

O/C

Consortium Partners

SMEC International Pty. Ltd. (ACN-065440619/FCRN-F01483)

NJS Engineers India Pvt Ltd, India (CIN - U74210PN2007PTC129798)

Tata Consulting Engineers Limited, India (CIN- U74210MH1999PLC123010)

SMEC (India) Pvt. Ltd. (CIN: U93000DL1997PTC088574)



Ref: SSNT PMC 400 MLD / CMWSSB / 5061185/450

Date: 01 December 2021

To,

The Superintending Engineer (Desalination)

Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board,

Urban Administrative Building,

2nd Floor, No.75, Santhome High Road,

Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai 600 028, Tamil Nadu, India



Sub: JICA Assisted Project for Construction of 400 MLD Seawater Reverse Osmosis Desalination Plant at Perur (JICA Loan ID-P267) – Request for Work from Home for PMC International Key Experts - List of activities to be carried out for CP1 to CP4 components during extended partial lockdown period from 01 December 2021 to 31 January 2022 – Reg.

Ref: 1. Your Letter no. Ref: CMWSSB/SE(Desal)/400 MLD Plant/PMC-057/2021, dated 26.11.2021
2. Our Letter no. Ref: SSNT PMC 400MLD /CMWSSB / 5061185/444, dated 24.11.2021
3. Your Letter no. Ref: CMWSSB/SE(Desal)/400 MLD Plant/PMC-050/2021 dated 06.09.2021
4. Our Letter no. Ref: SSNT PMC 400MLD /CMWSSB / 5061185/399 dated 25.08.2021
5. Our Letter no. Ref: SMEC/ CMWSSB / 7061563/005, dated 20.01.2020
6. Your Letter no. Lr.no.CMWSSB/SE(Desal)/400 MLD Plant / PMC/2020, dated 13.01.2020
7. Our Contract Agreement with CMWSSB, dated 09.01.2020

Dear Sir,

We Thank you for providing the approval and allowing the international staff to work from home at their respective countries in view of the Corona Pandemic and restrictions in international travel till 30 November 2021 vide your letter cited at reference no.3, dated 06.09.2021 for the subject project.

We have received a letter from CMWSSB vide letter cited in reference no. 1, dated 26.11.2021 stating that, the work from home is considered only in view of Corona pandemic and restrictions in International Travel and not for the Experts working in Chennai Office.

In this regard, we wish to bring to your notice that the extended lockdown / International travel ban is still prevailing in most countries and is expected to continue until 2022. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and new variant (Omicron), there are many international travel restrictions to India; and also due to current world uncertainties and the risks of bringing international key staff when they could effectively perform their functions from Work from Home, the copy of the international travel advisory document of proof of restriction is attached along with this letter (Annexure-1). PMC has strived to mobilise the international experts [Contract Specialist (Desal), Electrical Engineer (Desal) and Pipeline Engineer] from their respective home country, wherever possible, based on the international travel relaxation. Also, we are closely monitoring the prevailing situation worldwide for mobilising our international experts at the Chennai office.

Therefore, in the interest of the project and maintaining the prevalent Government COVID and new variant (Omicron) protocols, we plan to mobilise/remobilise the international staff to Chennai Project Office progressively as the improvement in the situation is recorded, and the respective countries ease the international travel restriction.

Please note that most staff are working from the Chennai office, except two international staff from Australia. Other International staff need to provide their services intermittently, and as per the project requirement, we will bring them to the Chennai office whenever required.

PMC Chennai Office Address:

'A' 13th Floor, Purva Primus, No 236, Okhiyampettai,
Old Mahabalipuram Road, Thuraipakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600097

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PMC for 400 MLD SWRO Desalination Plant at Perur, Chennai

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As the project is at the crucial stage of its bid process management for the CP1 component, we request the Work from home for the following international experts due to various constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic and new variant (Omicron) across the globe.

| Sl. No. | Name of Expert | Position | Country | Work From Home approval requested date | Reason |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|--|---|
| Key International Expert | | | | | |
| 1. | Dr. P. Dharmabalan | Team Leader / Project Manager | Australia | 01.12.2021 to 31.01.2022 | International Travel restriction due to Covid-19 third wave |
| 2. | Dr. Ghulam Mustafa | Desalination Expert | Australia | 01.12.2021 to 31.01.2022 | International Travel restriction due to Covid-19 third wave |
| 3. | Mr. Michel Morillon | Mechanical Engineer (Desal) | France | 01.12.2021 to 31.01.2022 | Will be mobilised to Chennai office as per the project requirement and International Travel guidelines. |

In addition to the above, the two more international experts, namely Mr. Abdel Fattah Toukan and Mr. Guilbert Z Gonzales, working as Contract specialist (Desal) and Electrical Engineer (Desal) respectively in Chennai Office. Both are planned to be demobilised by mid-December'2021 so that we can be able to complete the responses to pre-bid queries for CP1. However, if there are any further inputs required by them for shorter period after demobilization, the same will be provided by them from their native country, thus their inputs are planned to be optimised.

Hence, we also request you to kindly approve these two international key experts to get their home input as and when required. The details of key experts are given below:

| Sl. No. | Name of Expert | Position | Country | Work From Home approval requested date | Reason |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--|--|
| Key International Expert | | | | | |
| 1. | Mr. Abdel Fattah Toukan | Contract Specialist (Desal) | Canada | 10.12.2021 to 31.01.2022 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He is remobilised to Chennai office from 05.11.2021 onwards and At present, working from the Chennai office to provide clarification on bid queries. Intermittent input based on project requirement till the bids due date by contractor. |
| 2. | Mr. Guilbert Z Gonzales | Electrical Engineer (Desal) | Philippines | 13.12.2021 to 31.01.2022 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At present, working at the Chennai office to provide clarification on bid queries. Intermittent input based on project requirement, till the bids due date by contractor. |

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Please find attached the list of the activities to be carried out by our staff for CP1 to CP4 component during this extended partial lockdown period (Annexure-2). We affirm that if any meetings and/or discussions are planned, we will connect through an Online MS Teams Meeting / Video Conference call for the subject project.

Given the above, we request you reconsider based on the above international travel restrictions and provide the Work from home approval for the above-mentioned international experts from 01 December 2021 to 31 January 2022.

This is for your kind consideration and approval, please.

Yours truly,

For **Consortium of SMEC International Pty Ltd -TCE Ltd.-NJS Engineers India Ltd.-SMEC (India) Pvt. Ltd.**

P. Dharmabalan

Dr. P. Dharmabalan
Project Manager/Team Leader



Encl: As above

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
OPPOSITE SAFDARJUNG AIRPORT, NEW DELHI - 110003

No.4/1/2020-IR

Dated :01-12-2021

CIRCULAR

Sub: Resumption of Scheduled commercial international passenger services to/from India

Reference is invited to circular no.4/1/2020-IR dated 26.11.2021 on the above cited subject.

2. In view of the evolving global scenario with the emergence of new Variants of Concern, the situation is being watched closely in consultation with all stakeholders and an appropriate decision indicating the effective date of resumption of scheduled commercial international passenger services shall be notified in due course.


01-12-2021
(Neeraj Kumar)

Director of Regulations & Information

To

1. All Foreign and Domestic Scheduled Airlines operating flights to/from India
2. The Chairman, Airports Authority of India
3. All Airport Operators in India
4. The Commissioner, Bureau of Immigration

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

New Covid variant shuts borders across globe

AFP | Nov 29, 2021, 08:54 AM IST



THE HAGUE: A new, heavily mutated Covid-19 variant spread across the globe on Sunday, shutting borders and renewing curbs as the EU chief said governments faced a "race against time" to understand the strain.

Dubbed Omicron, the strain, first discovered in southern Africa, represents a fresh challenge to global efforts to battle the pandemic, amid fears it is highly infectious. Several countries have already re-imposed measures many had hoped were a thing of the past.

"We know we are now in a race against time," said European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen. Vaccine manufacturers needed two to three weeks "to get a full picture of the quality of the mutations", she added.

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A long list of countries have already imposed travel restrictions on southern Africa, including key travel hub Qatar, the United States, Britain, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the Netherlands.

Angola became the first southern African country to suspend all flights from its regional neighbours Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa.

South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa on Sunday called on countries to lift the travel bans "before any further damage is done to our economies".

Malawi's President Lazarus Chakwera accused Western countries of "Afrophobia" for shutting their borders.

The head of the World Health Organization in Africa also urged countries to follow the science rather than impose flight bans in a bid to contain the new Covid strain.

"With the Omicron variant now detected in several regions of the world, putting in place travel bans that target Africa attacks global solidarity," said WHO regional director Matshidiso Moeti.

Dutch health authorities said they had identified at least 13 cases of Omicron among 61 quarantined passengers who tested positive for coronavirus after arriving from South Africa.

Border police there announced Sunday they had arrested a couple on a plane at Schiphol Airport after they "fled" from a hotel where the passengers were being quarantined.

Despite the new threat, tens of thousands rallied in Austria to protest the government's introduction of compulsory vaccination -- the first EU country to do so.

Chancellor Alexander Schallenberg said it was "a minor interference" compared to the alternative for a country with one of the lowest vaccination rates in Western Europe.

With many European nations, including Germany and France, already re-introducing restrictions to counter surges in infections, Swiss voters firmly backed a proposed Covid pass law in a referendum Sunday.

In Britain, health secretary Sajid Javid said new Covid rules will be enforced from Tuesday, including mandatory mask-wearing in shops and on public transport in England, and tighter restrictions on passengers arriving from abroad.

As scientists try to determine the level of threat posed by the new strain, one South African doctor said dozens of her patients suspected of having the Omicron variant had only shown mild symptoms, such as fatigue.

Angelique Coetzee, chair of the South African Medical Association told AFP she had seen 30 patients over the past 10 days who tested positive for Covid-19 and who all fully recovered without hospitalisation.

Senior US government scientist Anthony Fauci said he "continues to believe that existing vaccines are likely to provide a degree of protection against severe cases of Covid", during a briefing on the new variant with President Joe Biden on Sunday.

Israel announced some of the strictest curbs, closing the borders to all foreigners- just four weeks after re-opening to tourists following a prolonged Covid-related closure.

"We are raising a red flag," Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said.

But the new strain has already slipped through the net and has now been found everywhere from the Netherlands to the UK, Botswana, Hong Kong and Australia.

Canada became the latest country to announce its first detected cases Sunday in two people who had travelled to Nigeria.

Britain, currently chair of the G7 group of nations, called an emergency meeting for Monday to discuss the crisis.

Scientists in South Africa said they had last week detected the new variant with at least 10 mutations, compared with three for Beta or two for Delta -- the strain that hit the global recovery and sent millions worldwide back into lockdown.

The prestigious Bambino Gesù hospital in Rome produced the first "image" of the new strain and confirmed there were many more mutations than seen in the Delta variant. But that does not mean it is more dangerous, they said.

Looking ahead, World Health Organization member states reached a consensus Sunday on kick-starting the process towards creating a pandemic treaty setting out how to handle the next global health crisis.

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ANNEXURE-2: LIST OF ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT FOR CP1 TO CP4 DURING AN EXTENDED LOCKDOWN PERIOD BETWEEN 01 DECEMBER 2021 TO 31 JANUARY 2022

| Sl. No. | Contract Package | Name of the Staff | Activities carried out for the project | Key Deliverables |
|---------|------------------|---|--|--|
| 1 | CP1 | Dr. P. Dharmabalan Dr. Ghulam Mustafa Mr. Michel Morillon Mr. Abdel Fattah Toukan Mr. Guilbert Z Gonzales | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of reply to pre-bid queries raised by the Prequalified Bidders Discussion with CMWSSB and JICA officials and attending the meeting on the CP1 bidding process management Coordinating the team and providing input and guidance. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of reply to pre-bid queries raised by the Prequalified Bidders on Bidding Document for CP1 |
| 2 | CP2 | Dr. P. Dharmabalan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation, review of Detailed Design Reports and Drawings. Preparation and review of Draft Bidding Document. Preparation of Environmental Management Plan, Environmental Monitoring Plan, Social Safeguard Review Report for CP2 (Perur Pumping Station, Porur UGT and pumping station). Coordinating the team and providing input and guidance. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of Draft Detailed Design Report and Drawings. |
| 3 | CP4 | Dr. P. Dharmabalan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of the inventory data of zone-wise existing water distribution network provided by CMWSSB Verification, analysis of the zone-wise data, report shared by CMWSSB, and PMC observations, if any. Preparation and review of Draft Design Report for Area X and XIII. Review of hydraulic modelling of a proposed water distribution network for Area X and XIII. Coordinating the team and providing input and guidance. Review of progress and other reports prepared by team members before submission to CMWSSB. Attending the Review meetings with CMWSSB officials. <p>Note: The above activities will be carried out subject to making available the required data. However, PMC will try to obtain the data from a different organization to the possible extent.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compilation of data collection, water distribution network drawings for the Area IV, V, VI and IX Submission of Draft Hydraulic Design and Drawings for Area X and XIII |

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| Sl. No. | Contract Package | Name of the Staff | Activities carried out for the project | Key Deliverables |
|---------|------------------|--------------------|---|--|
| 4 | General | Dr. P. Dharmabalan | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Preparation of Monthly Progress Report (MPR 22) for November 2021Preparation of Monthly Progress Report (MPR 23) for December 2021Preparation of Quarterly Progress Report (QPR 08) for October 2021 to December 2021Coordinating the team and providing input and guidance. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Submission of Monthly Progress Report (MPR 22) for November 2021Submission of Monthly Progress Report (MPR 23) for December 2021Submission of Quarterly Progress Report (QPR 08) for October 2021 to December 2021 |

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