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**ECB - NEWRO — market study for new euro banknote technologies (D-Frankfurt-on-Main)**

**2010/S 113-170762**

**Contract notice**

**Section I: Contracting authority**

**I.1) Name, addresses and contact point(s):**

European Central Bank (ECB), attention: Javier Insa, Kaiserstraße 29, 60311Frankfurt-on-Main, GERMANY. Tel. +49 691344-8845. Fax +49 691344-7110. E-mail: [procurement@ecb.int](mailto:procurement@ecb.int)

**Internet address(es):**

[http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobsproc/archive/html/tenderdoc\\_newco.en.html](http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobsproc/archive/html/tenderdoc_newco.en.html)

General address of the contracting authority: <http://www.ecb.int>

**Further information can be obtained at:**

As in abovementioned contact point(s).

**Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained at:**

As in abovementioned contact point(s).

**Tenders or requests to participate must be sent to:**

As in abovementioned contact point(s).

**I.2) Type of the contracting authority and main activity or activities:**

European institution/agency or international organisation.

The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities: no.

**Section II: Object of the contract**

**II.1) Description**

**II.1.1) Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority:**

NEWRO — market study for new euro banknote technologies.

**II.1.2) Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance:**

Services.

Service category: No 8.

Main place of performance: ECB, Frankfurt-on-Main, GERMANY.

NUTS code: DE712.

**II.1.3) The notice involves:**

A public contract.

**II.1.5) Short description of the contract or purchase(s):**

Banknote research and development (R & D) activities are driven by the Eurosystem duty of maintaining the integrity of euro banknotes against counterfeiting. Continuing advances in technology and the wider availability of reproduction methods could make present-day banknote security features obsolete. Therefore, the ECB is continuously looking into a wide variety of different concepts for novel security features. Counterfeit deterrence is strengthened by the incorporation of such security features into banknotes. A security feature is something

unique and distinguishable that is integrated into the banknote to authenticate it, and prevent it from being counterfeited.

The ECB is interested in carrying out a market study on medium- and long-term research technologies that could be used to further secure euro banknotes in the future. The market study should account for as many types of technologies as possible.

II.1.6) **Common procurement vocabulary (CPV):**

73000000, 73210000, 73220000, 73300000.

II.1.7) **Contract covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA):**

Yes.

II.1.8) **Division into lots:**

No.

II.1.9) **Variants will be accepted:**

No.

II.2) **Quantity or scope of the contract**

II.2.1) **Total quantity or scope:**

Estimated value excluding VAT:

Range: between 100 000 EUR and 500 000 EUR.

II.2.2) **Options:**

No.

Number of possible renewals: 0.

II.3) **Duration of the contract or time limit for completion:**

Duration in months: 12 (from the award of the contract).

**Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

III.1) **Conditions relating to the contract**

III.1.1) **Deposits and guarantees required:**

No deposit is required, but where applicable, the successful tenderer (or in the case of a successful consortium bid, each member of the consortium) may be required to provide a parent-company guarantee.

III.1.2) **Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions regulating them:**

Method of payment will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

III.1.3) **Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded:**

The establishment of a temporary grouping of companies is allowed. In the application, all the members of the temporary grouping must declare in writing that:

(i) in case of an order they will provide all services as a temporary grouping;

(ii) all the members will have joint and several liability for the performance of the contract; and

(iii) a single legal entity shall represent the whole grouping.

The parts of the supplies and/or services that will be performed by the individual companies shall be specified.

III.1.4) **Other particular conditions to which the performance of the contract is subject:**

Yes.

Profit organisations with interests in the security printing business are excluded from this tender.

III.2) **Conditions for participation**

**III.2.1) Personal situation of economic operators, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers:**

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if requirements are met:

Candidates wishing to participate must provide information (including that indicated below) by requesting in writing, and completing, the ECB's tender submission form from the address in I.1 above. The completed tender submission form must be returned in paper copy format by the date indicated in IV.3.4 below:

- (a) full company name, business address and registered address (if different) and registration number;
- (b) all requested information must be returned in hard copy format by the date indicated in IV.3.4 below.

**III.2.2) Economic and financial capacity:**

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if requirements are met:

- (a) insurances;
- (b) financial statements relating to the past 3 years of trading.

**III.2.3) Technical capacity:**

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if requirements are met; minimum level(s) of standards possibly required:

multidisciplinary and familiarity with the technology and patenting situation and trends in Europe; minimum: candidates should cover at least the following 5 subject areas (physics, chemistry, biology, human perception and communication) and be familiar with the technology and patenting situation in various countries of the European Union;

successful experience in leading or coordinating research projects involving international teams, which preferably had budgets of greater than 100 000 EUR; minimum: limited experience; previous substantive experience in researching and compiling scouting studies with new technologies.

**III.2.4) Reserved contracts:**

No.

**III.3) Conditions specific to service contracts**

**III.3.1) Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession:**

No.

**III.3.2) Legal persons should indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff responsible for the execution of the service:**

No.

**Section IV: Procedure**

**IV.1) Type of procedure**

**IV.1.1) Type of procedure:**

Negotiated.

Candidates have already been selected: no.

**IV.1.2) Limitations on the number of operators who will be invited to tender or to participate:**

Envisaged number of operators:

Envisaged minimum number: 3 and maximum number: 15.

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

Those mentioned in III.2 and further elaborated in the tender submission form that is available upon request with the following weighting:

- economic and financial capacity (10 %):
  - insurances (5 %),
  - financial situation (5 %),

- professional and technical capacity (90 %):
  - experience leading international research projects (50 %),
  - multidisciplinary (20 %),
  - previous substantive experience in researching and compiling scouting studies with new technologies (20 %).

IV.1.3) **Reduction of the number of operators during the negotiation or dialogue:**

Recourse to staged procedure to gradually reduce the number of solutions to be discussed or tenders to be negotiated: no.

IV.2) **Award criteria**

IV.2.1) **Award criteria:**

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of the criteria stated in the specifications, in the invitation to tender or to negotiate or in the descriptive document.

Criteria; weighting:

1. price; 30 %;
2. qualifications and expertise of the team proposed for the execution of the contract; 20 %;
3. quality of the proposed planning; 10 %;
4. quality of the proposed final report structure; 10 %;
5. diversity of the subject areas under study; 10 %;
6. quality of the proposed assessment methodology; 5 %;
7. availability of human resources for project management; 15 %.

IV.2.2) **An electronic auction will be used:**

No.

IV.3) **Administrative information**

IV.3.1) **File reference number attributed by the contracting authority:**

13360/BN/CDE/2009.

IV.3.2) **Previous publications concerning the same contract:**

No.

IV.3.3) **Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document:**

Payable documents: no.

IV.3.4) **Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate:**

Date: 31.8.2010 (12:00).

IV.3.5) **Date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates:**

Date: 20.9.2010.

IV.3.6) **Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up:**

English.

IV.3.7) **Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender:**

Duration in months: 6.

IV.3.8) **Conditions for opening tenders:**

Place: Tenders shall be opened shortly after the deadline for receipt of tenders has expired, at the address in I.1.

Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders: no.

Members of staff of the ECB only.

**Section VI: Complementary information**

VI.1) **This is a recurrent procurement:**

No.

It is expected that this will be a recurrent procurement, and if required, further notices shall be published prior to the termination of any new contract that results from this procurement exercise.

VI.2) **Contract related to a project and/or programme financed by Community funds:**

No.

VI.3) **Additional information:**

The contract shall be governed by and interpreted under German civil law.

The deadline for questions or requests for clarification relating to the invitation to tender from tenderers shall be 8 days prior to the deadline for receipt of tenders.

All communications, discussions and meetings will be conducted in English and no interpretation facilities will be provided. Tenderers are also informed that presentations, interviews, and/or site visits may be required to confirm information contained in their offers.

The ECB reserves the right not to make any award and reserves the right to accept all or part of any tender unless the tenderer expressly stipulates otherwise in their tender. The ECB reserves the right to disqualify any applicant who provides information which proves to be incorrect.

The ECB will not be liable for any costs, nor shall it reimburse any expenses or losses that tenderers may incur in connection with the submission of their proposals. Proposals received will not be returned and will remain the property of the ECB.

Tenders shall be delivered, sealed in an envelope, not bearing any indication of the tenderer on the envelope, or in the franking, clearly marked with the contract name and addressed as in I.1 above, so as to arrive no later than the date and time specified in IV.3.4 above.

Tenders may be rejected if the required information is not provided in the stated format at the time of tendering. It is the responsibility of tenderers to ensure that their tender is delivered not later than the deadline indicated in IV.3.4 above. The ECB may consider any tenders received after that time. Tenders received in electronic format, or by facsimile will not be considered.

VI.4) **Procedures for appeal**

VI.4.1) **Body responsible for appeal procedures:**

European Central Bank — Central Procurement Office, Kaiserstraße 29, 60311 Frankfurt-on-Main, GERMANY.  
Tel. +49 691344-8845. Fax +49 691344-7110. E-mail: [procurement@ecb.int](mailto:procurement@ecb.int) Internet: <http://www.ecb.int>

VI.5) **Date of dispatch of this notice:**

2.6.2010.