



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
菲律宾共和国驻厦门总领事馆
XIAMEN



BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 07-2026

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING, BY REFERENDUM, THE USE OF NEGOTIATED PROCUREMENT UNDER SECTION 53.14 (DIRECT RETAIL PURCHASE), FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF FOUR (4) LOTS OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION OF ASTRILL VPN FOR THE USE OF XIAMEN PCG

WHEREAS, the Philippine Consulate General in Xiamen (Xiamen PCG) intends to procure four (4) lots of annual subscription of virtual private network (VPN) software program for use of Xiamen PCG through **GPPB Resolution No. 28-2017, "Approving the Guidelines for the Procurement of Goods and Services, Infrastructure Projects and Consulting Services to be Procured and performed Overseas;**

WHEREAS, there is a need for Xiamen PCG to subscribe to a reliable and stable VPN to ensure the unhampered operation of the Consulate, particularly its communication lines and consular services as the current VPN subscription of the Consulate is no longer operational;

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) No. 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act of 2003," and its most updated Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)¹ prescribe the procedure to be followed by the procuring entities in their procurement activities to promote transparency, accountability, equity, efficiency, and economy;

WHEREAS, as indicated in Article IV Sec. 10 of RA9184, it is the policy of the government that procurement of infrastructure projects, goods, and consulting services shall be done through Competitive Bidding, except as provided for in Article XVI of RA9184;

WHEREAS, Section 53.14 (iii) of the revised IRR of RA9184², states that Direct Retail Purchase may be resorted to for procurement of online subscriptions from identified direct suppliers or service providers;

WHEREAS, the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) of Xiamen PCG determined that procurement of four (4) lots of annual subscription of virtual private network may be done through Direct Retail Purchase under Section 53.14 (iii) of the revised IRR of RA9184;

WHEREAS, the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) solicited Request for Quotations from three (3) selected providers;

WHEREAS, in response to the solicitation of offers, quotations were received from Astrill (US\$720.00), Proton VPN (US\$143.52), and Express VPN (US\$201.12) for the procurement of four (4) lots of annual VPN software program subscription;

¹ <https://www.gppb.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Updated-2016-Revised-IRR-of-RA-No.-9184-as-of-19-July-2024.pdf>

² Ibid., specifically page 84.

WHEREAS, upon evaluation of the BAC, the quotation provided by Proton VPN is the lowest. However, Xiamen PCG opted for Astrill VPN as it is currently the most reliable and stable VPN in China and is also identified as the Most Advantageous and Responsive Bid for Xiamen PCG's requirements, as stated in the attached Consulate Certification and within the prescribed approved budget;

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing, WE, the members of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) of Xiamen PCG, hereby resolve and recommend to the Consul General and Head of Procuring Entity (HOPE) to resort to Negotiated Procurement under Section 53.14 (Direct Retail Purchase) for the purchase of four (4) lots of annual subscription of virtual private network software program in the amount of **US\$720.00** to **Astrill**, subject to accounting and auditing rules and regulations;

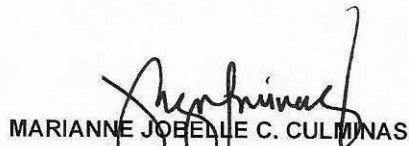
RESOLVED at the Philippine Consulate General in Xiamen, People's Republic of China this 04 March 2026.


The Bids and Awards Committee:


CHARLESON C. HERMOSURA
Chairperson, BAC



THERESA R. BANTOLO-HEIKKILÄ
Vice Chair, BAC


CAROL C. CORONEL
Member, BAC


MARIANNE JOELLE C. CULINAS
Member, BAC


ALEXANDER L. CRUZ
Member, BAC

APPROVED:


WINSTON DEAN S. ALMEDA
Consul General and
Head of Procuring Entity (HOPE)

BAC RESO NO. 07-2026



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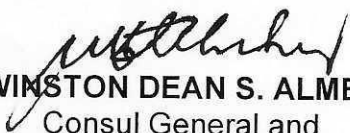
NOTICE OF AWARD NO. 07-2026

04 March 2026

Sir/Madam:

Please be informed that, upon the recommendation of the Bids and Awards Committee of the Philippine Consulate General in Xiamen as contained in its Resolution No. 07-2026, the Consulate General is awarding the Contract for the procurement of four (4) lots of annual subscription of virtual private network software program to **Astrill**.

Sincerely yours,


WINSTON DEAN S. ALMEDA
Consul General and
Head of Procuring Entity

Astrill
Seychelles