions;
- c) prepare special training programmes, standard forms of training and methodological materials and documentation, hold seminars and training for central and local self-government authorities, mass media representatives and other interested persons;
- d) create, update and supervise a unified procurement database;
- e) provide advisory services to contracting authorities;
- f) support the introduction of modern information and communication technologies in the procurement system;
- g) for the publicity of procurements, ensure access to relevant subordinate normative acts and to a special guidance bulletin:
- h) technical support of the activities of the Public Procurement-related Dispute Resolution Council;
- i) supervise the lawfulness of procurement procedures and determine the policy for regulating procurement proceedings;
- j) maintain the Black List;
- j<sup>1</sup>) maintain the White List;
- k) (Deleted);
- l) in special cases, based on a written request of a contracting authority or on its own motion, identify a procurement object and/or integrate it into the classification system by an individual administrative act;

- m) identify facts of artificial division of public procurement and take appropriate measures.
- 7. In order to support the functioning of the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement and ensure electronic document flow during procurement proceedings, the Agency shall be authorised to:
- a) store and issue in the form of an electronic copy any document prepared or held by the Agency;
- b) receive, publish or issue any information and/or document using unified automated management tools;
- 8. (Deleted 21.4.2017, No 645)
- 9. The Agency shall have an account with the State Treasury. The Agency may also have an account with a commercial bank when so provided by the legislation of Georgia.
- 10. The Agency shall prepare an annual report on its activities and submit it to the Government of Georgia by 15 May of each year. The report shall be published on the Agency's official website.
- 11. Public procurement may also be performed through the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement by a person who is not a contracting authority provided by this Law. Using the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement by this person shall automatically mean his/her/its consent to use the system under the established procedures. The procedures and conditions for performing public procurement by this person through the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement and for using this system shall be defined in a subordinate normative act.

Law of Georgia No 2719 of 2 March 2006 - LHG I, No 7, 20.3.2006, Art. 54

Law of Georgia No 3423 of 30 June 2006 - LHG I, No 27, 17.7.2006, Art. 223

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 4408 of 2 March 2007 - LHG I, No 8, 23.3.2007, Art. 72

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 2760 of 12 March 2010 - LHG I, No 12, 24.3.2010, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 4068 of 15 December 2010 - LHG I, No 74, 24.12.2010, Art. 458

Law of Georgia No 4272 of 25 February 2011 - website, 2.3.2011

Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011

Law of Georgia No 5559 of 20 December 2011 - website, 28.12.2011

Law of Georgia No 5975 of 30 March 2012 - website, 19.4.2012

Law of Georgia No 6577 of 28 June 2012 - website, 10.7.2012

Law of Georgia No 1284 of 24 September 2013 - website, 8.10.2013

Law of Georgia No 2163 of 21 March 2014 - website, 27.3.2014

Law of Georgia No 2945 of 12 December 2014 - website, 24.12.2014

Law of Georgia No 645 of 21 April 2017 - website, 10.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 1945 of 23 December 2017 - website, 11.1.2018

## Article 5 - Rights and obligations of the chairperson of the Agency

- 1. The chairperson of the Agency shall:
- a) issue subordinate normative acts (orders) as determined by the legislation of Georgia; these acts shall be binding on contracting authorities and other persons participating in procurement;
- b) issue decrees related to internal organisational issues;
- c) regulate issues falling within the authority of the Agency;
- d) supervise the performance by structural units of the Agency of their duties and control activities of employees according to established procedures;
- e) within the scope of its authority, appoint and dismiss employees of the Agency;
- f) administer and monitor the use of the Agency's funds;
- g) according to established procedures, submit recommendations to the Government of Georgia with regard to issues falling within the authority of the Agency, for making relevant decisions;
- 2. The chairperson of the Agency shall be responsible for the activities of the Agency as determined by law.

## Article 6 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 4408 of 2 March 2007 - LHG I, No 8, 23.3.2007, Art. 72

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 4272 of 25 February 2011 - website, 2.3.2011

Law of Georgia No 5559 of 20 December 2011 - website, 28.12.2011

## Article 7 - Rights and obligations of a contracting authority

- 1. A contracting authority shall be authorised to:
- a) in compliance with the procedures established by this Law and relevant normative acts, select a supplier and award him/her/it a public procurement contract ('a contract');
- b) disqualify bidders as determined by this Law;
- c) (Deleted);
- c¹) in cases of a design contest and an electronic tender, terminate the procurement procedure at any time before concluding a contract if necessitated by reasons beyond its control and unforeseen objective reasons, or if it is in Georgia's state interests and/or public interests;
- d) monitor and supervise the fulfilment of contract terms by a supplier;
- e) according to the legislation of Georgia, suspend or terminate a contract if the qualification data submitted by the supplier are found to be false, as well as in other cases provided by the legislation of Georgia.
- 2. A contracting authority shall be obliged to:
- a) perform procurement rationally and in Georgia's state interests within the limits of the allocations received, in compliance with the procedures established by this Law and relevant normative acts;
- b) (Deleted);
- $b^1$ ) agree with the Agency, in accordance with Article  $10^1(3^3)$  of this Law, a decision on making a public procurement through a simplified procurement under Article  $10^1(3)(a-d)$  of this Law;
- c) submit reports to the Agency on performed procurements, as determined by Article 22 of this Law;
- d) reimburse a supplier for the value of the goods, works, and services upon supply of the goods, performance of works and rendering of services, unless otherwise provided by contract;
- d<sup>1</sup>) (Deleted);
- d<sup>1</sup>.a) (Deleted);
- d<sup>1</sup>.b) (Deleted);
- d<sup>2</sup>) before awarding a contract, suspend a public procurement procedure if his/her/its decision/action is appealed as determined by this Law and a subordinate normative act:
- $d^2$ .a) only after the completion of an electronic reverse auction, immediately upon receipt of information on appeal;
- $d^2$ .b) in the case of a consolidated procurement or a design contest, immediately upon receiving information on appeal, in cases provided by a subordinate normative act;
- e) (Deleted);
- f) when terminating public procurement procedures in the cases provided in this article, notify the Agency and all bidders about this decision and the reasons for the decision. When suspending or terminating public procurement procedures, the contracting authority shall not be obligated to reimburse costs related to participation in the public procurement.
- 2<sup>1</sup>. The procedure for resuming suspended public procurement procedures shall be defined in a subordinate normative act.
- 3. Responsibility for compliance with the procedures and norms established by this Law and relevant normative acts, and for rational performance of procurement shall fully rest with a contracting authority.

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235
Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290
Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233
Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234
Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011
Law of Georgia No 5926 of 27 March 2012 - website, 19.4.2012
Law of Georgia No 4104 of 24 July 2015 - website, 4.8.2015
Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 - website, 21.4.2017

## Article 8 - Conditions for avoiding conflicts of interest

- 1. The conditions for avoiding conflicts of interest shall apply to the following activities related to the conduct of public procurement:
- a) review, selection and evaluation of qualification data and tender proposals;
- b) holding negotiations in cases provided by this Law and subordinate normative acts;
- c) monitoring and supervision of the performance of a contract;

Law of Georgia No 1945 of 23 December 2017 - website, 11.1.2018

- d) (Deleted);
- e) selection of a supplier under a simplified procurement;
- f) review of design contest proposals and selection of a supplier through a design contest;
- g) review of disputes related to public procurement.
- 2. A natural person carrying out the activity defined in paragraph (1) of this article shall be considered to have a conflict of interest with the bidder or the supplier if their relations fall within Article 19 of the Tax Code of Georgia. If a bidder or a supplier is a contracting authority as provided by Article 3(1)(b) of this Law, the cases of application of Article 19 of the Tax Code of Georgia to matters related to a conflict of interest shall be defined in a subordinate normative act, taking into account special aspects of public procurements;
- 3. A bidder or a supplier may not directly or indirectly influence, in his/her favour, the decision of a person carrying out activities under paragraph (1) of this article.
- 4. After a person carrying out activities under paragraph (1) of this article learns the identity of a bidder or a supplier, the person shall confirm in writing that his/her/its involvement in this procurement does not cause a conflict of interest.
- 5. If a person carrying out activities under paragraph (1) of this article has a conflict of interest, he/she/it shall immediately declare it and exclude himself/herself from the procurement.

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 4068 of 15 December 2010 - LHG I, No 74, 24.12.2010, Art. 458

Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011

Law of Georgia No 5975 of 30 March 2012 - website, 19.4.2012

#### Article 9 - Planning of procurement

1. A contracting authority shall perform procurement under a pre-determined annual procurement plan whose format and the procedure for its development shall be defined in a subordinate normative act. After consent of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia and/or of a financial authority of the relevant local self-government body is received, the Agency shall be sent a notice about the conduct of a multi-year procurement with the funds specified in Article 3(1)(a.a–a.d) of this Law (except for the continuous procurement of services that are performed until 1 February of the following year). The multi-year procurement shall be annually reflected in the procurement plan of the relevant budget year. Procurement shall not be regarded as a multi-year procurement if it is performed only with allocations provided in the current budget year, and the supply of which is carried out during the following budget year. The National Bank of Georgia shall perform multi-year procurements without approval of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

1<sup>1</sup>. If agreed by contracting authorities, public procurements may be conducted jointly under procedures established by a

subordinate normative act.

- 2. (Deleted 27.3.2012, No 5926).
- 3. Procurement of similar goods, services or works during a budget (fiscal) year by a contracting authority shall be regarded as a single procurement if it is funded from one source, except for cases set out in paragraph  $(3^1)(a)$  and (b) of this article. It shall be inadmissible to artificially divide public procurement in order to avoid public procurement methods and time frames relevant to monetary thresholds determined by this Law.
- 3<sup>1</sup>. Artificial division of public procurement means the reduction and/or splitting of the quantity or volume of similar procurement objects when the contracting authority knows in advance that during the same budget year it will become necessary to subsequently procure the same or similar procurement objects and when the funds for additional procurement have been projected in advance in the public procurement plan for the same budget year. The following shall not be regarded as artificial division of public procurement:
- a) procurement by separate procedures that is caused by a geographical factor and/or is justified by the rational spending of funds;
- b) procurement by separate procedures that is caused by objective circumstances that a contracting authority could not have foreseen.
- 4. The head of a contracting authority shall submit an annual procurement plan for the following year to the Agency not later than 20 November of the current year, after which the contracting authority may start public procurements necessary for the following year/years. Before entry into force of a relevant normative act on the State Budget of Georgia, republic budgets of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara, and budgets of local self-government units, the annual procurement plan of persons performing public procurement with funds specified in Article 3(1)(a.a–a.d) of this Law shall, at the moment of submitting annual procurement plans, comply with the draft State Budget of Georgia, draft republic budgets of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara, draft budgets of local self-government units submitted to the appropriate representative body.
- 4<sup>1</sup>. If after entry into force of a relevant normative act on the State Budget of Georgia, republic budgets of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara, and budgets of local self-government units, it becomes necessary to bring into line with this normative act the annual procurement plans submitted to the Agency on the basis of this paragraph, the persons performing public procurement with the funds specified in Article 3(1)(a.a–a.d) of this Law shall make appropriate amendments to their annual procurement plans and submit the amended plans to the Agency within 10 calendar days after the publication of the relevant normative act on the State Budget of Georgia, republic budgets of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara and budgets of local self-government units.
- 5. If a contracting authority is established (founded) or receives an additional source of financing from the funds provided in Article 3(1)(a.e) and (a.f) of this Law, the head of the contracting authority shall approve an annual procurement plan and submit it to the Agency by not later than the  $20^{th}$  day of the month following the month of establishing (founding) the contracting authority or of receiving the additional funding.
- 6. The following shall be taken into account when preparing a draft annual procurement plan:
- a) necessity of performing the procurement;
- b) similarity of procurement objects;
- c) experience in performing similar procurements;
- d) determining the type of a procurement object (goods, services, works);
- e) results of a market survey conducted to identify potential suppliers and determine contract terms acceptable for a contracting authority;
- e<sup>1</sup>) a procurement object, if any, that a contracting authority agrees to purchase through a consolidated tender;
- f) the reasons for selecting a particular procurement method, and estimated time frames for procurement procedures;
- g) quantity of goods to be supplied, volume of works to be performed or of services to be rendered, considering the existing supplies;
- h) the estimated value of the procurement objects;
- i) costs associated with the procurement;
- j) current year's financial commitments under long-term contracts or under contracts awarded in the previous year;
- k) an estimated time frame for the performance of the contract to be awarded;
- l) other circumstances related to the procurement.
- 7. The provisions of this article shall not apply to the cases provided by Article 1(4) of this Law.

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 4408 of 2 March 2007 - LHG I, No 8, 23.3.2007, Art. 72

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 1236 of 19 June 2009 - LHG I, No 13, 2.7.2009, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 1690 of 24 September 2009 - LHG I, No 29, 12.10.2009, Art. 173

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

Law of Georgia No 4068 of 15 December 2010 - LHG I, No 74, 24.12.2010, Art. 458

Law of Georgia No 4272 of 25 February 2011 - website, 2.3.2011

Law of Georgia No 5926 of 27 March 2012 - website, 19.4.2012

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 - website, 21.4.2017

## Chapter II - Procurement Methods

## Article 10 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 320 of 7 October 2008 - LHG I, No 24, 20.10.2008, Art. 161

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

## Article 10<sup>1</sup> - Electronic means of public procurement

- 1. Electronic public procurement shall be performed through a design contest, an electronic tender or a consolidated tender.
- 2. By decision of a contracting authority, a simplified procurement may be performed electronically, through the procedures established for electronic tender.
- 3. Public procurements may be performed through a simplified procurement, if:
- a) the supply of goods, performance of works, or rendering of services is an exclusive right of only one person and there is no reasonable alternative to substitute a procurement object. The following shall not be considered to be an exclusive right:
- a.a) an estimated value of the goods or services to be procured is over GEL 2 000 000, and an estimated value of works is over GEL 4 000 000, and within reasonable territorial boundaries outside the country there is another person who is able to supply the same goods, perform the same works, or render the same services;
- a.b) an estimated value of the goods or services to be procured does not exceed GEL 2 000 000 and an estimated value of works does not exceed GEL 4 000 000 and within the country there is another person who is able to supply the same goods, perform the same works and render the same services;
- b) in the case of urgent necessity; in this case, the quantity of the goods, volume of the works or services to be procured shall not exceed the period necessary to resolve the problems caused by the urgent necessity;
- c) by decision of a contracting authority, to prevent the deterioration of the quality of an object procured from the supplier and/or to ensure further operation of that object, it is necessary that the object be procured from the same supplier or from a sub-contractor specified in the contract signed with the same supplier, except when the estimated value of the object to be procured exceeds the value of the object initially procured;
- d) for the purpose of holding an event of state and public importance without hindrance and within limited time frames the conduct of a procurement is determined by a legal act of the Government of Georgia, or if the conduct of a procurement is determined by legal acts of the governments of the autonomous republics in cases of public procurements with funds from republic budgets of the autonomous republics and/or from budgets of self-government units within the

administrative boundaries of the autonomous republics and also in the case of public procurement using other funds of the organisations and institutions that are financed from the budgets of the autonomous republics and relevant self-government units, and if the conduct of a procurement is determined by a legal act of the Board of the National Bank of Georgia in case of necessity of holding an event of state and public importance without hindrance by the National Bank of Georgia;

- e) Deleted 15.6.2017, No 1015;
- f) public procurement related to representation expenses is performed;
- g) public procurement is performed by means of payment of charges set by a normative act of Georgia;
- h) public procurement of maintenance services and/or spare parts and/or oil and lubricants necessary for the maintenance of a motor vehicle having the age and/or being under a guarantee with conditions determined by an ordinance of the Government of Georgia;
- i) a legal entity under public law a higher education institution procures literature (printed, electronic or audio-visual), reagents, software, pharmaceutical products (medicinal products), laboratory equipment and databases;
- j) a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity a higher education institution established by the State and performing higher education activities and the higher education institution development fund perform public procurement with the consent of the Regency Council. In that case, the consent of the Regency Council shall be granted on the basis of a substantiated application of a contracting authority.
- 3<sup>1</sup>. With the purpose of holding an event of state and public importance without hindrance within a limited time frame, to access tender notice and tender documents, as well as submit tender proposals, when procuring similar procurement objects with a value equal to or above GEL 150 000 in the case of goods and services and equal to or above GEL 300 000 in case of works during one budget year, the relevant time frames determined by Article 15<sup>1</sup>(3)(a) and (b) may be established under a legal act of the Government of Georgia. That paragraph does not apply to the cases when the estimated value of goods, services and works is equal to or above monetary thresholds established by directives of European Union applicable to the field of public procurement.
- $3^2$ . The Government of Georgia may delegate to the governments of the autonomous republics the authority under paragraph ( $3^1$ ) of this article for a period of not more than one year (to conduct public procurement with the funds of the autonomous republics and self-government units within the territories of the autonomous republics, as well as with the funds of organisations and institutions financed from the budgets of the autonomous republics and relevant self-government units).
- 3<sup>3</sup>. A contracting authority, before procurement, shall agree a decision on making a public procurement through a simplified procurement under paragraph (3)(a-d) of this article with the Agency according to the procedure defined by a subordinate legal act. A decision on simplified procurement shall be agreed with the Agency through the Unified Electronic System. Applications of contracting authorities submitted through this System are public and the System allows interested parties to express their opinions. When making a decision, the Agency considers both the application of the contracting authority and the related opinions of the interested parties. The procedure and conditions for agreeing a decision with the Agency on making a public procurement through a simplified procurement shall be defined by a subordinate normative act.
- 4. It shall be inadmissible to artificially divide public procurement to avoid the application of the monetary thresholds of the respective public procurement methods and time frames set by this Law, and the fulfilment of other requirements.
- 5. By decision of a contracting authority, similar procurement objects may be procured in phases during one budget (fiscal) year, by applying the monetary thresholds of the respective public procurement methods and time frames set by this Law for the total value of procurement objects.
- 6. (Deleted 6.4.2017, No 617).
- 7. (Deleted).
- 8. (Deleted).

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

Law of Georgia No 4068 of 15 December 2010 - LHG I, No 74, 24.12.2010, Art. 458

Law of Georgia No 4272 of 25 February 2011 - website, 2.3.2011

Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011

Law of Georgia No 4959 of 24 June 2011 - website, 11.7.2011

Law of Georgia No 5126 of 13 October 2011 - website, 27.10.2011
Law of Georgia No 6577 of 28 June 2012 - website, 10.7.2012
Law of Georgia No 611 of 17 May 2013 - website, 6.6.2013
Law of Georgia No 1284 of 24 September 2013 - website, 8.10.2013
Law of Georgia No 1285 of 24 September 2013 - website, 8.10.2013
Law of Georgia No 2099 of 7 March 2014 - website, 14.3.2014
Law of Georgia No 4104 of 24 July 2015 - website, 4.8.2015
Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 - website, 21.4.2017

Law of Georgia No 1015 of 15 June 2017 – website, 29.6.2017

## Article 10<sup>2</sup> - Design contests

- 1. By decision of a contracting authority, public procurement of design services may be performed through a design contest a public procurement method different from a simplified procurement and an electronic tender.
- 2. Design contest notice and design contest documentation shall be published on the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement, after which a unique number is assigned to a design contest notice, and the design contest notice and design contest documentation are deemed officially published. A contracting authority shall pay a publication fee for publishing a design contest notice and design contest documentation. If necessary, a contracting authority may use other additional methods for disseminating design contest notice and design contest documentation.
- 3. The procedures and conditions for publishing a design contest notice and documentation shall be defined in a subordinate normative act.
- 4. The procedures and conditions for public procurement of design services through a design contest shall be defined in a subordinate normative act.
- 5. The procedures and conditions for public procurement of dismantling of buildings and structures and/or removal of materials and waste from the sites after dismantling works shall be defined by ordinance of the Government of Georgia and subordinate normative acts.
- 5. (Deleted 6.4.2017, No 617).

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

#### Chapter III - Electronic Tender

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290 Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

## Article 11 - Procedure for setting up and operating a tender committee

- 1. (Deleted).
- 1<sup>1</sup>. An electronic tender shall be conducted by a tender committee composed of at least 3 members, and set up by the head of a contracting authority.
- 2. The head of a contracting authority and/or his/her deputies, or heads of structural units of the authority shall be appointed to the tender committee. If the number of relevant candidates is not sufficient, other employees of the contracting authority may also be appointed as members of the committee.
- 3. The head of a contracting authority or a person appointed by him/her shall chair a tender committee.
- 4. (Deleted).
- 5. Under a decision of a tender committee, experts in the corresponding field may be invited to the committee as experts and consultants in a consultative capacity.
- $5^1$ . (Deleted).
- 6. In order to provide technical and organisational support to the activities of a tender committee, by decision of the head of a contracting authority, a secretariat of the tender committee shall be set up from among the employees of this

authority, and shall be headed by the chairperson of the tender committee.

7. (Deleted).

- 7<sup>1</sup>. A tender committee shall adopt decisions by a majority of the current nominal list of the committee members. A member of a tender committee who disagrees with the decision of the committee may submit his/her opinion in writing, which shall be attached to the decision of the tender committee. In the case of equal votes, the vote of the chairperson of a tender committee shall be decisive. The tender committee shall decide on a successful bidder in accordance with the procedure established by a subordinate normative act.
- 8. Minutes of the meeting of a tender committee shall be drawn up and signed by the committee members present at the meeting.

Law of Georgia No 3978 of 14 December 2006 - LHG I, No 48, 22.12.2006, Art. 346
Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235
Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290
Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233
Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

## Article 12 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

## Article 12<sup>1</sup> - Electronic tender notice and tender documentation

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

- 1. When conducting an electronic tender, a tender committee shall, on behalf of a contracting authority, post an electronic tender notice and tender documentation in the Georgian language in the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement. A contracting authority shall be authorised to post an electronic tender notice in the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement in the English language as well. If an estimated value of goods or services to be procured exceeds monetary thresholds established by directives of European Union applicable to the field of public procurement, posting of an electronic tender notice in the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement in the English language shall be mandatory.
- 2. In the cases of an electronic tender, a tender notice and tender documentation shall be published on the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement, after which a unique number shall be assigned to the tender notice, and the tender notice and tender documentation shall be deemed to be officially published. A contracting authority shall pay a publication fee for publishing a tender notice and tender documentation. If necessary, a contracting authority may use other additional methods for disseminating a tender notice and tender documentation.
- 3. A tender notice format, data to be indicated in the notice, and the procedure for publishing and posting a notice in the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement shall be determined by a subordinate normative act.
- 3<sup>1</sup>. When performing public procurement through the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement, a tender proposal guarantee shall be submitted to the Agency through the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement. The procedure and conditions for submitting a guarantee to the Agency, types and an amount of the guarantee shall be determined by subordinate normative act.
- 4. Tender documentation shall be approved by the tender committee.
- 5. Tender documentation shall include:
- a) qualification requirements to be met by a bidder;
- b) (Deleted);
- c) (Deleted);
- d) quantity of goods, volume of works or services to be procured, a period, place and method of delivery of goods, performance of works or rendering of services;
- e) full description of technical, performance and/or functional specifications, including plans, drawings, sketches,

- information regarding the quality, operation, safety, dimensions, packaging, labelling and marking, production methods and processes, symbols, terminology, conformity requirements set by a contracting authority, etc.;
- f) mandatory terms and conditions of the contract, of which a contracting authority is aware in advance, as well as a reference to the type of the contract and to the contract performance guarantee (if any);
- g) methods to be used in order to estimate the value of a tender proposal, by indicating whether it is to include the costs (transportation, insurance, taxes, etc.) other than the value of the goods, works or services;
- h) (Deleted);
- i) ways and procedures for requesting additional information and clarifications with regard to tender documentation;
- j) the name and contact details of a member of the tender committee secretariat who is authorised to provide information and clarifications about procurement procedures;
- k) (Deleted);
- l) information about alternative procurement of communication services, if any.
- 5<sup>1</sup>. Tender documentation shall be drawn up as determined by a subordinate normative act.
- 6. While describing technical, performance and/or functional specifications of a procurement object, a contracting authority shall ensure that the text materials and other characteristics used conform to the international, European or Georgian standards. A contracting authority shall make a reference to the applied standard (if any). At the same time, preference shall be given to the general description of performance and functional specifications. It shall be inadmissible to indicate a trademark, patent, model, source of origin or manufacturer in the description of a procurement object, except when there are no other ways available for the precise description of a procurement object. In such cases, when describing a procurement object, the words 'similar' or 'equivalent' and others shall be used.
- 7. By decision of a contracting authority, qualification documents may be submitted both in Georgian and in foreign languages. If the documents are submitted in a foreign language, translations into the Georgian language performed as determined by the legislation of Georgia shall be attached to those documents. When resolving disputes related to qualification documents, the contracting authority shall decide on the priority of a foreign language document or of its Georgian translation.
- 8. (Deleted 6.4.2017, No 617).
- 9. After the publication of an electronic tender notice and tender documentation, a tender committee may modify information indicated in a tender notice and tender documentation, except for the procurement object and means of public procurement. In such case, the period for familiarisation with a tender notice and tender documentation shall be extended by the period between the announcement of an electronic tender and the implementation of relevant changes.

10. (Deleted).

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 4068 of 15 December 2010 - LHG I, No 74, 24.12.2010, Art. 458

Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011

Law of Georgia No 4950 of 24 June 2011 - website, 11.7.2011

Law of Georgia No 6296 of 22 May 2012 - website, 29.5.2012

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

## Article 13 – Requirements for the bidders

A contracting authority shall, in accordance with the procedure established by a subordinate normative act, determine requirements related to technical, performance and/or functional specifications, as well as qualification criteria of bidders for each particular procurement. These requirements shall be proportionate and non-discriminatory and shall promote effective competition and equal treatment for bidders.

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

## Article 14 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233 Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

### Article 15 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

## Article 15<sup>1</sup> - Procedure for conducting an electronic tender

- 1. Electronic tender procedures to be implemented from the submission of a tender proposal until the awarding of a contract to the successful bidder shall be set out in this article and in a subordinate normative act.
- 2. An affidavit, a tender proposal and supporting documents, as well as samples (if any) and qualification documents shall be submitted to the tender committee in accordance with the procedure established by a subordinate normative act.
- 3. The for familiarisation with an electronic tender notice and tender documentation, as well as for the submittal of a tender proposal, shall be determined as follows:
- a) in the case of procurement of similar goods and services with a value of up to GEL 150 000 not less than 7 days, at least 5 days of which are intended for familiarisation with tender notices and tender documentation and the following 3 days for submittal of a tender proposal;
- b) in the case of procurement of similar goods and services with a value of equal to or above GEL 150 000 not less than 10 days, at least first 7 days of which are intended for familiarisation with tender notices and tender documentation and the following 2 days for submittal of a tender proposal. At the same time, if an estimated value of goods or services to be procured is equal to or above monetary thresholds established by directives of European Union applicable to the field of public procurement, not less than 30 days shall be determined, at least first 25 days of which are intended for familiarisation with tender notices and tender documentation and the following 5 days for submittal of a tender proposal;
- c) in the case of procurement of similar works with a value of up to GEL 300 000 not less than 10 days, at least first 7 days of which are intended for familiarisation with tender notices and tender documentation and the following 3 days for submittal of a tender proposal;
- d) in the case of procurement of similar works with a value of equal to or above GEL 300 000 not less than 20 days, at least first 15 days of which are intended for familiarisation with tender notices and tender documentation and the following 5 days for submittal of a tender proposal. At the same time, if an estimated value of works to be procured is equal to or above monetary thresholds established by directives of European Union applicable to the field of public procurement, not less than 30 days shall be determined, at least first 25 days of which are intended for familiarisation with tender notices and tender documentation and the following 5 days for submittal of a tender proposal.
- 4. After the announcement of electronic tender, it shall be inadmissible to reduce time frames determined for familiarisation with tender notices and tender documentation.
- 5. A bidder may submit a tender proposal through the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement within time frames established for the submittal of a tender proposal and alter the price of the submitted tender proposal through an electronic reverse auction. If the deadline for accepting tender proposals for a simplified electronic tender falls on a Saturday, Sunday or an official holiday, the deadline for accepting tender proposals shall expire on the following working day.
- 6. The monetary thresholds established by directives of European Union applicable to the field of public procurement shall be reflected in a subordinate normative act.
- 7. Issues related to access to information and documentation posted by a bidder in the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement shall be determined in a subordinate normative act.
- 8. The tender committee shall decide on a successful bidder of an electronic tender in accordance with the procedure established by a subordinate normative act.
- 9. The tender committee shall, within the time frame and under procedures established by a subordinate normative act, publish through the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement the contract awarded to the successful bidder of the electronic tender and the documentation related to the electronic tender and required by a subordinate normative act.

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3767 of 26 October 2010 - LHG I, No 62, 5.11.2010, Art. 398

Law of Georgia No 4068 of 15 December 2010 - LHG I, No 74, 24.12.2010, Art. 458

Law of Georgia No 4950 of 24 June 2011 - website, 11.7.2011

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 - website, 21.4.2017

## Article 16 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

## Article 16<sup>1</sup> - Awarding a contract to a successful bidder

- 1. A contracting authority shall award a public procurement contract to a successful bidder based on the conditions defined in the tender proposal of the successful bidder.
- $1^1$ . If a contracting authority terminates the contract unilaterally, it shall not be liable for damages caused by termination of the contract, except as determined by the legislation of Georgia, as well as when the reason of termination of the contract is a situation under Article  $9(4^1)$  where it is necessary to bring the annual procurement plans of contracting authorities in line with the relevant normative act on the State Budget of Georgia, republic budgets of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara and budgets of local self-government units, and due to this it is impossible to continue the contract.
- 2. By decision of a contracting authority, a contract may be prepared both in the Georgian and in foreign languages. If a contract is prepared in a foreign language, it shall be translated into Georgian as determined by the legislation of Georgia.
- 3. (Deleted).
- 4. (Deleted).
- 5. If a successful bidder is disqualified or refuses to sign a contract, the contracting authority may consider a tender proposal of the bidder with the next best quote or terminate the public procurement procedure in cases as provided by a subordinate normative act.
- 6. (Deleted).
- 7. In the case of procurement of a large volume of works, if a construction site is located in the territory of Georgia, additional terms and conditions related to the contract may be determined by a relevant legal act of the Government of Georgia.
- 8. (Deleted 6.4.2017, No 617).

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 4950 of 24 June 2011 - website, 11.7.2011

Law of Georgia No 5926 of 27 March 2012 - website, 19.4.2012

Law of Georgia No 1284 of 24 September 2013 - website, 8.10.2013

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

#### Article 17 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290 Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

#### Article 18 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290 Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

## Article 18<sup>1</sup> - Inadmissibility of holding negotiations during an electronic tender

A tender committee may not negotiate with a person interested in participating in an electronic tender or with a bidder, except as provided by a subordinate normative act.

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

## Article 19 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

## Article 19<sup>1</sup> - Fee rate

- 1. A fee of GEL 50 shall be set for submission of a design contest proposal or a tender proposal in the case of a design contest and electronic tender procedures, while in the case of a consolidated tender procedure, a fee of GEL 5 000 shall be set for submission of a tender proposal. For the submission of a design contest proposal or tender proposal in a design contest or an electronic tender, a fee different from the one determined in this paragraph may be set under a subordinate normative act, and for submission of a tender proposal in a consolidated tender, a fee different from the one determined in this paragraph may be set by decision of the Government of Georgia.
- 2. The procedures and conditions for paying fees and for refunding fees paid by mistake shall be determined by a subordinate normative act.

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

Law of Georgia No 4272 of 25 February 2011 - website, 2.3.2011

Law of Georgia No 6389 of 5 June 2012 - website, 19.6.2012

Law of Georgia No 6577 of 28 June 2012 - website, 10.7.2012

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

#### Article 20 - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3164 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 234

## Article 20<sup>1</sup> - (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290 Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

## Article 20<sup>2</sup> - Consolidated tender

- 1. By decision of the Government of Georgia, a consolidated tender may be conducted to procure similar procurement objects.
- 2. In the cases provided in paragraph (1) of this article, on the basis of documents provided by the Government of Georgia, the Agency shall ensure the conduct of a consolidated tender and identification of the best tender proposal according to procedures and conditions determined by a subordinate normative act.
- 3. The Agency shall ensure that the information required by a subordinate normative act on a completed consolidated tender is posted in the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement.
- 4. A contracting authority may award a public procurement contract to the supplier identified according to a subordinate normative act; the contracting authority that has indicated the intention in the annual procurement plan according to

Article 9(6)(e<sup>1</sup>) of this Law to conduct a public procurement through a consolidated tender shall be obligated to award a public procurement contract to the supplier identified according to a subordinate normative act.

5. In the case provided in this article, the Government of Georgia shall determine the composition of a tender committee.

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

## Article 20<sup>3</sup> - Two-stage public procurement

- 1. Two-stage public procurement of a procurement object specified by a subordinate normative act may be performed through a two-stage electronic tender.
- 2. The procedures and conditions for conducting a two-stage electronic tender shall be determined by a subordinate normative act.
- 3. The procedures and conditions for conducting a two-stage electronic tender, taking into account special aspects of the given public procurement method, may include provisions different from the ones determined under this Law for an electronic tender.

Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

## Chapter IV - Terms and Conditions of a Public Procurement Contract and Procedures for their Revision

## Article 21 - Terms and conditions of a public procurement contract and procedures for their revision

- 1. (Deleted).
- 1<sup>1</sup>. A state procurement contract shall be concluded in written form, taking into account the conditions defined in this Law and a subordinate normative act. Awarding of a public procurement contract shall not be mandatory:
- a) in the case of public procurements performed through a simplified public procurement by Georgia's diplomatic missions and consular offices abroad, as well as by defence attachés, representatives of the Ministries of Defence and Internal Affairs of Georgia, and of the State Security Service of Georgia, and in cases provided by a subordinate normative act;
- b) in the case of public procurement performed through a simplified procurement by means of the Internet;
- c) in the case of public procurement related to representation expenses;
- d) in the case of public procurement performed through the payment of the charges determined by a normative act of Georgia.
- 2. In order to ensure the performance of a public procurement contract, based on the specific nature of a procurement object, a contract performance guarantee or insurance may be required, except for cases provided in paragraph (3<sup>1</sup>) of this article.
- 2<sup>1</sup>. If a procurement object is a petroleum product (fuel) the value of which, due to its specific nature, depends on a variable price on the international commodities exchange and/or on the official exchange rate of the national currency, before a contract is awarded a supplier shall be obligated to submit to a contracting authority the unit price of the goods to be supplied, which is calculated according to a subordinate normative act. This requirement shall not apply to the procurement of petroleum products (fuel) by a diplomatic mission and a consular office of Georgia abroad, as well as by a defence attaché, the representatives of the Ministries of Defence and Internal Affairs of Georgia, and of the State Security Service of Georgia.
- 3. (Deleted).
- 3<sup>1</sup>. A public procurement contract performance guarantee or insurance shall be mandatory if the total value of the contract is GEL 200 000 or above. By decision of a contracting authority, bidders or potential suppliers may be exempt from the obligation to provide a guarantee under this paragraph, taking into account their business reputation and the quality and awareness of the goods, services and works provided by them.
- 3<sup>2</sup>. If a contracting authority demands a public procurement contract performance guarantee or insurance, a supplier that has submitted a general guarantee under this Law shall have the right not to submit a contract performance guarantee or insurance. In that case, the general guarantee shall be used to secure performance of the public procurement contract.
- 3<sup>3</sup>. The beneficiary of a general guarantee may be any contracting authority to which the owner (principal) of the general

guarantee is liable under the guarantee; the guarantee beneficiary contracting authority shall notify the guarantor about this according to a subordinate normative act.

- 4. The mandatory terms and conditions of a public procurement contract and the procedures for requesting a guarantee and insurance shall be determined by a subordinate normative act.
- 5. The terms and conditions of a contract awarded to a supplier may not be modified, if the value of the contract increases for the contracting authority due to this modification or the terms and conditions of the contract become less favourable, except for the cases provided in Article 398 of the Civil Code of Georgia.
- 5<sup>1</sup>. The conditions for modification of the terms and conditions of a public procurement contract according to Article 398 of the Civil Code of Georgia shall be determined by a subordinate normative act.
- $5^2$ . (Deleted).
- $5^3$ . In cases provided in paragraph  $(1^1)(a-d)$  of this article, public procurement shall be performed on the basis of a document containing information, in accordance with a subordinate normative act, evidencing payment of the value of the procurement object (for instance, a cheque or a receipt), or on the basis of a contract (if any).

6. (Deleted).

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011

Law of Georgia No 4950 of 24 June 2011 - website, 11.7.2011

Law of Georgia No 5975 of 30 March 2012 - website, 19.4.2012

Law of Georgia No 3967 of 8 July 2015 – website, 15.7.2015

# Article 21<sup>1</sup> - Advance payment terms

- 1. In the case of an advance payment, the supplier shall submit to the contracting authority a guarantee equal to the amount of the advance payment, except for cases provided in paragraph (2) of this article and a subordinate normative act.
- 2. By decision of a contracting authority, it may exempt a supplier from submitting a guarantee equal to the amount of advance payment if:
- a) the amount to be paid in advance to the supplier is credited to a separately designated bank account, and this amount is used under the supervision of the contracting authority over the entire duration of the public procurement contract;
- b) the total value of a particular public procurement contract exceeds the threshold determined by a subordinate normative act. In that case, a contracting authority may exempt a supplier from the obligation to provide a guarantee equal to the amount of advance payment, taking into account its business reputation, the quality of the goods produced, services rendered and work performed, and the brand awareness of the supplier;
- c) the supplier's responsibility to a contracting authority is permanently secured under a general guarantee as determined by a subordinate normative act.
- 3. Special conditions for applying the provisions of paragraph (2) of this article to qualified suppliers registered in the White List shall be defined in a subordinate normative act.
- 4. A supplier shall be obligated to use the amount received as an advance payment only for the performance of obligations related to the public procurement contract.
- 5. The procedure and conditions for submitting and exempting from submission of an advance payment guarantee prescribed in paragraphs (1-3) of this article shall be defined in a subordinate normative act.

Law of Georgia No 5975 of 30 March 2012 - website, 19.4.2012

#### Chapter V - Monitoring and Control over Procurements

## Article 22 - Procurement report

- 1. (Deleted).
- 2. (Deleted).

- 2<sup>1</sup>. When an electronic tender is conducted, the conclusions of experts and consultants (if any) involved in the tender, minutes of meetings of the tender committee, as well as other documents provided by a subordinate normative act shall be attached to a procurement report.
- 3. (Deleted).
- 3<sup>1</sup>. By not later than 30 January of the following year, contracting authorities shall submit, according to the simplified procedure determined by a subordinate normative act, progress reports on the performance of the contract, provided that the estimated total value of the annual procurement plan is less than GEL 50 000.
- 4. Procurement reports shall be made available to all interested persons upon their request.
- 5. If the value of the procurement object is more than GEL 2 000 000, the head of a contracting authority shall submit a written procurement report on the object of procurement to the Prime Minister of Georgia within 20 days after the public procurement contract is awarded. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to the National Bank of Georgia, which submits a procurement report to the Board of the National Bank according to the Organic Law of Georgia on the National Bank of Georgia.
- 6. The Ministry of Finance of Georgia, ministries of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara in the field of finance and the financial authorities of local self-government units shall provide, on a quarterly basis, to the Agency information on the funds actually allocated to budgetary organisations and institutions.
- 7. At any stage of the procurement, the Agency may require contracting authorities and procurement participants to provide any document and information related to the procurement, including information on performance of the contract.
- 8. In order to ensure transparency of procurement proceedings, the Agency, during the procurement proceedings, shall monitor the adherence to principles of publicity, fairness and non-discrimination, it shall also monitor strict adherence to the established procedures and reporting, open and effective competition, and availability of rational and free choice.
- 9. (Deleted).
- 10. The form of accounting for a simplified procurement, an electronic tender, a design contest, a consolidated tender, as well as a contract and the progress reports on public procurements set out in Article  $21(1^1)$  of this Law, the procedures, periods and conditions for their preparation, submission and storage shall be determined by a subordinate normative act.

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 627 of 5 December 2008 - LHG I, No 36, 12.12.2008, Art. 235

Law of Georgia No 1690 of 24 September 2009 - LHG I, No 29, 12.10.2009, Art. 173

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 5560 of 20 December 2011 - website, 28.12.2011

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

# Article 22<sup>1</sup> - Inspection of procurements by the State Audit Office of Georgia

- 1. The State Audit Office of Georgia shall inspect procurements by auditing the contracting authority.
- 2. Upon request of the State Audit Office of Georgia, a contracting authority shall provide any document and/or information related to the procurement.
- 3. A procurement participant shall be obliged to provide to the contracting authority, upon request, documents and/or information related to the procurement.
- 4. (Deleted).

Law of Georgia No 882 of 26 December 2008 - LHG I, No 1, 15.1.2009, Art. 3

Law of Georgia No 1236 of 19 June 2009 - LHG I, No 13, 2.7.2009, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 6550 of 22 June 2012 - website, 29.6.2012

# Article 22<sup>2</sup> – The additional control mechanism for public procurements made and to be made by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia shall submit to the Legal Issues Committee and the Defence and Security Committee of the Parliament of Georgia the detailed information on the intended non-classified public procurements if the estimated value of goods or services to be procured exceeds GEL 2 000 000 (two million), and if the estimated value of

construction works to be purchased exceeds GEL 4 000 000 (four million); further, at least once a year, it shall submit a report on the performed and ongoing non-classified activity with respect to public procurements.

Law of Georgia No 4707 of 23 December 2015 – website, 29.12.2015

# Chapter VI – Procedures for Appealing Public Procurement-related Decisions/Actions and for the Review of Disputes

Law of Georgia No 1945 of 23 December 2017 - website, 11.1.2018

## Article 23 - Public Procurement-related Dispute Resolution Council

- 1. For timely, efficient and fair resolution of disputes arising during electronic tenders or design contests, on the basis of this Law, an impartial and independent body the Public Procurement-related Dispute Resolution Council (the Council) shall be set up which shall not be subordinated to any other body and/or official. The chairperson of the Council shall be the chairperson of the Agency except for the case provided for by paragraph (3) of this article.
- 2.The Council shall be composed of 3 representatives of the Agency and 3 representatives of relevant profile from the non-governmental organisations on a parity basis, except for the case provided for by paragraph (3) of this article.
- 3. Where the estimated value of the public procurement is equal to or above the monetary thresholds (the amount thereof shall be included in a subordinate normative act) established by the directives of European Union applicable to the field of public procurement, the Council, except for the persons referred to in paragraph (2) of this article, shall also include one representative from the Legal Entity under Public Law called the Competition Agency, the Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Business Ombudsman of Georgia, as well as one representative of relevant profile from academic communities. In such case, the Council shall be chaired by one of its members elected by the members of the Council on the basis of a secret ballot by a majority of members on the list for the term of 1 year. The same person may be elected as a chairperson of the Council only once.
- 4. The procedure for the selection of the representatives as members of the Council by the non-governmental organisations and academic communities, as well as the procedure for nomination of the representatives by the bodies referred to in paragraph (3) of this article shall be determine by a subordinate normative act. These persons shall be appointed as members of the Council for the term of one year. The Agency may not interfere in the process of selection/nomination of these persons as members of the Council other than for the provision of technical support thereof.
- 5. The rules of operation of the Council shall be defined in a subordinate normative act. The technical support of the activities of the Council shall be provided by the Agency.

Law of Georgia No 1945 of 23 December 2017 - website, 11.1.2018

## Article 23<sup>1</sup> – Procedures for appealing decisions/actions to the Council and for the review of disputes

- 1. A person interested in participating in the procurement or a bidder may appeal to the Council the decision/action of the contracting authority/tender committee in accordance with the procedure established by this article.
- 2. In the case provided for by paragraph (1) of this article, a person interested in participating in procurement and a bidder may appeal a tender/design contest notices and a tender/design contest documentation. A bidder may appeal a decision/action of a contracting authority/tender committee related to the selection and evaluation of bidders in an electronic tender/design contest, if he/she/it believes that during the procurement proceedings the procedures established by this Law and relevant normative acts have been violated and his/her/its rights have been infringed.
- 3. The decision/action of a contracting authority/tender committee may not be appealed if the complaint relates to:
- a) the selection of a public procurement method in compliance with the procedures determined by this Law and relevant normative acts;
- b) the decision of a contracting authority on cancellation of the public procurement procedure that has been made under this Law and relevant normative acts.
- 4. In the case of submission of a complaint to the Council, the public procurement procedures shall be suspended automatically, once the complaint is declared admissible, after the termination of electronic trade. After declaring a complaint admissible, a contracting authority may not make decision or carry out an action within the time frames determined for the review of the complaint related to the public procurement procedures. The conditions for the suspension of the public procurement procedures shall be determined by a subordinate normative act.
- 5. A complaint to be submitted to the Council shall have a legal basis. The form of a compliant to be submitted to the Council, the procedure for its completion, the time frames and conditions (except for the cases provided for by the Organic Law of Georgia Election Code of Georgia) for submitting a complaint shall be established by a subordinate

normative act. The Council shall not review a complaint submitted in violation of the requirements of this paragraph. A complaint shall be submitted to the Council electronically, through the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement.

- 6. To submit a complaint to the Council, except for appealing a tender/design contest notice and a tender/design contest documentation, the filing fee shall be established, which shall amount to 2% of the estimated value of the public procurement but not less than GEL 100 and not more than GEL 500. The filing fee shall be refunded except when the complaint is not satisfied. The procedure for the payment of the filing fee and the refund thereof shall be established by a subordinate normative act.
- 7. The Council shall make a substantiated written decision and publish it on the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement in not later than 10 working days which shall be regarded as official notification of the decision.
- 8. If the Council, after a detailed examination of the complaint and the related circumstances, fully or partially satisfies the complaint, it shall be authorised to:
- a) point out the erroneous action to the contracting authority and require that the contracting authority perform public procurement procedures in compliance with the legislation of Georgia;
- b) require that the contracting authority review or cancel the decisions made;
- c) if a party to the public procurement violates the requirements of this Law, bring to the attention of the relevant bodies determined by the legislation of Georgia the issue of his/her/its responsibility.

Law of Georgia No 1945 of 23 December 2017 - website, 11.1.2018

# Article 23<sup>2</sup> – Procedures for appealing the decisions/actions to the contracting authority and for the review of disputes

- 1. A person interested in participating in procurement, a bidder or a supplier may appeal the decision/action of a contracting authority/tender committee to the contracting authority in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia, taking into consideration the requirements of this article.
- 2. In the case of submission of a complaint to a contracting authority, the contracting authority may not make decision or carry out an action before a relevant decision is made with respect to the appealed public procurement procedures. A contracting authority shall publish the information regarding the suspension of the public procurement procedures on the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement.
- 3. A contracting authority shall make a substantiated written decision and in no later than 10 working days shall notify the applicant thereof. The contracting authority shall publish the above decision on the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement.

Law of Georgia No 1945 of 23 December 2017 - website, 11.1.2018

# Article 233 – Appealing the decisions/actions to the court

- 1. A person interested in participating in procurement, a bidder or a supplier may appeal the decision/action of a contracting authority/tender committee to the court in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia.
- 2. In the case of conducting a consolidated tender, the decision made/action carried out by a tender committee shall be appealed to the court in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia.
- 3. A person interested in participating in procurement, a bidder or a supplier may appeal the decision made by the Council or a contracting authority with regard to his/her/its complaint to the court in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia.
- 4. Appealing against the decision of the Council shall not suspend its effect.

Law of Georgia No 1945 of 23 December 2017 - website, 11.1.2018

## Article 23<sup>4</sup> – Compensation of the damages

The damages that may be compensated to the plaintiff as a result of the review of a dispute under this article shall be limited to the compensation of the costs related to the participation in the public procurement and shall not include the reimbursement of the estimated profit.

Law of Georgia No 1945 of 23 December 2017 - website, 11.1.2018

Chapter VII - Transitional and Final Provisions

## Article 24 - Activities to be implemented for bringing this Law into force

- 1. (Deleted).
- 2. Within one month after entry of this Law into force, the Public Procurement Agency shall, according to the legislation of Georgia, approve Regulations for the Procedures for Performing Public Procurement.
- $2^1$ . (Deleted).
- $2^2$ . (Deleted).
- $2^3$ . (Deleted).
- 3. Until 1 January 2008, this Law shall not apply to procurements to be performed by electricity and natural gas enterprises for rehabilitating or repairing property that is directly related to generation, transmission, dispatching, distribution of electricity, transportation, distribution of natural gas, as well as to the regulation of electricity and natural gas metering.
- 4. Until 1 January 2013, the provisions of this Law shall not apply to procurement of cellular communication services.
- 5. In order to ensure conformity of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting with Article 1(3<sup>1</sup>)(l) of this Law, the Legal Entity under Public Law the Public Broadcaster and the Government of Georgia shall jointly ensure the drafting and submission of a relevant law to the Parliament of Georgia by 20 December 2009.
- 6. From 1 March 2010 to 1 December 2010, contracting authorities shall perform public procurements in their own discretion, through or without an electronic procurement.
- 6<sup>1</sup>. The Government of Georgia shall ensure that the ordinance provided in Article 10<sup>1</sup>(3)(h) of this Law is adopted by 1 February 2011.
- 7. In order to identify procurement objects, by 1 May 2011 the Agency shall introduce a relevant classification system adopted by international organisations.
- 8. Successful tenderers of public procurement procedures that commenced before 1 December 2010 shall be selected and public procurement contracts shall be concluded with them under procedures applicable before 1 December 2010.
- 8<sup>1</sup>. When performing public procurement through a simplified procurement, a simplified electronic tender and an electronic tender until 31 December 2010, the matters related to the similarity of procurement objects and inclusion of procurements in annual procurement plans shall be defined in a subordinate normative act.
- 8<sup>2</sup>. Until the methodology for detection of artificial division of public procurement is developed, the Agency shall be authorised to additionally regulate by an individual administrative act matters related to artificial division of public procurement.
- 9. The Head of the State Security Service of Georgia shall, by an appropriate normative act, establish before 1 January 2016, additional requirements related to termination of international telephone calls of telecommunication service providers and the route of data exchange within the global internet network while performing public procurement of international telephone services and internet services in order to improve state security measures.
- 10. The competent authority prescribed by this Law shall ensure that:
- a) by 30 December 2010 the provisional rules for performing public procurement electronically are approved;
- b) by 1 May 2011 the procedure for conducting a simplified procurement, a simplified electronic tender and an electronic tender is approved;
- c) by 1 April 2011 the conditions and procedure for public procurement of design services through a design contest are approved;
- d) by 1 May 2012 the conditions and the procedure for conducting a consolidated tender are approved;
- e) by 1 December 2012 the methodology for detection of artificial division of public procurements is developed;
- f) by 1 January 2012 the procedure for conducting a two-stage electronic tender or a two-stage simplified electronic tender is approved;
- g) by 1 May 2012 the regulations related the maintenance of the White List and the conditions of advance payment are formulated;
- h) by 1 November 2015 the procedure and conditions specified in Article  $10^{1}(3^{3})$  of this Law are defined by a subordinate normative act.
- 11. Deleted 15.6.2017, No 1015
- 12. By 15 April 2014 the Government of Georgia shall ensure that the Statute of the Legal Entity under Public Law the

Public Procurement Agency is approved.

- 13. The Regulations approved under Ordinance No 497 of the Government of Georgia of 27 December 2011 on Approving the Statute of the Legal Entity under Public Law the Competition and Public Procurement Agency shall retain a legal force in the portion related to public procurements until the Statute of the Legal Entity under Public Law the Public Procurement Agency provided in paragraph (12) of this article is approved.
- 14. From 31 March 2014 Ordinance No 166 of the Government of Georgia of 18 February 2014 on Determining the Legal Entity under Public Law the Competition and Public Procurement Agency as a Competent Authority shall be declared void.

Law of Georgia No 3481 of 18 July 2006 - LHG I, No 30, 27.7.2006, Art. 237

Law of Georgia No 4333 of 29 December 2006 - LHG I, No 1, 3.1.2007, Art. 3

Law of Georgia No 294 of 26 September 2008 - LHG I, No 22, 9.10.2008, Art. 152

Law of Georgia No 882 of 26 December 2008 - LHG I, No 1, 15.1.2009, Art. 3

Law of Georgia No 1236 of 19 June 2009 - LHG I, No 13, 2.7.2009, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 2107 of 20 November 2009 - LHG I, No 40, 7.12.2009, Art. 290

Law of Georgia No 3163 of 28 June 2010 - LHG I, No 39, 19.7.2010, Art. 233

Law of Georgia No 3767 of 26 October 2010 - LHG I, No 62, 5.11.2010, Art. 398

Law of Georgia No 4068 of 15 December 2010 - LHG I, No 74, 24.12.2010, Art. 458

Law of Georgia No 4272 of 25 February 2011 - website, 2.3.2011

Law of Georgia No 4632 of 5 May 2011 - website, 25.5.2011

Law of Georgia No 5126 of 13 October 2011 - website, 27.10.2011

Law of Georgia No 5364 of 25 November 2011 - website, 6.12.2011

Law of Georgia No 5975 of 30 March 2012 - website, 19.4.2012

Law of Georgia No 2163 of 21 March 2014 - website, 27.3.2014

Law of Georgia No 3967 of 8 July 2015 – website, 15.7.2015

Law of Georgia No 4104 of 24 July 2015 – website, 4.8.2015

Law of Georgia No 1015 of 15 June 2017 – website, 29.6.2017

# Article 24<sup>1</sup>. Entry into force of the norms related to the monetary thresholds established by the directives of European Union applicable to the field of public procurement

- 1. The norms related to the monetary thresholds established by the directives of European Union applicable to the field of public procurement referred to in Article  $10^1(3^1)$ , Article  $12^1(1)$ , Article  $15^1(3)(b)$  and (d) and Article  $15^1(6)$  shall enter into force on 1 September 2019.
- 2. Before 1 September 2019, the obligation provided for by Article  $12^{1}(1)$  of this Law on posting an electronic tender notice in the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement in the English language shall be incurred by a contracting authority if an estimated value of goods or services to be procured exceeds GEL 2 000 000 and an estimated value of works exceeds GEL 4 000 000.

Law of Georgia No 617 of 6 April 2017 – website, 21.4.2017

#### Article 25 - Invalid normative acts

The following shall be regarded as invalid upon entry of this Law into force:

- a) the Law of Georgia on Public Procurement of 9 December 1998 (Legislative Herald of Georgia, No 7, 1998, Art. 52);
- b) Order No 1 of the Chairperson of the Public Procurement Agency of 15 October 2001 on Approving Regulations on the Public Procurement Procedure.

#### Article 26 - Entry into force

This Law shall enter into force from 1 January 2006.

Tbilisi 20 April 2005

No 1388-I ს