

**Information provided in response to letter dated 19 April from  
the Clerk to Select Committee to inquire into the handling of  
the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome outbreak by  
the Government and the Hospital Authority**

***Concerning the personal protective equipment (PPE) donated by the Central Government during the SARS outbreak -***

- (a) *whether the Administration had communicated with the Central Government on the specification requirements of the PPE in need before the donations were made; if yes, what were the requirements?*

The Administration had provided the Mainland authorities with information on the specification requirements and samples of the PPE in need. The detailed specification requirements are set out in the Appendix.

- (b) *what were the types and quantities of the PPE delivered;*

The PPE supplies donated by the Central People's Government (CPG) were delivered to the Hospital Authority (HA) between 8 and 29 May 2003 in three batches. The types and quantities of PPE delivered are tabulated as follows -

<i>Type of PPE (pieces)</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
Isolation Gown	600,000
Surgical Mask	800,000
Face Shield	20,000
Eye Shield	
- Frame	30,000
- Lens	100,000
Goggles	10,000
N95 Mask (Small size)	36,000
N95 Mask (Regular)	164,000
Barrier Man	113,000
Shoe Cover	100,000

- 3 -

(c) *the use and applicability of the PPE delivered; and*

All the PPE items delivered complied with the specified requirements. On receipt, the HA Head Office determined the allocation of the PPE donated by CPG at the hospital cluster level having regard to the stock position of individual hospital clusters. On receipt of the PPE supplies, the clusters distributed them to their hospitals to meet operational requirements. HA also provided Barrier Man to different government departments such as the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Fire Services Department, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, Department of Health, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and Government Logistics Department to help combat possible outbreak of SARS and avian flu etc.

(d) *what is the stock position of the PPE donated by the Central Government as of today.*

All the PPE supplies donated by CPG have been fully consumed with the exception of Barrier Man. As at April 2004, there is a remaining stock of 13,325 pieces of Barrier Man which are kept in the HA Head Office store as contingency stock.

April 2004

## Appendix

### Specification requirements of PPE

#### (A) Goggles

##### *Material requirements*

- made of plastic, light and comfortable
- with anti-fog coating

##### *Design*

- lenses should resist scratching during normal use
- goggles should be comfortable for extended periods of wear
- should provide excellent panoramic vision
- can be disinfected with disinfectant

#### (B) N95

According to the NIOSH recommendation, the respirator shall have a bacteria filtration efficiency (BFE) of not less than 95 percent efficiency with mean particle size of 0.3micron.

#### (C) Surgical Filter Mask (Ear-loop or Tie-on) (See Annex A)

3-ply non-woven fabric. The mask shall have a bacteria filtration efficiency (BFE) of not less than 95 percent efficiency with mean particle size of 3micron.

#### (D) Face Shield

##### *Material requirements*

- should be made of optical grade film with anti-fog coating
- 33cm in width x 22 cm in length  $\pm 10\%$

##### *Design*

- light, comfortable and provides panoramic vision
- full face coverage
- can fit over spectacle
- should have a soft forehead band and stretch comfort band for secure fit

**(E) Disposable Isolation Gown*****Material requirements***

- spun bonded polypropylene
- latex free
- weighing less than 30gm/m<sup>2</sup>

***Design***

- elastic cuff
- black closures: The top one (neck) and waist should be closed by ties for secure coverage
- water repellent

**(F) Disposable Examination Gloves (See Annex B)*****Material requirement***

- hypo allergic latex

***Design***

- cuff length: approximately 6-7cm
- thickness: 0.15mm
- powdered: hypoallergenic powder for easing donning
- free from holes
- comes in different sizes

Tender Ref : HAHO(S)/T/03-G023

**Annex A**

**Specification for  
Supply of Surgical Filter Mask, Tie-on**

**M : Mandatory Requirement**

The product offered shall incorporate the following components / requirements / features.

**1. General Description**

A high filtration mask suitable for maintaining protective aseptic techniques within surgical suites/other specialties and providing a snug fit to the contours of the face of wearer.

Tenderers **MUST** indicate below the extent of compliance of the offered product(s) by filling in "Yes" or "No" and provide the specifications of the offered product(s) point by point against each clause of the Tender Specifications.

**2. Function**

2.1 The mask shall has the effectiveness of the mask material (filter media plus facings) to filter bacteria.

2.2 It shall has the effectiveness of the mask as entity when used on the face of wearer.

**3. Configurations** (Tolerance of  $\pm 10\%$  could be allowed)

3.1 Design :

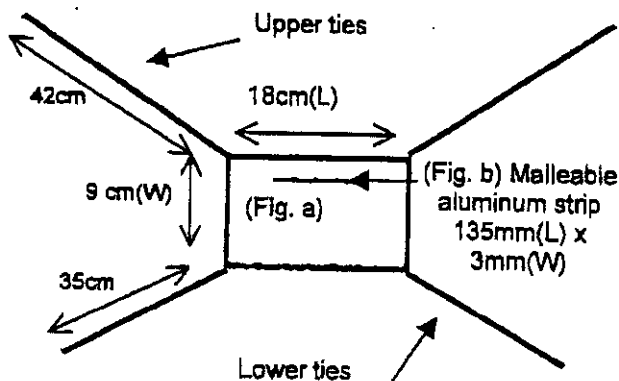
3.1.1 The mask shall consist of a filter mat encased and bounded in two soft layers of 3-ply non-woven fabrics making a perfect 3-fold pleats lengthways (Figure a).

3.1.2 A nose piece of malleable aluminum strip 135mm (L) x 3mm (W) (Figure b) should be provided to afford maximum comfort, ease of breathing and maintaining the contours of the nose of wearer.

3.1.3 The material of mask should be durable to prevent the malleable aluminum strip from protruding out easily.

3.2 Finished Dimensions :

Sketch diagram of Surgical Mask



M

M

M

M

M

M

M

Tender Ref : HAHO(S)/T/03-G023

<b>4. <u>Material Standards</u></b>		
4.1	The masks should be composed of hypoallergenic material.	M
4.2	<b>Facings</b> Non-woven fabric of suitable fibres, or white, or green, odourless and free of lints.	M
4.3	<b>Filter media</b> A filter mat of pure flame-blown or fine spun glass fibre or polypropylene. The filter mat should be free of loose spun glass fibre.	M
4.4	<b>Tie-tapes</b> (Tolerance of $\pm 10\%$ could be allowed)	
4.4.1	Upper ties : Not less than 42cm x 7mm	M
4.4.2	Lower ties : Not less than 35cm x 7mm	M
4.4.3	The tie-tapes long enough for a 'butterfly' knot over head, free of fraying or loose thread, tensile and durable, shall be made of woven cotton material/non-woven fabric by sewing, or be impregnated with thermoplastic water-resistant adhesive.	M
4.5	<b>Workmanship</b> Free of cuts, tears or any other imperfections or defects that will detract the appearance of the mask or impair its serviceability.	M
<b>5. <u>Filter Efficiency</u></b>		
5.1	The mask shall have a bacterial filtration efficiency (BFE) of not less than 95 percent efficiency.	M
5.2	It shall achieve to filter a mean particle size of 3.0 microns.	M
5.3	Provide certificate issued by an independent laboratory that the product offered conforms to Filter Efficiency applicable to Disposable Surgical Filter Mask.	M

**Annex B**

**SPECIFICATION**

**Disposable Glove**

**Abbreviations:**

- [M] - Mandatory requirement;
- [D] - Desirable requirement

Tenderers must indicate below, point by point, whether their offer complies fully with the tender specification. Details must be given, should the offered product deviate from the specification.

(Please tick where appropriate)  
Yes    No (provide details)

Disposable Glove should have the following technical data features:

- |                                                         |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Material: Hypoallergic Latex.                        | (M) |
| 2. Features:                                            |     |
| 2.1 Single handed.                                      | (M) |
| 2.2 Beaded cuff.                                        | (M) |
| 2.3 Non-sterile.                                        | (M) |
| 2.4 Disposable.                                         | (M) |
| 2.5 Long cuff : at least 6 - 7cm from palm              | (M) |
| 2.6 Thickness: at least 0.15mm particularly finger tips | (M) |
| 2.7 Powdered: hypoallergic powder for easy donning.     | (M) |
| 2.8 Freedom from holes.                                 | (M) |
| 3. Need to quote quality standard.                      | (M) |
| 4. Measurement                                          |     |
| 4.1 4.1.1. Size : Extra Small                           | (M) |
| 4.1.2. Palm Width : 70 - 80 mm                          | (M) |
| 4.2 4.2.1. Size : Small                                 | (M) |
| 4.2.2. Palm Width : 85 - 90 mm                          | (M) |

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**Disposable Glove**

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(Please tick where appropriate)  
Yes    No (provide details)

- 4.3 4.3.1. Size : Medium
- 4.3.2. Palm Width : 95 – 100 mm
- 4.4 4.4.1. Size : Large
- 4.4.2. Palm Width : 105 – 110 mm

5. Packaging : 50 - 100 in dispenser box.

(M)	
(M)	
(M)	
(M)	
(D)	

**Sketch Diagram**

