CIRCULAR No1b/03-07-2012

CATEGORY: ELIGIBILITY

Question 1: We want to participate in the competition and have seen that our country, Colombia, is listed as observer in the GPA. Is our country eligible to participate?

Answer: Colombia is not listed among the parties of the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). Thus, you are not eligible to participate in the competition as a group representative. However, you could participate in the Competition in collaboration with other interested parties that meet the eligibility requirements as described in Article 7 of the Competition Notice.

Question 2: We are architects based in Colombia. Can we participate in the Competition?

Answer: Please see Answer to Question 1.

Question 3: I’d like to know if as an argentine architect and urban designer I am able to participate in this competition.

Answer: Argentina is not listed among the parties of the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). Thus, you are not eligible to participate in the competition as a group representative. However, you could participate in the Competition in collaboration with other interested parties that meet the eligibility requirements as described in Article 7 of the Competition Notice.

Question 4: Does Australia, a country listed as an Observer to the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA), meet the requirements of eligibility for the competition?

Answer: Australia is not listed among the parties of the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). Thus, you are not eligible to participate in the competition as a group representative. However, you could participate in the Competition in collaboration with other interested parties that meet the eligibility requirements as described in Article 7 of the Competition Notice.
**Question 5:** We are landscape architects from Australia are we eligible to enter the competition?

**Answer:** Please see Answers to Questions 4 and 9.

**Question 6:** I am a registered architect in Hong Kong. Can I participate in the competition?

**Answer:** Hong Kong is listed among the parties of the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). Therefore, you are eligible to participate in the competition as long as you meet the eligibility requirements as described in Article 7 of the Competition Notice.

**Question 7:** We are architects based in Israel. Can we participate in the competition?

**Answer:** Israel is listed among the parties of the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). Therefore, you are eligible to participate in the competition as long as you meet the eligibility requirements as described in Article 7 of the Competition Notice.

**Question 8:** Could Japanese join this competition?

**Answer:** Japan is listed among the parties of the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). Therefore, you are eligible to participate in the competition as long as you meet the eligibility requirements as described in Article 7 of the Competition Notice.

**Question 9:** Does eligibility extend to licensed Landscape Architects?

**Answer:** According to para. 6.2 of the Competition Notice, the Competition will be of a single design category namely the architectural, with supporting studies of the urban planning, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering and landscaping categories.

Thus, Landscape Architects are able to join the competition only as members of a group. They could participate in the competition as group representatives only in case they are legally licensed to practice the professional activities of an Architect either in Greece or in any other State, pursuant to Article 14 para.5,6,7, Law 3316/05 [LEGISLATION APPENDIX – (B)]. (see also para. 7.2.1.a of the Competition Notice)
Question 10: I would like to clarify if one needs to be a licensed professional to participate in this competition; can a group of non-licensed persons participate?

Answer: Non-licensed persons are able to join the competition only as members of a group and not as group representatives.

Question 11: I am a Greek licensed architect and I also work for the Ministry of Culture with an unlimited time frame contract. Can I still participate as I am considered a civil servant? My team will consist of American designers. Is that okay?

Answer: You can participate in the competition as long as you meet the eligibility requirements as described in Article 7 of the Competition Notice. Specifically, you are NOT eligible to participate if you:

- have taken part in any way in the preparation and drafting of the Competition program.

- are Jury member, Scientific Adviser and member of the Competition Procedures Committee.

- are employed by the Organizer or are presently providing services to the Organizer up to the conclusion of the Competition procedure.

- are employed by any of the above mentioned persons or are their relative up to the second degree.

- have participated in any capacity whatsoever in the Research Project entitled: ‘Mutating characters and policies in the centers of the city of Athens and Piraeus’, which was assigned by YPEKA to the Faculty of Architecture of the National Technical University of Greece, whose data, conclusions and directions served as the basis for the ‘Re-think Athens: Towards a New City Centre’ document included in the Competition Documents.

Also, since you are considered a civil servant you should request authorization to participate by the official council of your public service taking into consideration the Article 31 of the Law 3528/2007 (New Code for Public Employees).

Regarding the other members of your team, we inform you that USA is listed among the parties of the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). Therefore, they are eligible to participate in the competition as long as they meet the eligibility requirements as described in Article 7 of the Competition Notice.
**Question 12:** According to the legislation in Cyprus it is not foreseen for legal entities (but only for individuals) to register with the Professional Register of Practice. - How could a Cypriot company participate in the final stage of the competition if the legal entity cannot be registered with the Professional Register of Practice? Is it possible for the Cypriot company to establish a branch in Greece and participate through its branch (permanent establishment) in the Competition provided that the manager of the said branch is an Architect duly registered with the Professional Register of Practice in Greece?

**Answer:** A Cypriot company could participate in the competition if it is represented by a person who is legally licensed to practice the professional activities of an Architect either in Greece or in any other State, pursuant to Article 14 para.5,6,7, Law 3316/05 [LEGISLATION APPENDIX – (B)]. (see also para. 7.2.1.a of the Competition Notice).

Thus, there is no need for a Cypriot company to establish a branch in Greece in order to participate in the competition.

However, according to para. 10.5 “Screening of technical and professional qualifications” of the Competition Notice “….. in order for the final project design commissioning to be finalized and validated the candidate designer or group of designers shall be required to produce a certificate of registration in any of the Professional Registers of practice of Article 39, Law 3316/2005 [LEGISLATION APPENDIX – (B)] (or, alternatively, to submit a statement of collaboration with another registered professional firm) under any of the architectural categories D or E. The candidate designer, if unable to comply with the above requirements of professional qualifications, shall be required to collaborate in this project with another registered and fully qualified professional or professional firm, in order to achieve the required minimum qualifications.”

**Question 13:** Is the para. 5 of Article 14 Law 3316/2005 applied in the first stage of the Competition or not?

**Answer:** According to para. 7 of the Competition Notice, eligible to enter the Competition will be persons or legal entities who are legally licensed to practice the professional activities of an Architect either in Greece or in any other State, pursuant to Article 14 para.5,6,7, Law 3316/05 [LEGISLATION APPENDIX – (B)].

Also, according to the same paragraph participants shall not be required, to be registered with the Professional Register of practice or to hold a relevant certificate in order to enter either the first or the second stage of the Competition.

However, **in order for the final project design commissioning** to be finalized and validated, the candidate designer or group of designers shall be required to produce
a certificate of registration in any of the Professional Registers of practice of Article 39, Law 3316/2005 [LEGISLATION APPENDIX – (B)] (or, alternatively, to submit a statement of collaboration with another registered professional firm) under any of the architectural categories D or E.

**Question 14:** At which stage shall the company submit the corporate legal documents in order to dully participate in the Competition and which are the necessary legal documents that are required?

**Answer:** According to para. 14.1.3 of the competition notice each group of participants must submit for the first stage of the competition (ideas), **ONLY in writing**, the *Design Group Identity File*. The file will contain the documents that are listed at para and para 15.1.7 of the competition notice.

According to para. 14.2.3 of the competition notice each group of participants must submit for the second stage of the competition (concept drawings), **ONLY in writing**, the *updated Design Group Identity File*. The file will contain the documents that are listed at para 15.2.5 of the competition notice.

At the conclusion of the second stage of the Competition, and for the payment of the first stage honoraria, the second stage prizes, redemption fees or compensation amounts (if granted), the participants are required to submit officially certified and translated (as requested) photocopies of the supporting documents of Article 16, Law 3316/2005 [LEGISLATION APPENDIX – (B)], that substantiate their solemn declaration of personal status filed in accordance with paragraphs 15.1.7.6 and 15.2.5.6 of the Competition Notice. Also, they should submit a tax and insurance clearance certificate according to the amending YPEKA Decision Ref.No.26804/16.06.2011 ‘New Framework of Proceedings for Architectural Competitions and General Design Contests Involving Prizes” (Government Gazette 1494/B’/04-05-2012).

In order for the final project design commissioning to be finalized and validated, the candidate designer or group of designers shall be required to produce a certificate of registration in any of the Professional Registers of practice of Article 39, Law 3316/2005 [LEGISLATION APPENDIX – (B)] (or, alternatively, to submit a statement of collaboration with another registered professional firm) under any of the architectural categories D or E.

**Question 15:** I hold a Bachelor Degree and I’m interested in participating in the competition. As I do not hold a master degree, in my country I am not eligible to apply
and receive a license. Can I participate in the competition using any other document instead of a license (e.g. diploma)?

**Answer:** You are able to join the competition only as a group member and not as a group representative.

**Question 16:** How could a Cypriot Ltd company participate in the Competition taking under consideration that according to the Laws of Cyprus a legal entity cannot (is not allowed) to be registered in the Professional Registry.

**Answer:** Please see Answer to Question 12.

**Question 17:** We would like to clarify if an ltd company based in Cyprus is eligible to participate in the Competition taking under consideration the following: 1. That this Ltd company incorporated under the laws of Cyprus is duly registered in the Registrar of Companies in Cyprus pursuant to the provisions of para. 6 of article 14 Law 3316/2005. (However the legal entity hasn’t got the License to practice the profession of an Architect since such license is given only to individuals and not legal entities.) 2. That the manager of that company who is its legal representative has obtained the professional license as an Architect and is registered with the Professional Registry. - Is this Cypriot company eligible to participate in the Competition as represented by its manager provided that the manager proves his/her registration in the professional register of Cyprus and issues the relevant certificates (as required in article 15.1.7.3 of the Competition Notice in combination with the provisions of para. 6 of article 14 Law 3316/2005) or - Is the legal entity eligible to participate in the Competition as a “Design Group” in the sense of article 15.1.7.2. of the Competition Notice whereas the legal entity and its managing director shall constitute the members of the “Design Group” and the managing director who has the necessary qualifications is appointed as project leader in the sense of article 15.1.7.?

**Answer:** Yes, your company is eligible to participate in the Competition.

**Question 18:** We are a team of licensed landscape architects with the Landscape Institute in the UK. Are we eligible to participate?

**Answer:** Please see Answer to Question 9.
Question 19: I am a Spanish architect, registered in the Colegio de Arquitectos (Spanish Architects Association) in my country but currently living in NYC. Am I eligible as representative of a team participating in the Competition?

Answer: Since you are legally licensed to practice the professional activities of an Architect in Spain you are eligible to participate in the competition as a group representative.

Question 20: I am an EU national, hold a diploma from an architecture school in the EU; but I am not a member of the RIBA- equivalent in my country (hence not a registered architect) and I am currently in Beijing as an employed architect. Am I eligible to represent a team in this competition?

Answer: Since you are not legally licensed to practice the professional activities of an Architect either in a State, pursuant to Article 14 para.5,6,7, Law 3316/05 [LEGISLATION APPENDIX – (B)]. (see also para. 7.2.1.a of the Competition Notice) you are not eligible to participate in the competition as a group representative.

Question 21: I am from Egypt and I would like to ask if I am eligible to join this competition or not.

Answer: Egypt is not listed among the parties of the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). Thus, you are not eligible to participate in the competition as a group representative. However, you could participate in the Competition in collaboration with other interested parties that meet the eligibility requirements as described in Article 7 of the Competition Notice.

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