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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/26/OT/10034713/AJI

*for*

## **Contract for Manufacturing and Assembly of the Primary Vacuum Windows.**

### **Abstract**

The purpose of this summary is to provide prior notification of the IO 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 award of a Contract for Manufacturing and Assembly of the Primary Vacuum Windows at the ITER site for the Diagnostic Program.

## 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 Supply 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 supplies 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](http://www.iter.org).

## 3 Scope of Work

The present tender process aims to set up a Contract for the manufacturing and Assembly of the Primary Vacuum Windows. Within the ITER Organization, the Diagnostic program will be in charge of implementing this Contract.

The Contractor, who will be selected for this Contract, shall meet the technical requirements for specialist work related to the manufacturing of the Primary Vacuum Windows Assemblies (55.NW) activities are completed on time and to high levels of quality.

## 4 Procurement Process & Objective

The objective is to award a Supply 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.**
- Step 2 - Invitation to Tender (ITT) :  
Within 14 days of publishing the Prior Indicative Notice (PIN), the Invitation to Tender (ITT) will be advertised. This stage allows interested bidders who have seen the PIN to obtain the tender documents and prepare and submit their proposals per the tender instructions.
- 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 per the criteria listed in the invitation to tender (ITT).

➤ Step 4 – Contract award :

A Supply contract will be awarded based on best value for money according to the evaluation criteria and methodology described in the Invitation to tender (ITT).

## 5 Procurement Timetable

The tentative timetable is as follows:

Milestone	Date
Publication of the Prior Indicative Notice (PIN)	26 March 2026
Deadline for Submission of Expression of Interest Form	14 April 2026
Request for Proposals (RFP)- Invitation to Tender (ITT) advertisement	24 April 2026
Clarification Questions (if any) and Answers deadline	21 May 2026
Answers to Clarifications	26 May 2026
Tender Submission in IPROC	05 June 2026
Tender Evaluation & Contract Award	End of June 2026
Contract Signature	Mid July 2026

## 6 Quality Assurance Requirements

Prior to the commencement of any work under this Contract, the selected Contractor shall produce a “Quality Plan” and submit it to the IO for approval, describing how they will implement the ITER Procurement Quality Requirements.

## 7 Contract Duration and Execution

The duration shall be for 8 months. No work shall commence before the date of final signature of the Contract.

## 8 Experience/Expertise/Knowledge

Preferably, the Contractor is expected to own the following experience/expertise/knowledge:

- Experience in manufacturing of high-vacuum compatible components and high precision machining
- Experience in welding of small components as per RCC-MR or ASME standards
- Experience in assembly of optic components and vacuum components
- Experience in ceramic coating
- Experience in handling, storage, packaging of high-vacuum optic components
- Clean room facility to assemble vacuum components
- Capability for thermal cycling test, pressure testing, He leak testing and outgassing testing
- Capability to conduct dimensional inspection and surface roughness measurement.
- Knowledge of manufacturing as per RCC-MR or ASME

- QA program compliant with nuclear regulation (quality control, traceability, documentation, qualification of performer, surveillance, etc.)
- Strong project management, quality assurance (ISO 9001), and after-sales service capabilities

## **9 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 with legal rights and obligations 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 constituted informally for a specific tender procedure. All consortium members (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.

## **10 Sub-contracting Rules**

All sub-contractors who will be taken on by the Contractor shall be declared with the tender submission in IPROC. 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 (or disapprove) any sub-contractor which was not notified in the tender and request a copy of the sub-contracting agreement between the tenderer and its subcontractor(s). Rules on sub-contracting are indicated in the RFP itself.