



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

Ministry of Mines

MINERAL TENDERS

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, through the Ministry of Mines (the "Ministry"), has announced by a Request for Expressions of Interest dated 6 December 2011 the opening of selected mineral tender processes. These processes are for the exploration and, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, the subsequent exploitation of each of the following mineral prospects (the "Projects"):

Project	Province	Mineral type	Deposit type	Exploration Licence Area(s)
Badakhshan	Badakhshan	Gold	Quartz-vein	4 x 250km ²
Zarkashan	Ghazni	Copper-gold	Skarn	2 x 242km ²
Balkhab	Sar-I-Pul and Balkh	Copper	VMS	210 and 247km ²
Shaida	Herat	Copper	Porphyry	250km ²

This expression of interest form (the "EOI") is the form that needs to be completed by persons who wish to express their interest in the Project(s). Further details on the Project(s) can be found in the Request for Expressions of Interest dated 6 December 2011 and on the Ministry website (www.mom.gov.af), or directly from the tender website (www.afghanmineraltenders.com). This EOI should be completed in English and submitted:

- via email to **both** of mineraltender2011@mom.gov.af and afghanistan@canaccordgenuity.com. The subject line of the emails should read "Expression of Interest: [Legal name of entity]"; **and**
- in hard copy to Mr Hafiz Afzaly, Ministry of Mines, Pashtoonistan Watt, Kabul, Afghanistan.

Both email copies **and** the hard copy of this EOI must be **received by 12 noon (Kabul local time) on 9 March 2012**.

Organisation name:									
Consortium, joint venture, special purpose vehicle or other arrangement: <i>(Please select as appropriate)</i>	<i>Select (all members or sponsors will be required to submit pre-qualification information, further details of which will be set out in the pre-qualification questionnaire)</i>								
Names of members or sponsors of consortium, joint venture, special purpose vehicle or other arrangement: <i>(As appropriate, if applicable)</i>									
Contact name(s):									
E-mail address:									
Telephone number:									
Postal address:									
Fax number:									
Projects of interest: <i>(Select as appropriate)</i>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Badakhshan</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zarkashan</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balkhab</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shaida</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Badakhshan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Zarkashan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Balkhab	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shaida	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Shaida	<input type="checkbox"/>								

EOI SUBMISSION DEADLINE 12 NOON (KABUL LOCAL TIME) ON 9 MARCH 2012



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

Ministry of Mines

MINERAL TENDERS

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, through the Ministry of Mines (the "Ministry"), is pleased to announce the opening of tender processes for the exploration and, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, the subsequent exploitation of each of the following mineral prospects (the "Projects"):

Project	Province	Mineral type	Deposit type	Exploration Licence Area(s)
Badakhshan	Badakhshan	Gold	Quartz-vein	4 x 250km ²
Zarkashan	Ghazni	Copper-gold	Skarn	2 x 242km ²
Balkhab	Sar-I-Pul and Balkh	Copper	VMS	210 and 247km ²
Shaida	Herat	Copper	Porphyry	250km ²

More detailed information on each Project is available online by accessing the "Current Tenders" link on the Ministry website (www.mom.gov.af) or directly from the tender website (www.afghanmineraltenders.com). This includes more detailed information (including maps) on the location of each Project and related infrastructure which is in proximity to the Projects.

The tender process for each Project is expected to culminate in the granting of a mining agreement with associated exploration licence(s) and, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, will lead to the granting of the requisite exploitation licence(s). The duration of the exploration licence(s) shall be three years, renewable for two consecutive periods, as prescribed in Article 26 of the Minerals Law 2009 of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The duration of the subsequent exploitation licence(s) will be 30 years, renewable for consecutive periods of 5 years until the deposit is exhausted, in accordance with Article 34(1) of the Minerals Law 2009. The extent of the subsequent exploitation activities to be undertaken shall be governed by the mining agreement and exploitation licence(s).

CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

Interested parties should be single entities or consortia that have the technical ability and financial standing to undertake the relevant Project(s). Interested parties that can demonstrate technical competence in, and a track record of, successful exploration will be of particular interest to the Ministry.

METHOD OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Interested parties should indicate their interest by completing the template expression of interest form (the "EOI"), which can be downloaded from the Ministry website (www.mom.gov.af) or directly from the tender website (www.afghanmineraltenders.com) or obtained by emailing afghanistan@canaccordgenuity.com. The EOI should be submitted by email **and** in hard copy so that it is received **by 12 noon (Kabul local time) on 9 March 2012**.

The EOI must be completed in English and submitted:

- via email to **both** of mineraltender2011@mom.gov.af and afghanistan@canaccordgenuity.com; **and**
- in hard copy to Mr Hafiz Afzaly, Ministry of Mines, Pashtoonistan Watt, Kabul, Afghanistan.

The EOI must be submitted in accordance with the above so that **both** email copies of the completed EOI **and** the hard copy are received **by 12 noon (Kabul local time) on 9 March 2012**.

Enquiries concerning this Request for Expressions of Interest must be sent by email to **both** the abovementioned addresses. Replies will only be made to such email enquiries and any such enquiries and replies may be made available to other interested parties and/or published on the tender website and/or the Ministry website, but without stating the name of the interested party making the enquiry.

EOI SUBMISSION DEADLINE

12:00 noon (Kabul local time) on 9 March 2012

Following submission of an EOI by the EOI submission deadline, the Ministry shall send out a non-disclosure agreement (the "NDA") and a pre-qualification questionnaire (the "PQQ") as soon as reasonably practicable. Interested parties must complete and return the NDA in order to be given access to technical reports on the Projects via an electronic dataroom, and in any event not later than the submission date of the PQQ. Interested parties must complete and return the PQQ by the PQQ submission deadline below. Early submission of EOIs is therefore recommended.

The PQQ will assess the interested party's professional and technical qualifications and competence, which shall include but not be limited to the interested party's technical experience and capability and financial standing to meet the requirements for the Project(s). Interested parties that can demonstrate technical competence in, and a track record of, successful exploration will be of particular interest to the Ministry.

PQQ SUBMISSION DEADLINE

12:00 noon (Kabul local time) on 16 March 2012

The Ministry will notify each interested party regarding its success or otherwise following the evaluation of its PQQ. Thereafter it is anticipated that those persons passing the qualification stage (the "Qualified Bidders") will be invited to submit bids, in response to tender documents for the Project(s) for which they have qualified, on or before a bid submission date specified in the tender documents.

Qualified Bidders shall be required as part of the bid to provide a bid bond of \$250,000 for each licence area within the Project(s) being bid for in the form set out in the tender documents. Qualified Bidders will be invited to a meeting with the Ministry in Afghanistan which will include presentations from the Qualified Bidders and the provision of further information. Qualified Bidders will also be given the opportunity to attend an official visit to the site of the Project(s). The Inter-Ministerial Committee will evaluate each of the bids before selecting preferred and reserve bidders.

The original of this Request for Expressions of Interest is drafted in English. If this Request for Expressions of Interest is translated into any other language, the English language text shall prevail.

Canaccord Genuity, SRK Consulting and Mayer Brown are acting as transaction advisers to the Ministry in relation to the tenders for the Projects.