



# EUROPEAN SOUTHERN OBSERVATORY

Organisation Européenne pour des Recherches Astronomiques dans l'Hémisphère Austral  
Europäische Organisation für astronomische Forschung in der südlichen Hemisphäre

ESO - EUROPEAN SOUTHERN OBSERVATORY  
Karl-Schwarzschild-Straße 2 · D-85748 Garching b. München

Garching, 19 September 2003

Ref.: 7835/LET/CP/RFI-gmv

PRELIMINARY INQUIRY No. PI/ESO/ALMA/03/RFI for the  
**DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, TRANSPORT AND INTEGRATION ON SITE  
IN CHILE OF THE ALMA ANTENNAS**

Dear Sirs,

We refer to our Advance Information letter (ref. 7831/LET/CP/RFI-gmv) dated 9 September 2003, a copy of which is attached for easy reference.

The aim of the present Preliminary Inquiry is:-

- to **identify** the potential bidders interested to participate in a forthcoming Call for Tenders for the supply of 32 ALMA Antennas as main contractor or as sub-contractor;
- to **encourage** the formation of industrial teams, e.g. consortia, joint venture, etc., with the aim and goal to have the broadest possible industrial participation in the antenna procurement and to achieve reliable, efficient delivery of antennas at a minimum cost and risk;
- to **select** from the positive responses received the companies, best qualified to be invited to tender.

In order to qualify for the selection procedure, companies must provide documentary evidence demonstrating their capability of providing the technical, managerial and financial capacity as well as the adequate commercial set-up necessary for the proper execution of the Contract, with reference to the enclosed Project Description (*Annex 1*).

The forthcoming ESO Call for Tenders will be subject to the "*General Conditions Governing Invitations to Tender and Tenders*" (*Annex 2*).

The ESO Contract will be subject to "Special Conditions" which will be provided with the Call for Tender documents and to the "*General Conditions of ESO Contracts*" (*Annex 3*).

As already announced in our letter of 9 September, 2003, an **Industry Briefing** will take place in Munich on **16 October 2003**, the details of which will be communicated on 7 October, 2003, to all potential bidders having returned the enclosed *Acknowledgement of Receipt* (*Annex 4*) by **October 2, 2003, at the latest**.

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*19.09.2003*

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The Closing date of this Preliminary Inquiry is set at

**29 October 2003.**

All responses including the full qualification documentation must reach ESO by this date and should be mailed in triplicate to:-

ESO

Robert Fischer

Karl-Schwarzschild-Strasse 2

D-85748 Garching bei München (Germany)

e-mail: [rfischer@eso.org](mailto:rfischer@eso.org)

cc: [aarndt@eso.org](mailto:aarndt@eso.org), [cnieuwen@eso.org](mailto:cnieuwen@eso.org), [gvossen@eso.org](mailto:gvossen@eso.org)

We look forward to receiving your positive reply.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Fischer

Head of Contracts & Procurement

## Annexes

Copy of Advance Information Letter (ref. 7831/LET/CP/RFI-gmv dated 9 September 2003)

Project Description (Annex 1)

General Conditions Governing Invitations to Tender and Tenders (Annex 2)

General Conditions of ESO Contracts (Annex 3)

Acknowledgement of Receipt (Annex 4)