



**HEADQUARTERS**  
CENTCOM JOINT THEATER SUPPORT CONTRACTING COMMAND (FORWARD)  
REGIONAL CONTRACTING CENTER-SOUTH, KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, AFGHANISTAN  
APO AE 09355



REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

CJTSCC-SCO-A

5 June 2015

MEMORANDUM THRU Chief, Procurement Fraud Branch, Mr. [REDACTED] United States Army Legal Services Agency, 9275 Gunston Road, Suite 2100, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5546

FOR U.S. Army Suspension and Debarment Official, Mr. Mortimer C. Shea Jr., United States Army Legal Services Agency, 9275 Gunston Road, Suite 2100, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5546

SUBJECT: Request for Written Determination of Compelling Reasons to Exercise Option on Contract No. W91B4L-14-C-0007 with Supreme Foodservice, Contractor Proposed for Debarment

1. **Purpose.** This memorandum requests a 30-day extension of food service operations for the continuation of contract W91B4L-14-C-0007 with Supreme Foodservice FZE, who is an affiliate of Supreme Group B.V. and Supreme Group FZE, which has been proposed for debarment. The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Special Assistant for Contracting Integrity is the lead debarring agency; however, the U.S. Army Suspension and Debarment Official (SDO) will issue a decision on this request. DLA proposed for debarment contractor Supreme Foodservice FZE and individuals in a letter dated 8 December 2014. FAR Part 9.405-1(b)(3) requires a written determination of the compelling reasons to add new work, exercise options, or otherwise extend the duration of current contracts or orders.

2. **Discussion.** Contract Number W91B4L-14-C-0007 was awarded to Supreme Foodservice on 21 August 2014 to provide Food Services to over 1,200 Service Members and Department of Defense personnel on Tactical Base Dwyer (TB Dwyer) with a Period of Performance of 21 August 2014 to 20 June 2015 with an additional option period of 6 months (21 June – 20 December 15). Due to the proposed debarment of Supreme Foodservice, Regional Contracting Center-South (RCC-S), who provides contracting support to South and South West Afghanistan, submitted a Request for Information to identify food service providers on Joint Contingency Contracting System on 31 March 2015 with a closing date of 05 April 2015. A total of 31 responses were provided by the RFI response date. While numerous responses were received, many of the vendors did not fully understand the requirement. In addition to information gathered, market research showed that, with the exception of one vendor Ecolog, the local vendor base is not capable of filling this requirement. Factoring in finalizing the award, price negotiations, and mobilization time, Ecolog will not be able to mobilize in time to start serving meals on 21 June 2015 which will cause a break in service.

3. **Compelling Reasons to Exercise Option.** The following compelling reasons justify exercising the option:

RCC-S

SUBJECT: Request for Written Determination of Compelling Reasons to Add New Work to Contract No. W91B4L-14-C-0007 with Supreme Foodservice, Contractor Proposed for Debarment

a. Food services are currently being performed under RCC-South (RCC-S) contract W91B4L-14-C-0007 by Supreme Foodservice. Only Supreme can efficiently perform the provision of food services during the transition to the new Food Services contract. Supreme currently provides Food Services, including cooking, preparing and serving, to over 1,200 Service Members and Department of Defense personnel on Tactical Base Dwyer. These services will cease at the end of the current period of performance of the contract on 20 June 2015. The follow-on contract to Ecolog is in negotiations; however, Ecolog cannot mobilize fast enough to assume these services without a break in service.

b. Urgency requires contracting with Supreme. The RCC-South contracting office is in the process of negotiating an award to Ecolog. Provided these negotiations succeed, there is a mobilization period to allow Ecolog to hire and transport acquire the necessary equipment and personnel to TB Dwyer to operate a DFAC.

(1) Unless the option with Supreme is exercised with the beginning performance date of 21 June 2015, there will be a break in service resulting in a lack of DFAC food services for Service Members and DoD Personnel in an austere environment and a diminished ability for the Government to effectively negotiate the price of the following contract. In addition, this is further complicated because force protection measures do not allow Afghan local nations to engage in food service operations; therefore, only U.S. or Third Country Nationals requiring Afghan Visa's will be allowed.

(2) TB Dwyer currently has 16 Days of Supply (DOS) of MREs as of 5 June 2015. Please be aware that this is only enough to feed every person one MRE meal a day for two weeks. For two meals per person per day, 15 additional DOS of MREs is required (with breakfast being a continental breakfast of fruits, cereal and muffins). The Bagram Class I Yard currently cannot provide more MREs than those mentioned above and is currently investigating DLA sources to transport more MREs.

4. **Request for Determination.** Based on the above, I request your determination that there are compelling reasons to exercise the option on Contract No. W91B4L-14-C-0007 with Supreme Foodservice by means of the proposed modification described herein.

1 Enclosure  
Determination and Findings



COL, IN  
Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting