

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA A very important date for all companies in the oil and gas exploration industry

EMBER

deadline day for bidding in one of Africa's most lucrative exploration projects

> DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

## MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS DEVELOPMENT

## Invitation for bids

Invitation to submit bids for petroleum (oil and gas) exploration licensing round for blocks in the North Western, Western and Eastern provinces of Zambia.

1. The Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development in accordance with the Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act 2008, invites sealed bids for petroleum exploration licencing round for 23 blocks in the North Western, Western and Eastern Provinces of Zambia.

2. The bidder must be able to demonstrate a proven ability to raise the necessary funds, assets, machinery, equipment, tools and technical expertise to explore for, produce, sale and dispose of petroleum in an environmentally sustainable manner.

3. A complete Data Package in English should be purchased by interested bidders from the Director, Geological Survey Department, Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, Corner of Government and Nationalists Roads, P.O. Box 31969, Lusaka upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US\$10,000.00 (or Zambian Kwacha equivalent). Some of the data may be purchased electronically by e-mail at the Geological Survey Department.

4. Bids of one original and three copies enclosed in sealed plain envelopes accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee of US\$10,000 (or Zambian Kwacha equivalent) per block must be delivered by courier or deposited in the Tender Box located at the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, 14th Floor, New Government Complex, Independence Avenue, P. O. Box 31969, Lusaka, Zambia by Friday, 6th November, 2009 at 14:30 hours local time. Electronic, telex and telefax offers and late bids shall not be accepted irrespective of circumstances.

5. All bids shall be opened in public at the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, Conference Room situated on the 14th Floor, New Government 2 Complex, Independence Avenue, PO. Box 31969, Lusaka, Zambia immediately thereafter. Bidders and/or their representatives who choose to attend the tender opening are free to do so.

ANGOLA

ZAMBIA

NAMIBIA

For further information and clarifications, contact: The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development P.O. Box 31969, LUSAKA, ZAMBIA Attention: Director, Geological Survey Department Telefax No.: +260 (211) 251557 Telephone No.: +260 (211) 250174, Email: seismic@coppernet.zm · gsd@zamnet.zm · Website: www.zambiageosurvey.gov.zm

> Dr. Godwin M. Beene Permanent Secretary Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development

## Zambia's changing fortunes

Rich in copper, cobalt, and other minerals, Zambia now appears to have struck oil.

to the magnificent Victoria Falls, Zambia is hoping to add another attraction to its resources portfolio. After samples taken in 2006/7 confirmed gas and oil residues, the southern African country has issued an international tender for oil companies to explore 23 blocks in its north-western, western and eastern provinces.

In June, President Rupiah Banda, who came to power in October 2008, appointed a seven-member committee of ministers to oversee licensing, exploration and production of oil and gas in the country where copper exports are the largest foreign currency earner. Interested investors have been invited to bid for the exploration blocks by 6th November. "We want actual exploration to start before the end of this year," Mines and Minerals Development Minister Maxwell Mwale says.

Although the fall of copper prices on the international market in 2008 affected Zambia's chief industry, the IMF has predicted strong growth in 2009, thanks to a rebound in prices. "The commodity price meltdown we experienced last year gave a wake-up call to this country," Minister Mwale says. "Now the government has embarked seriously on the path of diversification in terms of moving into agriculture and tourism. Mining will continue to play a significant role, but we will use the revenues to finance those sectors."

In 2008, the country of 12 million people amended its Petroleum Act to provide guidance on exploration and production of oil and gas, adding clauses to attract investors. "We offer many incentives, but political stability is our biggest draw," the Minister says. "We are reducing the cost of doing business and streamlining the licensing process."

According to the new law, foreign firms are expected to train and employ locals

and adhere to strict environmental and health and safety regulations. The government will also set up a state national oil firm to regulate activities in the industry. As Godwin Beene, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development observes: "Our current mining towns were built by people here for the long term. Our schools and hospitals were built by mining companies. We are modeling our existing mines on Johannesburg. Jo'burg was a mining town and now it is a hub for other activities."

Minister Mwale adds: "The mining sector will be the driver for better infrastructure. It is already working for agriculture, where we have taken power to identified farming blocks, put in roads, and built dams. Those who understand the business just need to move there. In tourism, we are looking to build an airport in the north and build up infrastructure in the same way. Tourism is labor intensive and therefore offers an opportunity for



Maxwell Mwale Minister of Mines

lots of jobs to be created."

Those looking to do business in Lusaka will find excellent facilities and a warm welcome at the Southern Sun Ridgeway Hotel. Owned by one of the strongest tourism brands in Africa, the hotel actively helps its clientele network. "We don't see people as our guests, but as potential investors within Zambia," says general manager Adrian Penny.

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- · Recently refurbished hotel



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