



Madrid – April 19, 2013

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 1880 / 2013

**SUBJECT: TERMS OF REFERENCE - CALL FOR TENDERS – GBYP 03/2013 –  
AERIAL SURVEY ON SPAWNING AGGREGATION (ICCAT/GBYP –  
Phase 4 - 2013)**

I have the honor to transmit to you the attached Call for Tenders GBYP 03/2013 for “**Aerial Survey on Spawning Aggregation**” of the ICCAT Atlantic-Wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP).

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.



Driss Meski  
*Executive Secretary*

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Attachment: Call for Tenders GBYP 03/2013.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE  
CALL FOR TENDERS - GBYP 03/2013**

**AERIAL SURVEY ON SPAWNING AGGREGATION  
ATLANTIC-WIDE RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON BLUEFIN TUNA  
(ICCAT-GBYP Phase 4)**

**1. Background and objectives**

The comprehensive ICCAT Atlantic Wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP) is required to improve basic data collection, the understanding of key biological and ecological processes, assessment models and management.

An important element of this programme is to carry out aerial surveys by transects in the Mediterranean of the spawning population where and when schools are traditionally sighted close to the surface to support the development of fishery-independent indices. Within this context a Mediterranean-wide extensive survey will be carried out in 2013, for a better understanding of the distribution and possible presence of spawners even outside the areas previously monitored in 2010 and 2011. For this purpose, an extensive new design has been developed, dividing the Mediterranean area into 7 sub-areas and four of these also include areas monitored in previous years. The density of transects is different among the two main sub-area types (new zones and those already monitored), under the working hypothesis that the major concentrations can still be found in the areas previously monitored.

The ICCAT is publishing this announcement in order to select public institutions or private entities to submit offers to carry out the aerial survey as described below.

**2. Requested tasks**

Based on the survey design (see attached) the following seven sub-areas have been identified:

- Sub-area A: Western Mediterranean/Balearic Sea
- Sub-area B: Western Mediterranean/Sardinian Sea
- Sub-area C: Tyrrhenian Sea
- Sub-area D: Central-southern Adriatic Sea/Northern Ionian Sea
- Sub-area E: Strait of Sicily/Central-southern Mediterranean Sea
- Sub-area F: Ionian Sea/Eastern Mediterranean Sea/Aegean Sea
- Sub-area G: Aegean Sea/Levantine Sea

Institutions or entities interested in carrying out these tasks shall submit offers for all sub-areas or for one or more sub-areas.

The offer shall specify the following indications:

- a) type of aircraft (adequate for aerial spotting, possibly with upper wings, two propellers and good forward visibility, mandatory equipped with bubble windows, one on each side);
- b) availability of a pilot and a professional tuna spotter;
- c) availability of two scientific spotters who pertain to scientific institutions independent from the fishing industries (in case any State deploys a national observer, then this costs should be included, and only one scientific spotter will operate on board, together with the national observer);
- d) the number of surveys and survey time provided for each sub-area.

Taking into account some preliminary offers of complimentary flight hours provided by some entities, whenever these entities are interested in submitting regular bids, then the complimentary flight hours will be used to increase the number of replicates and decrease the CVs. For this reason, the survey design provides for additional survey opportunities. If complimentary flight time is included in any bid, then this should be clearly indicated.

The surveys will be conducted only on bluefin tuna spawners aggregations in the period between June 3, 2013 and July 3, 2013, by several aircraft in the various sub-areas, at a spotting altitude of 300 m. The distance covered in a one hour flight should be about 100 nm, with about 6 flight hours on duty per day. It is reasonable to take into account adverse weather forecast of 20% of the days (bad weather condition means winds over 3 or 4 on the Beaufort scale, or low clouds at less than 300 m altitude, or heavy rain, which prevents a reliable observation of tuna schools close to the sea surface).

The tender should be able to provide a GPS recording of all flights and sighting positions, together with the necessary way points when relevant. All sightings shall be documented with photos, preferentially using a high resolution, geo-stabilised, GPS tagging, electronic camera. All photos shall be delivered along with the final report.

Each tender, in case of award, shall ensure the participation, possibly on short notice, of one official representative, the pilot(s), the professional spotter(s) and the scientific spotters in a short one-day training course to be held at the ICCAT Secretariat in May 2013. Participation in the course is mandatory, including for the national observers, if any. The awarded tender shall provide ID photos of all the staff working at the survey at the beginning of the day of the training course at the latest.

### **3. Conditions for the submission of an offer**

The offer shall provide the following information:

- Documented multi-year experience in bluefin tuna studies and/or aerial surveys or censuses of marine populations; previous experience in tuna aerial surveys will be preferential.
- Availability of adequate aircraft for aerial spotting, including technical description of the aircraft equipped with two bubble windows (one on each side), piloted by a licensed pilot having documented experience in this field.
- Availability of at least one professional tuna spotter having documented multiyear experience in this field.
- Availability of at least two scientific observers, preferably with previous experience in tuna fisheries or biology, aerial surveys and/or census of marine populations, and who pertain to scientific institutions independent of the fishing industries and who hold a university degree in one of the following: Fisheries Science or Marine Biology or Natural Sciences or Biological Sciences or Environmental Sciences or closely related fields.
- Excellent working knowledge of one of the three official languages of ICCAT (English, French, Spanish). A high level of knowledge of English is highly desirable.
- Bank or insurance guaranty for the amount of the contract, to be provided before the signature of the eventual contract.
- Administrative document certifying that the entity is duly operating without any fiscal prejudice.

The offers shall be submitted **before 18:00 Madrid time on May 6, 2013**.

After the evaluation of the offers, the winner(s) will be notified in order to start the process of obtaining the permits. At this stage the contract cannot be signed. However the ICCAT Secretariat will

send a commitment to sign the contract if all conditions are met. The winner(s) of the contract(s) will work in close consultation with the ICCAT GBYP Coordinator in conducting aerial surveys of one or more sub-areas, identified in the attached map, according to the aerial survey design provided in attached.

The awarded entities are requested to obtain the flight permits to survey the targeted various sub-areas. Due to the imperative condition of carrying out an extensive survey in 2013, they **must** inform ICCAT about the permits they were able to obtain **by 10:00 a.m. Madrid time on May 31, 2013** at the latest. If a sufficient number of permits cannot be available on **May 31, 2013**, then the aerial survey will be cancelled in all areas and the contracts will not be confirmed. In such a case, ICCAT will only reimburse the documented costs generated by the requests for permits. If all or a sufficient number of permits will be obtained on time, then the contract will be signed immediately.

The Contractor shall be available to report to any meeting requested by ICCAT.

The Contractor shall be available to take on board an ICCAT-GBYP inspector at any time, on short notice.

#### **4. Submission of bids**

The offers shall be sent to the ICCAT Executive Secretary ([driss.meski@iccat.int](mailto:driss.meski@iccat.int)) on **May 6, 2013, before 18:00 Madrid time at the latest.**

The offer(s) shall be presented in two separates envelopes or electronic folders. All electronic documents shall be provided in pdf files.

*Envelope or electronic folder no. 1:* Technical specifications and administrative details:

- a) A detailed offer, describing the sub-area(s) where the aerial survey will be carried out (for the identification of the sub areas, please refer to the attached maps), the type of spotting aircraft(s) to be used for the survey, the minimum number of flight hours to be guaranteed in total, the maximum number of stand-by days, the date for the interim report and the date for the final report;
- b) The curricula of the pilot, the professional spotter and the scientific observers;
- c) The curriculum of the institution or company;
- d) The application for the ICCAT-GBYP Aerial Survey 2013, including any documented experience in aerial surveys or marine population surveys, should include recent and relevant contracts for the same or similar items and other references (including contract numbers, points of contact with telephone numbers and other relevant information);
- f) The name, address, and telephone number of the tendering body;
- g) The institutional and administrative background of the tendering body (e.g., statutes, type of institution, annual budget, budget control procedures, etc.).
- h) If the aircraft proposed for the survey does not belong to the tendering body, then a declaration from its owner should be included, defining the availability of the aircraft for this duty and to ensure that the aircraft is properly insured for all risks by a primary insurance company; a copy of the subcontract or MOU should be also provided;
- i) A detailed list of any subcontracting activities;
- j) A declaration that the offering institution accepts the condition of a provisional award, after which it should attempt to get all flight permits by May 31, 2013, and the reimbursement is limited to the documented costs generated by the requests for permits in case a sufficient number of permits for all sub-areas will not be available by May 31, 2013 and consequently ICCAT will cancel the survey for 2013.

- k) A declaration that the offering institution will strictly follow the aerial survey design provided by ICCAT prior to the beginning of the surveys, as well as the forms to be used for the survey, and the administrative rules specified on the contract;
- l) A declaration that all the comments eventually made on the draft final report will be incorporated in the final report prior to the submission to the ICCAT SCRS.
- m) A completed copy of the operating license and authorization (if applicable) and any administrative document, released by the competent public authority, demonstrating that the offering institution is authorized to operate the aerial survey;
- n) A declaration that the offering Institution will provide an insurance guaranty for the full amount of the contract, before its signature;
- o) A declaration that the offering institution will be covered by a full insurance for the aerial survey to be carried out according to the Call for Tenders, excluding the ICCAT from all the responsibilities concerning the job to be done by each offering institution;
- p) Acknowledgment of this Call for Tenders (if applicable);
- q) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions, and provisions herein included.

**Envelope or electronic folder no. 2:** The detailed estimated budget to implement the aerial survey.

- a) A preliminary estimated budget for the aerial survey, taking into account the details provided with the survey design for each sub-area and the total distance for each replicate, and any discount terms (please use the attached table).
- b) If any complimentary flight time is provided, it shall be detailed.

Offers that fail to provide the required documentation or information, or reject the terms and conditions of the Call for Tenders will not be considered.

## 5. Selection of the offers

The ICCAT Secretariat will make a selection of the offers and notify the result of the selection process by **May 8, 2013**.

## 6. Deliverables

- 1) A preliminary short report to be submitted at the latest by **June 17, 2013**, including the description of the work carried out up to that date;
- 2) The draft final report to be submitted at the latest by **July 26, 2013**, including:
  - a) Full description of the work carried out during the aerial survey;
  - b) Detailed description of the methodology;
  - c) Detailed maps of the areas in which the aerial survey was carried out, according to the aerial survey design;
  - d) Maps with the GPS track of the survey, by date;
  - e) Detailed maps of the sightings, with GPS positions;
  - f) Official sighting forms complete with full details;
  - g) Complete copy of the photos and videos taken during the survey (on DVD), including their reference;
  - h) Scientific report, prepared taking into account the aerial survey design and the relevant literature;
  - i) Summary.

- 3) A PowerPoint presentation of the main results to the ICCAT SCRS 2013 Bluefin Species Group Session or to any other ICCAT SCRS meeting.
- 4) The definitive final report, to be prepared taking into account the eventual comments provided by ICCAT and to be submitted by **August 2, 2013** at the latest.

## **7. Payment details**

Disbursements will be made according to the following schedule:

- 1) 40% of the total amount of the contract upon signing of the contract;
- 2) 40% upon completion of the interim report;
- 3) 20% after the approval of the final report.

## **8. Logistics**

All deliverables provided by the Contractor must be in MS Word or compatible software, tables must be in Excel format or compatible, figures and pictures must be in JPEG or TIFF format or compatible. All documents submitted must be in English, French or Spanish.

## **9. Copyright**

All of the material produced by the Contractor will remain the property of ICCAT/GBYP and it must be kept confidential.