



SOCIÉTÉ NATIONALE DES MINES

NATIONAL MINING CORPORATION

Head Office: P.O. Box 6388 Yaoundé
✉ infos@sonamines.cm - www.sonamines.cm
📍 Omnisports, Avenue Marc Vivien FOE
📞 +237 242 058 396

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
N° **000002** /AIMI/SONAMINES/DG OF **09 JAN 2026**
RELATING TO THE PRE-SELECTION OF TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS FOR THE NATIONAL MINING CORPORATION (SONAMINES S.A) IN VIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMISSIONING OF THE LOMIE-NKAMOUNA COBALT, NICKEL AND MANGANESE POLYMETALLIC DEPOSIT, IN THE EAST REGION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON.

1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Within the framework of the strategic recovery of the Cameroonian mining sector, the State, through the National Mining Corporation (SONAMINES S.A), has undertaken to develop the country's mineral resources in an optimal manner, in order to contribute to economic development and job creation. In this vein, the operationalization of the *Lomié-Nkamouna cobalt, nickel and manganese polymetallic deposit stands as a strategic project, given the economic use and value of these substances in industries such as electronics, batteries, steel and chemicals.*

The feasibility study of this cobalt-nickel-manganese mining project was drafted by the company *Lycopodium Minerals Pty Ltd (Lycopodium)* in conjunction with *SRK Consulting (US), Inc. (SRK)*, *Knight Piésold* and *Geovic Cameroun PLC (GeoCam)*. Subsequently, SRK produced the technical report of the project so as to meet the requirements of the Canadian Standard NI 43-101 and those linked to the continued development of the project.

Faced with *Geovic Cameroun PLC (GeoCam)* breach of obligations incumbent upon mining permit holders, which was marked in particular by the non-operation of the Lomié-Nkamouna cobalt, nickel and manganese deposit, twenty-two years after the company was granted the related mining permit, the State of Cameroon, proceeded, by Decree No.2025/040 of 14 February 2025, with the withdrawal of the mining permit n°33 issued by Decree No.2003/077 of 11 April 2003 to *GOVIC CAMEROON S.A.*

It is within this context 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, laying down the terms and conditions for the issuing of mining titles, permits and licenses, that the site covered by the mining permit once held by GeoCam was retroceded by the State of Cameroon to SONAMINES S.A, in its capacity as representative of the State in charge of the promotion and development of the mining sector.

It is based on the above that SONAMINES S.A, through this AIMI, wishes to shortlist technical and financial partners, i.e. mining companies or groupings with the needed technical and financial capabilities as well as proven experience in the responsible development of world-class mining projects, in order to relaunch the development and operation process of this rich cobalt, nickel and manganese deposit.



2. PURPOSE OF THE AIMI

The purpose of this International Call for Expressions of Interest (AIMI) is to shortlist potential technical and financial partners for SONAMINES S.A, in view of the development and commissioning of the *Lomié-Nkamouna* cobalt, nickel and manganese polymetallic deposit in the East 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 established in Cameroon or abroad, with a proven experience of at least 15 (fifteen) years in the mining sector.

Interested bidders must have enough technical and financial capabilities which allow them to develop mining projects within short deadlines and under social, security, financial and environmental conditions that comply with international standards.

In addition, the companies or groupings must have worked in Africa and have an overall and annual operating profit 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 intended partnership consists in providing support to SONAMINES S.A in:

- the update of the detailed feasibility study in compliance with international standards and legal and regulatory provisions in force in Cameroon;
- the update of the environmental and social impact assessment;
- the production of a rehabilitation plan of the site;
- the development and exploitation of reserves, in compliance with the current regulation in Cameroon;
- the financing of the project.

5. CONSULTATION AND ACQUISITION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

Terms of Reference may be obtained upon request via the Email address: aimicoblat-nickel-manganese@sonamines.cm, and 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

Bidders should, under pain of rejection, present the following documents in as clear and detailed a manner as possible:

6.1 Administrative File (Envelope A)

Envelope A shall comprise:

Administrative documents (originals and 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 tax compliance certificate;
- a certified true copy of the trade register;
- a certificate of non-bankruptcy dated less than 90 (ninety) days, issued by the court of the bidder's registered place of business;
- the address and company name of the bidder;



- 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 articles of association or legal instruments attesting to the legal existence of the company;
- a stamped statement on honour whereby the bidder certifies the accuracy and veracity of all the information provided in the expression of interest;
- a statement of identity of the bidder's legal entity enabling to make an assessment of its general organisation (managers and experience of key personnel) and of the grouping to which it belongs (direct and indirect shareholders, related companies, etc.);
- a stamped attestation 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 account, 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 and 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 will suffice for all its members.

- **For international bidders:**

- a letter of expressions of interest duly signed by the bidder's legal representative;
- the address and company name of the bidder;
- the articles of association or legal deeds attesting to the legal existence of the 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 registered 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 verify references: this authorisation, duly signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the company or the representative of the grouping, must allow for all verifications deemed necessary to ensure the accuracy of the information relating to the references provided;
- a statement on honour by the bidder attesting to the accuracy and veracity of all the information provided in the expression of interest;
- a statement of identity of the bidding legal entity, to enable an assessment of its general organisation (managers and experience of key personnel) and of 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 account, nor any of their shareholders or employees, has offered or proposed 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.

6.2 Technical File (Envelope B)

The technical file shall comprise the documents listed below:

- the general presentation of the company/grouping in the mining sector (worldwide, Africa and the Republic of Cameroon) and a detailed description of the mining projects in which they have participated over the last 10 (ten) years;
- the technical reference/experience: provide evidence of proven experience in exploration and mining, particularly in the operation of polymetallic deposits, with supporting references;
- the financial capability: submit certified financial statements for the last 3 (three) financial years and show proof of the ability to mobilise the financial resources needed to carry out complementary exploration and mining programmes;
- ESG compliance and track records: 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;
 - ✓ the methodological description of intended mining phases and complementary exploration, where necessary;
 - ✓ the material and human resources envisaged;
 - ✓ the terms and conditions for reimbursing the expenses incurred;
 - ✓ the terms and conditions for utilising previous studies/data;
 - ✓ a proposal for the partnership structure expected.

NB: Requested references must be presented in the form of contracts, mining titles, reports and any other legal deed or complementary document.

7. EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

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

7.1. Eliminatory Criteria

- misrepresentation, trafficking or forgery of 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

- general presentation of the bid;
- reference for 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 (overall methodological approach; methodological description of planned exploration and mining phases; material and human resources envisaged; terms and conditions for reimbursing the expenses incurred; terms and conditions for developing previous studies).



proposal for the planned partnership structure in terms of expected contribution from the partner).

7.3. Evaluation Grid

N°	Criteria	Sub-criteria	Score	Rating
I	General presentation of the offer	Legibility	<u>1 pt</u>	<u>3 points</u>
		Layout	<u>2 pt</u>	
II	Technical experience			<u>35 points</u>
III	Financial capability			<u>30 points</u>
IV	ESG Compliance and track records			<u>10 points</u>
V	Preliminary technical proposal			<u>22 points</u>
Grand Total				<u>100 points</u>

NB: Only bidders who have scored at least 70 (seventy) 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 email address: aimicoblat-nickel-manganese@sonamines.cm, with the subject line **"AIMI-LOMIE-NKAMOUNA COBALT-NICKEL-MANGANESE POLYMETALLIC DEPOSIT"**, or be delivered in a sealed envelope against receipt to the Reception, Mail and Liaison Service (Room R01) of SONAMINES S.A's Head Office in Yaoundé, located at Omnisports, Avenue Marc Vivien FOE, former SODEPA street entrance, bearing the following label: **"AIMI-LOMIE-NKAMOUNA COBALT-NICKEL-MANGANESE POLYMETALLIC DEPOSIT", 'TO BE OPENED ONLY DURING THE BID OPENING SESSION"**.

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

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information may be obtained during working hours from the Head Office of SONAMINES S.A. in Yaoundé, or on demand by email at aimicoblat-nickel-manganese@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 for SONAMINES S.A. in view of the development and operation of the Lomié-Nkamouna cobalt-nickel-manganese polymetallic deposit' will serve as results for this AIMI.

11. FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION AND MALPRACTICE

To report 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)



Serge Hervé BOYOGUENO