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Route de Vinon-sur-Verdon - CS 90 046 - 13067 St Paul Lez Durance Cedex - France

PRIOR INDICATIVE NOTICE (PIN)

OPEN TENDER SUMMARY

IO/23/OT/70000994/YMA

for

Online Platform to Access Codes and Standards

Abstract

The purpose of this summary is to provide prior notification of the IOs intention to launch a competitive Open Tender process in the coming weeks. This summary provides some basic information about the ITER Organisation, the technical scope for this tender, and details of the tender process for the provision of the online platform to access codes and standards.

1 Introduction

This Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) is the first step of an Open Tender Procurement Process leading to the award and execution of a Framework Contract.

The purpose of this document is to provide a basic summary of the technical content in terms of the scope of work, and the tendering process.

The Domestic Agencies are invited to publish this information in advance of the forth-coming tender giving companies, institutions or other entities that are capable of providing these services prior notice of the tender details.

2 Background

The ITER project is an international research and development project jointly funded by its seven Members being, the European Union (represented by EURATOM), Japan, the People's Republic of China, India, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the USA. ITER is being constructed in Europe at St. Paul–Lez-Durance in southern France, which is also the location of the headquarters (HQ) of the ITER Organization (IO).

For a complete description of the ITER Project, covering both organizational and technical aspects of the Project, visit www.iter.org.

3 Scope of Work

The purpose of this framework contract is to provide the IO with access to an online platform to access, read, download and print standards from selected publishers, which includes but not limited to the following: ASTM, EN, IEC, ISO and NF.

The details can be found in the Technical Specifications ref. ITER_D_ 92VWFY v1.8 (attached to this PIN).

4 Procurement Process & Objective

The objective is to award a Framework Contract through a competitive bidding process.

The Procurement Procedure selected for this tender is called the Open Tender procedure.

The Open Tender procedure is comprised of the following four main steps:

➤ Step 1- Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) :

The Prior Indicative Notice is the first stage of the Open Tender process. The IO formally invites the Domestic Agencies to publish information about the forth coming tender in order to alert companies, institutions or other entities about the tender opportunity in advance. Interested tenderers are kindly requested to return the expression of interest form (Annex I) by e-mail by the date indicated in the procurement timetable below.

Special attention:

Interested tenderers are kindly requested to register in the IO Ariba e-procurement tool called "IPROC". The registration process is described at the following link: <https://www.iter.org/fr/proc/overview>.

When registering in Ariba (IPROC), suppliers are kindly requested to nominate at least one contact person. This contact person will be receiving the notification of publication of the Request for Proposal and will then be able to forward the tender documents to colleagues if deemed necessary.

- **Step 2 – Request for Proposal :**
Within 14 days of the publication of the Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) the Request for Proposal will be sent in IPROC to the Tenderers who expressed their interests. This stage allows interested bidders who have seen the PIN to obtain the tender documents and to prepare and submit their proposals in accordance with the tender instructions.

Special attention:

Only companies registered in the IPROC tool will be invited to the tender.

- **Step 3 – Tender Evaluation Process :**
Tenderers proposals will be evaluated by an impartial, professionally competent technical evaluation committee of the ITER Organization. Tenderers must provide details demonstrating their technical compliance to perform the work in line with the technical scope and in accordance with the particular criteria listed in the Request for Proposal (RFP).
- **Step 4 – Contract award :**
A framework contract will be awarded on the basis of Lowest Price Technically Compliant according to the evaluation criteria and methodology described in the Request for Proposal (RFP).

Procurement Timetable

The tentative timetable is as follows:

Milestone	Date
Publication of the Prior Indicative Notice (PIN)	Week of 21 August 2023
Submission of expression of interest form	8 September 2023
Request for Proposal (RFP) publishing on IPROC	Week of 18 September 2023
Clarification Questions (if any) and Answers	19 October 2023
Answers to Clarifications	24 October 2023
Tender Submission in IPROC	3 November 2023
Tender Evaluation & Contract Award	December 2023
Contract Signature	January 2024
Contract Commencement	1 July 2024

5 Quality Assurance Requirements

Prior to commencement of any work under this Contract(s), a “Quality Plan” shall be produced by the Supplier and Subcontractors and submitted to the IO for approval, describing how they will implement the ITER Procurement Quality Requirements.

6 Contract Duration and Execution

The ITER Organization shall award a Framework Contract around January 2024. The estimated contract duration shall be 4 years with 1 optional period of 1 year.

The working language of ITER is English, and a fluent professional level is required (spoken and written).

7 Experience and Capacity

The Contractor has an established and extensive experience in the worldwide collection and delivery of industry specification and global authoritative standards (from 5 to 10 years of commercial operation). If the contractor does not have this experience, it should provide the ITER Organization with a live demonstration of the capability of its system and accessibility to its collections.

The Contractor guarantees access to standards collection through a platform organized for optimal user experience and maximum ease of navigation. The Contractor also ensures that the search for the standards is effective with simple, intelligent searching tools and interface. Finally, the contractor guarantees a robust reporting capability that provides a full picture of ITER needs and usage to allow administrator to make the right decisions about which standards to keep in our subscription and, as a result, control costs.

8 Candidature

Participation is open to all legal entities participating either individually or in a grouping/consortium. A legal entity is an individual, company, or organization that has legal rights and obligations and is established within an ITER Member State.

Legal entities cannot participate individually or as a consortium partner in more than one application or tender of the same contract. A consortium may be a permanent, legally-established grouping, or a grouping which has been constituted informally for a specific tender procedure. All members of a consortium (i.e. the leader and all other members) are jointly and severally liable to the ITER Organization.

In order for a consortium to be acceptable, the individual legal entities included therein shall have nominated a leader with authority to bind each member of the consortium, and this leader shall be authorised to incur liabilities and receive instructions for and on behalf of each member of the consortium.

It is expected that the designated consortium lead will explain the composition of the consortium members in a covering letter at the tendering stage. Following this, the Candidate's composition must not be modified without notifying the ITER Organization of any changes. Evidence of any such authorisation shall be submitted to the IO in due course in the form of a power of attorney signed by legally authorised signatories of all the consortium members.

9 Sub-contracting Rules

All sub-contractors who will be taken on by the Contractor shall be declared with the tender submission. Each sub-contractor will be required to complete and sign forms including technical and administrative information which shall be submitted to the IO by the tenderer as part of its tender.

The IO reserves the right to approve any sub-contractor which was not notified in the tender and request a copy of the sub-contracting agreement between the tenderer and its sub-contractor(s). For each Contract, sub-contracting is allowed but it is limited to one level, and its cumulated volume is limited to 30% of the total Contract value. Two levels of sub-contracting may be considered for very specific activities which will be mentioned by the IO in the Tender documentation.