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MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC STABILIZATION AND NATIONAL POLICIES

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திகதி } 16.06.2023
Date }

Budget Circular : 03/2023

All Secretaries to the Ministries
Chief Secretaries of Provincial Councils
Heads of Departments/ District Secretaries
Heads of State Corporations, Statutory Boards and Government owned Companies

**Guideline for National Development Committee for the Methodical Appraisal of
New Development Projects / Programmes**

As announced by the Hon. Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies in the Budget Speech 2023 and subsequently having the approval from the Cabinet of Ministers for the composition and responsibilities of the Committee on 23.05.2023, the National Development Committee for methodical appraisal of new development projects/programs (hereafter the Committee) has already been established on 26.05.2023 with a view of ensuring the realization of intended objectives of projects / programs.

The Committee is to conduct a holistic appraisal of the project proposals to ensure the achievement of expected results / outcomes of projects by prudent and productive streamlining of public expenditure to support for the achievement of a developed state by the country in 2048. This Committee will provide final recommendations to the Cabinet of Ministers and it is expected to meet once in two weeks.

1. Scope of the Committee

- Ensuring the policy consistencies between projects / programs and government policies

- b) Ensuring viability of projects / programs
- c) Ensuring inter sectorial alignments of projects / programs
- d) Examine priority of the projects / programmes against the government development priorities
- e) Ensuring national interest and project benefits
- f) Examine the impact of the project / programs to the national economy and the welfare of the people
- g) Ensuring return on investment
- h) Ensuring environmental coordination
- i) Ensuring suitability of project location and timeframe
- j) Examine the project / program financing by public debt against country's obligation
- k) Submission of Committee recommendations related to each project / program to the Cabinet of Ministers through the Ministry that submitted the project / program proposal for consideration

2. Project proposals that required to submit to the committee

The projects recommended by the Department of National Planning (NPD) with the total estimated cost equal or above to the authority limits presently applicable to Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee and included in any one of the following categories should be submitted to the Committee.

- i. All the new project proposals
- ii. Scope Changes to an on-going projects
- iii. Any new Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects with government commitment in any form within the above cost limit
- iv. Project proposals recommended by the Department of National Planning after 01/06/2018 but not yet implemented
- v. If not implemented yet, project proposals recommended by NPD before 01/06/2018 should be resubmitted as a fresh proposal to NPD, if required

3. Procedure to be followed

1. All projects and programs should be developed and submitted to the Department of National Planning as per the instructions in NPD Circular No: MNPEA 02/2019 dated 10/01/2019
2. The Department of National Planning should submit only the recommended projects covered under the paragraph 2 above to the Committee.

3. Relevant line Ministries or Agencies should appear before the Committee with related information, if Committee calls for
4. The Committee will provide recommendations to the relevant line Ministry with a copy to Secretary to the President, Auditor General, Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers, Department of National Planning, Department of National Budget, and other relevant Treasury Departments as it applies
5. As per NPD Circular, project proposals should be submitted by Line Ministries, paying adequate attention to the time required by the Department of National Planning for appraisal and to be submitted to the Committee.
6. The Committee recommendations should be attached to the Cabinet Memorandum when submitting the project proposal for the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers for implementation.

The Department of National Budget (NBD) shall act as the Secretariat to the Committee for facilitating its functions and for further Clarifications on this circular, you may contact Mr. Rasika Wijekoon (Director) of NBD through 0112484690



A. K. Seneviratne
Secretary to the Treasury (Actg)

Copies to :

1. Secretary to the President
2. Secretary to the Prime Minister
3. Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers
4. Auditor General
5. Secretary, Finance Commission