

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**CONSULTANCY FOR THE CONDUCT OF AN ASSESSMENT OF**  
**COMPETITION IN THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**  
**SERVICES**  
**DOCUMENT NO. RFP 2015/TEL/003/RFP.001**

**CLARIFICATION #2**

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**DATE: JULY 6, 2015**

**Question 13**

My company is preparing a proposal in response to your RFP. We are confident that we have the necessary skills and can offer quality and value for money services to the OUR.

We have noted that the proposal requires signature and initialisation of certain parts and I would like to understand whether the use of my electronic signature (and initials) would be acceptable?

We have been working on the assumption that our local market research company will print and deliver the proposal on Monday 11th July with my electronic signatures and initials inserted, but if the document must have my original signatures and initials on it then we will not be able to meet the deadline as it would need to be couriered early next week to guarantee timely delivery.

I would be very grateful for you to this query today as we are currently expending considerable efforts on the development of the proposal.

A further query relates to the need of a Power of Attorney for the person signing the proposal of. I am the Managing director on the business and the document would have my signatures and initials on it, I do not understand why I would need a Power of Attorney as I would have to issue it to myself (as it is my business).

**Answer 13**

The Electronic Transactions Act states as follows:

*"electronic signature" means information that-*

*(a) is contained in, attached to or logically associated with, an electronic document; and*

*(b) is used by a signatory to indicate his adoption of the content of that document, but does not include any signature produced by a facsimile machine or by an electronic scanning device;"*

As described in the request for clarification, the local market research company would insert the electronic signature in the proposal and print it for submission. In such a case, the signature in the document could no longer be considered electronic or original. As such, this proposal would be disqualified.

With regards to the power of attorney issue, that would only be needed if the person in question that is signing was not the primary business owner (of the consultant company making the bid) and was in fact signing on behalf of that owner. In this situation the person signing is the ACTUAL consultant making the bid, and as such, a Power of Attorney would not be necessary.