

**733.103-71 Filing of protest.**

(a) Protests must be in writing and addressed to the Contracting Officer for consideration by the M/OAA Director.

(b) A protest shall include, in addition to the information required in FAR 33.103(d)(2), the name of the issuing Mission or office.

(c) Material submitted by a protester will not be withheld from any interested party outside the government or from any government agency if the M/OAA Director decides to release such material, except to the extent that the withholding of such information is permitted or required by law or regulation.

[61 FR 39094, July 26, 1996; 61 FR 51235, Oct. 1, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 42040, Aug. 3, 1999; 72 FR 19670, Apr. 19, 2007]

**733.103-72 Responsibilities.**

(a) *M/OAA Director.* The decision regarding an agency protest shall be made by the M/OAA Director within 30 days from the date a proper protest is filed unless the M/OAA Director determines that a longer period is necessary to resolve the protest, and so notifies the protester in writing. The M/OAA Director shall make his or her decision after personally reviewing and considering all aspects of the case as presented in the protest itself and in any documentation provided by the contracting officer, and after obtaining input and clearance from the Assistant General Counsel for Litigation and Enforcement (GC/LE). The decision shall be in writing and constitutes the final decision of the Agency.

(b) *Contracting Officer.* The Contracting Officer is responsible for requesting an extension of the time for acceptance of offers as described in FAR 33.103(f)(2).

[61 FR 39094, July 26, 1996; 61 FR 51235, Oct. 1, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 42040, Aug. 3, 1999; 72 FR 19670, Apr. 19, 2007]

**733.103-73 Protests excluded from consideration.**

(a) *Contract administration.* Disputes between a contractor and USAID are resolved pursuant to the disputes clause of the contract and the Contract Disputes Act of 1978.

(b) *Small business size standards and standard industrial classification.* Challenges of established size standards or the size status of particular firms, and challenges of the selected standard industrial classification are for review solely by the Small Business Administration.

(c) *Procurement under Section 8(a) of the Small Business Act.* Contracts are let under Section 8(a) of the Small Business Act to the Small Business Administration solely at the discretion of the Contracting Officer, and are not subject to review.

(d) *Protests filed in the General Accounting Office (GAO).* Protests filed with the GAO will not be reviewed.

(e) *Procurements funded by USAID to which USAID is not a party.* No protest of a procurement funded by USAID shall be reviewed unless USAID is a party to the acquisition agreement.

(f) *Subcontractor protests.* Subcontractor protests will not be considered.

(g) *Judicial proceedings.* Protests will not be considered when the matter involved is the subject of litigation before a court of competent jurisdiction or when the matter involved has been decided on the merits by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(h) *Determinations of responsibility by the contracting officer.* A determination by the contracting officer that a bidder or offeror is or is not capable of performing a contract will not be reviewed by the M/OAA Director.

(i) *Small Business Certificate of Competency Program.* Any referral made to the Small Business Administration pursuant to section 8(b)(7) of the Small Business Act, or any issuance of, or refusal to issue, a certificate of competency under that section will not be reviewed by the M/OAA Director.

[61 FR 39094, July 26, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 42040, Aug. 3, 1999; 72 FR 19670, Apr. 19, 2007]

**Subpart 733.27—USAID Procedures for Disputes and Appeals****733.270-1 Designation of Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals (ASBCA) to hear and determine appeals under USAID contracts.**

(a) The ASBCA is hereby designated the authorized representative of the