



SOCIÉTÉ NATIONALE DES MINES

NATIONAL MINING CORPORATION

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RÉPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST No.
000001 /AIMI/SONAMINES/DG OF 09 JAN 2026
RELATING TO THE PRE-SELECTION OF TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS TO THE NATIONAL MINING CORPORATION (SONAMINES S.A.) FOR THE COMPLETION OF EXPLORATION WORKS AND THE COMMISSIONING OF THE AKONOLINGA RUTILE BLOCK, CENTRAL REGION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON.

1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

As part of the strategic revival of Cameroon's mining sector, the State, through the National Mining Corporation (SONAMINES S.A.), is committed to optimising the country's mineral resources in order to contribute to economic development and job creation. In this regard, the commissioning of the Akonolinga rutile deposit is a strategic project, given the economic importance of rutile in the titanium, metal, pigment and advanced technology industries.

Exploration works carried out in recent years by Eramet Cameroun have confirmed the existence of a rutile deposit in the locality of Akonolinga, Central Region. Although further work and an update of the technical data are required, the results obtained revealed a potential that can be developed at the industrial-scale.

The departure of Eramet Cameroun, which occurred in a context specific to this company, left the project at the pre-feasibility study stage, opening up a new door of opportunity for investors that are technically experienced, financially credible and engaged in responsible mining.

It is in this light and in accordance with the law and regulations in force, including Section 38 (7) of Law No. 2023/014 of 19 December 2023 relating to the Mining Code and Article 93 (1) of Decree No. 2024/05061/PM of 18 November 2025, to lay down the procedures for issuing mining titles, permits and licenses, that sites covered by the exploration permits formerly held by Eramet Cameroun were transferred by the State of Cameroon to SONAMINES S.A., in its capacity as the State's agent responsible for the promotion and development of the mining sector.

Building on these achievements, SONAMINES S.A. now wishes, through this AIMI, to shortlist technical and financial partners, i.e. mining companies or groupings with the technical skills, financial capability and proven experience in the responsible development of world-class mining projects, in order to relaunch the development process of this rich deposit.

2. PURPOSE OF THE AIMI

The purpose of this International Call for Expressions of Interest (AIMI) is to pre-select potential technical and financial partners to SONAMINES S.A. in finalising exploration works and commissioning the Akonolinga rutile block in the Central Region of the Republic of Cameroon.



3. PARTICIPATION IN THE AIMI

Participation in this International Call for Expressions of Interest (AIMI) is open to companies or groupings based in Cameroon or abroad with at least 15 (fifteen) years of proven experience in the mining sector.

Interested bidders must have sufficient technical and financial capabilities to develop mining projects within short timeframes and under social, security, financial and environmental conditions that comply with international standards.

In addition, companies or groupings must have experience in Africa and have achieved an overall annual operating profit in the mining sector of at least USD 150,000,000 (one hundred and fifty million US dollars) over the last 5 (five) years.

4. NATURE OF THE PARTNERSHIP

The proposed partnership consists in providing support to SONAMINES S.A., in:

- resource assessment, including the preparation of a detailed feasibility study in accordance with international standards and the laws and regulations in force in Cameroon;
- reserve development and operation in accordance with the regulations in force in Cameroon;
- project financing.

5. CONSULTATION AND ACQUISITION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

Terms of Reference may be obtained upon request via email at aimiblocutilifere@sonamines.cm, or consulted or collected during working hours at the Reception, Mail and Liaison Service of SONAMINES S.A.'s Head Office in Yaoundé, located at Omnisports, Avenue Marc Vivien FOE, former SODEPA street entrance.

6. CONSTITUTION OF TENDER FILE

Failure to submit the following items in as clear and detailed a manner as possible shall result in the outright rejection of the bid:

6.1 Administrative file (Envelope A)

Envelope A shall contain:

Administrative documents (originals or certified true copies), dated less than 3 (three) months:

- **For national bidders:**

- a stamped and signed declaration of intent to bid;
- an up-to-date certificate of tax compliance;
- a certified copy of the trade register;
- a certificate of non-bankruptcy dated less than 90 (ninety) days issued by the court of the bidder's place of business;
- an authorisation to verify references: this authorisation, duly stamped and signed, allows SONAMINES S.A. to carry out all checks deemed necessary to ensure the accuracy of the information relating to the references provided;



- the address and company name of the bidder;
- the articles of association or legal instruments attesting to the legal existence of the bidder's company;
- a stamped statement on honour by the bidder certifying the accuracy and veracity of all the information provided in the expression of interest;
- a declaration of identity of the bidder's legal entity allowing an assessment of their general organisation (managers and experience of key staff) and of the grouping to which they belong (direct and indirect shareholders, related companies, etc.);
- a stamped statement on honour by the bidder certifying that neither they nor their affiliated companies nor any person or entity acting on their own behalf or on the bidder's behalf, nor any of their shareholders or employees, has offered or made any offer, promise, gift, present or advantage of any kind to persons acting on behalf of the Ministries in charge of mines and finance, as well as SONAMINES S.A.;
- in the case of a grouping, each member must submit the required administrative documents and a single notarised deed of incorporation of the grouping shall suffice for all its members.

• For international bidders:

- a letter of interest duly signed by the bidder's legal representative;
- the address and company name of the bidder;
- the articles of association or legal instruments attesting to the legal existence of the bidder's company;
- the Grouping Agreement, where applicable;
- a certificate of non-bankruptcy dated less than 90 (ninety) days and issued by the competent authority of the bidder's place of business;
- a certificate signed by the tax authorities of the bidder's place of residence, certifying that they have filed the required tax returns for the current financial year;
- an authorisation to check references; this authorisation, duly signed by the Top Manager of the company or the representative of the grouping, must allow for any verifications deemed necessary to ensure the accuracy of the information relating to the references provided;
- a statement on honour by the bidder certifying the accuracy and truthfulness of all information provided in the expression of interest;
- a declaration of identity of the bidder's legal entity, enabling an assessment of its general organisation (managers and experience of key staff) and the grouping to which it belongs (direct and indirect shareholders, related companies, etc.);
- a statement on honour by the bidder certifying that neither they nor their affiliated companies nor any person or entity acting on their own behalf or on the bidder's behalf, nor any of their shareholders or employees, has offered or proposed or made any offer, promise, gift, present or advantage of any kind to the persons authorised to act on behalf of the Ministries in charge of mines and finance as well as SONAMINES S.A.;
- in the case of a grouping, each member must submit the required administrative documents.



6.2 Technical File (Envelope B)

The technical file must include the following documents:

- a general presentation of the company/grouping in the mining sector (worldwide, in Africa and in the Republic of Cameroon) and a detailed description of the mining projects in which it has participated over the last 10 (ten) years;
- the technical reference/experience: provide evidence of proven experience in mineral exploration and mining, particularly with similar substances (copper, gold, polymetallic deposits), along with supporting references;
- the financial capability: submit certified financial statements for the last 3 (three) financial years and prove the ability to mobilise the financial resources necessary to carry out exploration and mining programmes;
- ESG compliance and track records: show proof of compliance of mining activities previously carried out with environmental, social and governance standards.
- a preliminary technical proposal indicating, in particular:
 - ✓ the overall methodological approach;
 - ✓ a methodological description of the exploration and mining phases envisaged;
 - ✓ the material and human resources envisaged;
 - ✓ the terms and conditions for reimbursing the expenses incurred;
 - ✓ the terms and conditions for using previous studies/data;
 - ✓ a proposal for the partnership structure expected.

NB: These references shall be presented in the form of contracts, mining titles, reports, and any other complementary legal deed.

7. EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Upon reception of bids, SONAMINES S.A. will evaluate them according to the following criteria.

7.1. Elimination criteria

- misrepresentation, substituted or forged administrative documents;
- incomplete administrative file;
- ongoing dispute with SONAMINES S.A. and/or the State of Cameroon;
- non-compliance of the bid;
- overall score below 70/100.

7.2. Essential criteria

- overall presentation of the bid;
- reference of proven technical experience in the field;
- certified financial statements for the last 3 (three) financial years;
- ESG compliance and track records;
- consistency of the preliminary technical proposal (the overall methodological approach; the methodological description of the exploration and mining phases envisaged; the material and human resources envisaged; the terms and conditions for reimbursing the expenses incurred; the terms and conditions for using previous



studies; a proposal for the partnership structure envisaged in terms of expected contribution from the partner).

7.3. Evaluation grid

No.	Criteria	Sub-criteria	Score awarded	Scale
I	General presentation of the bid	Legibility	<u>1 point</u>	<u>3 points</u>
		Layout	<u>2 points</u>	
II	Technical experience			<u>35 points</u>
III	Financial capacity			<u>30 points</u>
IV	ESG compliance and track records			<u>10 points</u>
V	Preliminary technical proposal			<u>22 points</u>
Overall total				<u>100 points</u>

NB: Only bidders who have obtained a score of at least 70 (seventy) points over 100 (one hundred) at the end of the evaluation will be invited to participate in the next stage of the process.

8. DATE AND PLACE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF BIDS

Bids drafted in English and/or French, must be submitted to the following email address: aimiblocutilifere@sonamines.cm, with the subject line "**AIMI-AKONOLINGA RUTILE BLOCK**", or be submitted in a sealed envelope against receipt, at the Reception, Mail and Liaison Service (room R01) of SONAMINES S.A.'s Head Office located at Omnisports, Avenue Marc Vivien FOE, former SODEPA street entrance, bearing the following mention: "**AIMI- AKONOLINGA RUTILE BLOCK**", "**TO BE OPENED ONLY DURING THE BID OPENING SESSION**".

The deadline for the submission of bids is **Tuesday, 31 February 2026, at 4 p.m. Cameroon time (3 p.m. GMT)**.

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained during working hours at the Head Office of SONAMINES S.A. in Yaoundé, or on demand by emailing aimiblocutilifere@sonamines.cm, upon publication of this notice.

10. PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

The publication of the Restricted International Call for Tenders for the "selection of technical and financial partners to SONAMINES S.A. for the completion of exploration works and commissioning of the Akonolinga rutile block" will serve as results for this AIMI.

11. FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION AND MALPRACTICE

To report any acts of corruption or malpractice, please call the National Anti-Corruption Commission (CONAC) on the following toll-free number: 1517.

Copies:

- MINMIDT;
- MINREX;
- CGM/SONAMINES ;
- BC/SONAMINES ;
- ARMP ;
- Posting (for information).*

