ADVANCED CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE

RE: PROCUREMENT OF DATABASE ACCESS FOR THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION RELATED TO PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA

REFERENCE # 01B68-13-0064

BACKGROUND:

Access to the information in the Homologa database allows governments and stakeholders to develop strategic approaches in reaching their goals and objectives in terms of risk reduction and international harmonization. The contract is to provide access to information on crop protection products to Canadian governments, businesses and citizens.

This database is of value to:

- Trade development analysts and officers who can use it to identify differential or prohibitive pesticide residue standards in Canada's export markets. This helps to define strategic approaches to reducing market risk, harmonizing international standards, and achieving greater market access.
- The Pesticide Risk Reduction Program who uses it to update registered pesticide tables in the <u>national crop profiles</u> and to help identify priorities for the development of <u>pesticide risk reduction strategies</u>.
- Research scientists use it to study pesticide and biopesticide registrations in other countries and gain insight into international approaches to pest control.
- The Canadian agriculture and agri-food industry uses it to develop strategic approaches for crop protection products and to mitigate risk in international trade.

SCOPE OF WORK:

Agrobase-Logigram will provide access to information on pest control products from over 60 countries, including:

- national product name
- registration number
- company name
- company contact information
- active ingredients, concentration, formulation,
- product group (fungicides/herbicides, insecticides etc.)
- toxicity class
- bee toxicity
- inflammability
- safety and environmental restrictions
- method of application, time of application
- pest/problem, minimum dose rate, maximum dose rate
- amount of water
- maximum number of treatments
- PHI

- label safety statements
- national MRLs
- upcoming changes in MRLs
- regulations
- common crop name, crop name, crop group
- production site
- common pest name
- scientific pest name
- production surface
- crop value
- export/import markets
- EU registration status

Special modules of the database for users who work in competitive analysis, product management, global registrations, food chain issues including risk analysis and residues, minor use issues and invasive species issues.

GENERAL:

The purpose of this Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) is to signal the government's intention to award a contract for these services to **Agrobase-Logigram**. This contract will be for a period of one year with an additional one year option period. Before awarding a contract, however, the government would like to provide other suppliers with the opportunity to demonstrate that they are capable of satisfying the requirements set out in this Notice, by submitting a statement of capabilities during the 15 calendar day posting period.

If other potential suppliers submit a statement of capabilities during the 15 calendar day posting period that meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the government will proceed to a full tendering process on either the government's electronic tendering service or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a statement of capabilities meeting the requirements set out in the ACAN, a contract will be awarded to the pre-selected supplier.

The estimated value of the contract is *\$160,000.00 CAD* (all inclusive) for the possible 2 year contract period.

MINIMUM ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

 Proposer must demonstrate that it can provide the specific information requested in the scope of work listed above.

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PRE-SELECTED SUPPLIER:

The Treasury Board's Government Contract Regulations, Part 10.2.1 Section 6 states there are four exceptions that permit the contracting authority to set aside the requirement to solicit bids. This includes:

d. "only one supplier person or firm is capable of performing the contract."

The rational for a non-competitive contract; Agrobase-Logigram develops and manages the content of the Homologa database. It is the only international database that gives access to a broad spectrum of international information on pest control products. Several of the 60 countries do not have their pesticide information available on the Internet and only 11 countries publish their webpages in English. Countries that do offer an English version of their webpage translate only part of the information into English. The Homologa database harmonizes the terminologies for crops, pests, warning statements, etc. which can differ even among English speaking countries thus facilitating access to information on pest control products for users at all levels.

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to meet the specified requirements may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the Contracting Authority identified in this Notice (electronic or facsimile submissions will not be accepted) on or before the closing date of this Notice. Enquiries and issues must be received by the Contracting Authority no later than three (3) calendar days prior to the ACAN closing date specified herein to allow sufficient time to provide a response. Enquiries or issues received after that time may not be able to be answered prior to the solicitation closing date.

The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements, **both technical and financial.**

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is;

November 29, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. local time

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

David Hickman Senior Contracting Officer Professional Services Contracting Unit Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Tower 3 , Floor 5, Room 336 OTTAWA ON K1A 0C5 Telephone: (613) 773-0932 Email: <u>david.hickman@agr.gc.ca</u>

POLICY INFORMATION:

- $\underline{\sqrt{}}$ Government Contracts Regulations (GCRs) _____
- _____ Subject to WTO-AGP _____
- _____ Subject to NAFTA _____
- _____ Subject to AIT _____
- _____ Subject to CKTEA _____
- _____ Subject to Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement(s)
- _____ Set-aside under the Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business