

Notification of Intent to Invite Bids

Method: International Competitive Bidding (ICB)

SUPPORT FOR THE NATO NCI AGENCY SERVICES DELL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE

NCI Agency Reference #: IFB-CO-115893-MAIN

Estimated Amount: 500K euro for base period, 6M euro for optional 5 year period

NOI Closing Date: 24 July 2023

Solicitation Release Date: Anticipated on 31 July 2023

Solicitation Closing Date: Anticipated on 31 August 2023

Contract Award Date: Anticipated on 18 September 2023

Competition Type: ICB Lowest Priced Technically Compliant

The NCI Agency hereby notifies the NATO Nations of its intent to invite bids for the procurement of Support and maintenance of the NCI Agency DELL hardware and software.

NCI Agency Point of Contact

Lise Vieux-Rochat, Contracting Officer

Email: IFB-CO-115893-MAIN@ncia.nato.int

Annexes:

- A. Summary of Requirements
- B. Distribution List

To : Distribution List

Subject : **Notification of Intent to Invite Bids for SUPPORT FOR THE NATO NCI AGENCY SERVICES DELL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE**

References :
A. BC-D(2018)0004-FINAL, BC Budget Procurement Guidance

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1. In accordance with Reference A, the NCI Agency, as the Host Nation responsible to implement the project in subject, hereby gives notice of its intent (NOI) to issue an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for SUPPORT FOR THE NATO NCI AGENCY SERVICES DELL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE, hereafter referred to as the "Project". The NATO Communications & Information Agency (NCI Agency) is responsible for the in-service support of major NATO Communications and Information Systems. NATO has datacentres within multiple locations, operated and monitored by the NATO Infrastructure Services Centre Service Line.
 2. A high-level summary of the Project's technical requirements, in six (6) geographic regions (LOTs) where DELL equipment is located, is set forth in Annex A hereto. These requirements are being refined and will be included in further details as part of the IFB.
 3. The reference for this Project is IFB-CO-115893-MAIN, and all correspondence concerning this NOI and subsequent IFB should reference this number.
 4. The NCI Agency plans to issue an IFB using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) Procedure for Lowest Priced Technically Compliant (LPTC) evaluations. A single, fixed price contract is planned for the entire scope of work.
 5. Eligibility to participate in the subsequent IFB is declared by national authorities. Hence, qualified and certified companies interested in receiving an IFB for this Project are hereby requested to provide a Declaration of Eligibility (DoE), sent by their Delegation/Mission to NATO to the NCI Agency contracting authority not later than 24 July 2023, which is 21 calendar days after the date of this letter.
 - a. In addition to the certification of the company's security clearances required under this NOI, the DoE should include the following information for each of the nominated companies:
 - Company name
 - Company address
 - Point of Contact (PoC)
 - PoC email address

▪ PoC telephone number

- b. This information is critical to enable prompt and accurate communication with prospective bidders and should be sent electronically to IFB-CO-115893-MAIN@ncia.nato.int.
6. In order to maximize competition the NCI Agency may, at this discretion, accept nominations after the deadline, so long as the IFB has not been issued. The NCI Agency may even accept, at its discretion, nominations after the IFB has been issued under the condition that such late nomination will not be used as the basis to request an extension to the bid closing date.
7. Requests for participation in this competition received directly from individual companies will not be considered.
8. Bidders will be required to declare a bid validity of 6 months from bid closing date. Should the selection and award procedure exceed the bid closing date by more than 6 months, companies will be requested to voluntarily extend the validity of their bids accordingly. Bidders may decline to do so, withdraw their bid and excuse themselves from the bidding process without penalty.
9. The successful bidder will be required to handle and store classified information up to the level of NATO RESTRICTED. In addition, contractor personnel will be required to work unescorted in Class II Security areas. Therefore, access can only be permitted to cleared individuals. Only companies maintaining such cleared facilities and the appropriate personnel clearances will be able to perform the resulting contract.
10. The NCI Agency is not liable for any expenses incurred by companies in conjunction with their responses to this NOI and such responses shall not be regarded as a commitment of any kind concerning future procurement of the items or services described herein.
11. Your assistance in this procurement is greatly appreciated.

For the Chief of Acquisition:

[Original Signed By]

Lise Vieux-Rochat
Contracting Officer

Annex A – Summary of Requirements

1. Introduction

The NCI Agency has a requirement to procure the hardware maintenance of Dell branded equipment in the following geographic locations identified here as LOTs:

- LOT 1 - Belgium
- LOT 2 - Turkey
- LOT 3 - Italy
- LOT 4 – United Kingdom
- LOT 5 - Portugal
- LOT 6 – United States of America

2. Background

The NATO Communications & Information Agency (NCI Agency) is responsible for the in-service support of major NATO Communications and Information Systems. The Core Enterprise Service Line has the responsibility to operate and maintain NATO's Datacentres within multiple locations.

One essential building block within the NCI Agency is to provide continuity of service inside its datacentres. Dell Server and storage infrastructure is operational in these multiple locations. Reactive and proactive support is required to keep the service operational. Due to the importance of this service, which are provided out of the different Datacentres, service maintenance and support for the hardware is a critical requirement.

3. Project Scope

This requirement is currently anticipated to cover support of the Dell hardware in each of the six LOTs.

Annex B – Distribution List

NATO Delegations:

Albania	Greece	Poland
Belgium	Hungary	Portugal
Bulgaria	Iceland	Romania
Canada	Italy	Slovakia
Croatia	Latvia	Slovenia
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Spain
Denmark	Luxembourg	The Republic of Türkiye
Estonia	Montenegro	The United Kingdom
France	Netherlands	The United States
Finland	North Macedonia	
Germany	Norway	

Embassies in Brussels (Attn: Commercial Attaché):

Albania	Greece	Poland
Belgium	Hungary	Portugal
Bulgaria	Iceland	Romania
Canada	Italy	Slovakia
Croatia	Latvia	Slovenia
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Spain
Denmark	Luxembourg	The Republic of Türkiye
Estonia	Montenegro	The United Kingdom
France	Netherlands	The United States
Finland	North Macedonia	
Germany	Norway	

NCI Agency – All NATEXs