

## **PRIOR INFORMATION NOTICE (PIN)**

**IO/26/CFE/10035182/cma**

**SOLPS-ITER matrix solver numerical improvement contract**

Procurement Officer in charge:

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## **Abstract.**

The purpose of this PIN is to provide prior notification of the IO's intention to launch a competitive Call for Expertise process in the coming weeks. This PIN provides some basic information about the ITER Organization (the "IO"), the technical scope for this tender, and details of the tender process.

## **1 Introduction**

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is the first step of a Call for Expertise Procedure leading to the award and execution of a Service 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.

## **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, please visit [www.iter.org](http://www.iter.org).

## **3 Scope of Service**

The purpose of this software engineering service contract titled "SOLPS-ITER matrix solver numerical improvement contract" is to improve the numerical robustness of the matrix solver used to compute plasma fluid transport inside the B2.5 component of the SOLPS-ITER code suite, as fully described in Technical Specifications ref. **G3V29P v1.3 (Annex I to this PIN document)**.

## **4 Procurement Objective & Process**

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

The procedure is comprised of the following four main steps:

➤ **Step 1- Prior Information Notice (PIN)**

The Prior Information Notice is the first stage of the process. The IO formally invites interested candidate companies to indicate their interest in the competitive process, within **10 calendar days**, by returning to the Procurement officer in charge the following information by the date indicated under paragraph 5 below:

- Name of candidate company
- Country of registration
- Point of contact name, email, title, and phone number.

***Special attention:***

Interested candidate companies are kindly requested to register in the IO Ariba e-procurement tool called “IPROC”, if not so done yet.

The process on how to do is described at the following link: <https://www.iter.org/fr/proc/overview>.

When registering in Ariba (IPROC), suppliers are kindly requested to register 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 Proposals**

After the full registration of interested candidate companies, the Request for Proposals (RFP) will be published in “IPROC”. This stage allows interested candidate companies who have indicated their interest to the Procurement Officer in charge AND who have registered in IPROC to receive the notification that the RFP is published. They will then prepare and submit their proposals in accordance with the tender instructions detailed in the RFP.

**Only companies registered in this tool will be invited to the tender and registered company can only submit a proposal in their name.**

➤ **Step 3 – Tender Evaluation Process**

Tenderers proposals will be evaluated by an impartial evaluation committee of the IO. 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 RFP (given in section 4.1.5).

**Step 4 – Contract Award**

The award will be done on the basis of best value for money or lowest price technically compliant offer as described in the published RFP.

## 5 Procurement Timetable

The tentative timetable is as follows:

Milestone	Date
Publication of the Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) on IO Webpage and communications with DAs	3 July 2026
Deadline for Submission of expression of interest form	15 July 2026
Request for Proposals (RFP) publishing on IPROC	22 July 2026
Tender Submission in IPROC	10 August 2026
Tender Evaluation & Contract Award	End of August 2026
Contract Signature	Mid-September 2026
Contract Commencement	Late September 2026

## 6 Contract Duration and Execution

The estimated contract duration shall be 6 months.

## 7 Experience

The tenderers shall demonstrate their knowledge, experience and capabilities in the implementation of providing expected support in accordance with the IO technical requirements.

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

## 8 Candidature

Participation is open to all legal entities participating either individually or in a grouping/consortium. A legal entity is a 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 leader will explain the composition of the consortium members in its offer. 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.

Any consortium member shall be registered in IPROC.

## 9 Sub-contracting Rules

No subcontracting is allowed for this package.