THEMATIC COMPILATION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY MAURITIUS

ARTICLE 9 UNCAC

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

MAURITIUS (SEVENTH MEETING)

E-Procurement

In line with article 9 of the UNCAC, e-procurement using integrated security features is being implemented to establish more transparency, competition and objective decision-making. Public Procurement involves substantial amount of public funds (nearly 5% of GDP) and the nature of public procurement and the various stages that constitute the procurement cycle make public procurement a corruption prone area. As a corruption prevention measure, e-procurement is being emphasised upon in order to reduce direct contact between public official and potential suppliers; interactions being one of the main sources of corruption behaviour in public procurement.

E-procurement includes:

- the electronic publication of tender opportunities;
- online availability of bidding documents; and
- the electronic submission of bids.

E-procurement also allows for easy data generation and data management in order to detect overpricing or bid rigging. Moreover, to dissipate any perception of collusion in the procurement process, the installation of camera surveillance system has been recommended including recordings at the location of the tender box or devices used to receive the bids and for the bid opening exercises.

In addition, Public Bodies have been called upon to publish notice of details regarding every procurement award comprising the name of successful bidder on their websites for greater transparency.