

It is hereby notified that tenders are invited for **Contract No. SS N518—Construction of Annex Block at Hong Kong Observatory Headquarters, Tsim Sha Tsui (Programme No. 140KA)**.

The works include construction of an observatory annex block comprising piled foundations, geotechnical works, multi-hazard warning centre, computation centre, electronic workshop and calibration laboratory, news briefing room, display galleries, radar and satellite centre, office, rest rooms and refurbishment of a single storey declared monument (Red House), together with associated building services installation, drainage and external works. The construction floor area of the annex block is approximately 6 000 square metres. The contract is scheduled to commence in February 2025 and for completion in June 2028.

Tenderers must submit completed tenders in both soft AND hard copies before 12.00 noon on Friday, 9 August 2024.

For tender submission made in soft copy, the soft copy of the completed tenders must be submitted *via* the e-Tendering System and tenderers should ensure that data transmission must be completed before the tender closing time. Tenderers are required to use the Organisational e-Cert to sign the tender before submission *via* the e-Tendering System. Attention is drawn to the time required for the certification authority to issue the Organisational e-Cert. Tenderers are advised to apply for Organisational e-Cert well in advance of the tender closing date.

Tenderers should ensure that the accounts of the e-Tendering System are valid well in advance of the tender closing date. Tenderers with invalid accounts or accounts without valid passwords will not be able to access the e-Tendering System to download the tender documents, submit tender queries and tenders. Details of the procedures for application of an e-Tendering System account, terms and conditions, frequently asked questions and user manual of the e-Tendering System are available at:—

<https://www.gov.hk/en/theme/etendering/ets/>

For tender submission made in hard copy, the hard copy of sealed tenders in duplicate must be clearly marked with the tender reference and the subject of the tender on the outside of the envelope (but should not bear any indication which may relate the tender to the tenderer), addressed to the Chairman, Central Tender Board and placed in the Government Secretariat Tender Box situated in the lobby of the Public Entrance on the Ground Floor, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong. Tenders must be deposited in the tender box as specified in this tender notice (“Specified Tender Box”) before the tender closing time.

Late tenders or soft copy of tenders not submitted *via* the e-Tendering System or hard copy of tenders not deposited in the Specified Tender Box will not be accepted.

If tropical cyclone warning signal No. 8 or above is hoisted, or a black rainstorm warning signal or ‘extreme conditions after super typhoons’ announced by the Government is/are in force at any time between 9.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon on Friday, 9 August 2024, the tender closing time will be postponed to 12.00 noon on the first working day after the tropical cyclone warning signal No. 8 is lowered, or the black rainstorm warning signal or the ‘extreme conditions after super typhoons’ announced by the Government has/have ceased to be in force. In case of blockage of the public access to the location of the Specified Tender Box at any time between 9.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon on Friday, 9 August 2024, the Government will announce extension of the tender closing time until further notice. Following removal of the blockage, the Government will announce the extended tender closing time as soon as practicable. The above announcements will be made *via* press releases on the website of Information Services Department (<http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/today.htm>).

Forms of tenders and further particulars can be downloaded from the e-Tendering System which can be accessed *via* the link: (<https://www.gov.hk/en/theme/etendering/ets/>).

For enquiry, please contact Ms. WONG Wai-ming, Project Quantity Surveyor (Telephone No.: 2867 4155; Fax No.: 2596 0356; Email Address: wongwm2@archsd.gov.hk).

Selective tendering is adopted. Contractors on the List of Approved Contractors for Public Works in Group C for Buildings Category or joint ventures with participation of local and/or overseas contractors with the lead participant or the major shareholder being on the above-mentioned approved list/category/group who also meet the qualifications and conditions for participation stipulated in the tender documents are invited to tender.

The detailed requirements for joint ventures with participation of local and/or overseas contractors, if applicable, are stipulated in the tender documents.

Contractors not yet on the above-mentioned approved list/category/group may also submit a tender if they submit a request for participation together with a duly completed application for inclusion in the above-mentioned approved list/category/group by 9 July 2024 to Chief Quantity Surveyor/4 of Quantity Surveying Branch, Architectural Services Department, at 34/F, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong, meet the qualifications and conditions for participation, and the application for inclusion is duly approved on or before the tender closing date. Details for making the application are available at:—

http://www.devb.gov.hk/en/construction_sector_matters/contractors/index.html

Contractors will be liable to have their names removed from the approved list(s) if they fail or refuse to implement an accepted tender.

This tender is covered by the Agreement on Government Procurement of the World Trade Organization and will not involve electronic auction. This notice also serves as a summary notice required under the Agreement on Government Procurement of the World Trade Organization.

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region does not bind itself to accept any tender irrespective of whether the tender is the lowest bid or, where the assessment of the tenders is based on a marking scheme or formula approach, the tender with the highest overall score.

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region reserves the right to negotiate with any tenderer about the terms of the offer.

Details of the award of this contract will be published on the Internet at:—

<https://pcms2.gld.gov.hk/iprod/#/scn00101>

14 June 2024

LI Kiu-yin, Michael *Director of Architectural Services*