



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

PRESS STATEMENT

GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA HOLDS BIDDER'S CONFERENCE FOR THE 1ST LICENSING ROUND FOR PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION

Government of Uganda (GOU) through the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development on 24th November 2015 held the bidders conference for the ongoing licensing round to provide clarifications to the request for proposals documents, relevant laws, regulations and model Production Sharing Agreements (mPSA).

The information provided is aimed at promoting transparent and equitable bidding process to enable oil companies to prepare technically and commercially responsive bids expected to be submitted ahead of the January 15, 2016 deadline.

16 potential bidders/Qualified Applicants were issued with the bidding documents on 1st October 2015. The Bidders conference was held at the Lake Victoria Serena Golf Resort hotel and was attended by at least 40 representatives of the potential bidders.

Dr. F.A Kabagambe-Kaliisa, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) in his opening remarks thanked everyone for sparing time and attend the

conference to discuss issues pertaining to this licensing round. He extended special tribute to the representatives of the potential bidders which are participating in this licensing round.

Mr Ernest Rubondo, Director of Petroleum Directorate, in a presentation “Overview of the Oil and Gas Sector and Key Aspects of the First Licensing Round” gave status of legislation and institutional framework in the oil and gas sector and emphasized that the process and criteria that will be used when evaluating the best responsive bids.

The Director concluded his presentation by saying that implementation of this licensing round will continue to be undertaken in the most transparent and predictable manner.

This is in alignment with the National Oil and Gas Policy for Uganda and the Petroleum (Exploration, Development and Production) Act 2013, which provide for the implementation of competitive licensing round for petroleum exploration blocks in Uganda.

Honourable Peter Lokeris, Minister of State for Minerals in his closing remarks explained that this licensing round is an important milestone for Uganda as it is being implemented after putting in place the necessary legal and regulatory framework for the entire petroleum value chain.

He revealed that the key objectives of the licensing round are to: attract more investments in Uganda’s oil and gas industry; expand the resource base with a view to improve revenue base; enhance the sustainability of oil and gas production; and, respond to the investors who have expressed interest in the oil and sector.

The Minister reiterated why investors should invest in the country. He pointed out key incentives such as the in place of legal and regulatory framework, political stability to make investments in oil and gas sector secure and well established petroleum systems in the country.

“Government is committed to developing the oil and gas industry in the country in partnership with all the stakeholders in an efficient and effective manner to the benefit of all Ugandans, the East African region and create value to investors.” the Minister concluded.

The six biddable blocks comprise of the Ngassa (410 Km²) in Hoima District, Taitai&Karuka (565 Km²) in Buliisa District, Ngaji (895 Km²) in Rukungiri&Kanungu Districts, Mvule (344 Km²) in Moyo and Yumbe Districts together with Turaco (425 Km²) and Kanywantaba (344 Km²) in Ntoroko District.

The 16 potential bidders are:

1. African Global Resources (JV comprising of Telconet Capital Limited, RT-Global Resources LLC and JSC Tatneft), Russia
2. Petrica Energy AS, Norway
3. Armour Energy Limited, Australia
4. Oranto Petroleum International Limited, Nigeria
5. Tullow Uganda Operations Pty Limited, Ireland
6. Rift Energy Uganda Limited, Canada
7. African Exploration Venture (JV comprising of Rapid Africa Energy Pty Limited and Africa Energy SA Corp), South Africa
8. Niger Delta Petroleum Resources Limited, Nigeria
9. Glint Energy, LLC, USA
10. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Videsh Limited, India
11. SASOL Exploration and Production International Limited, South Africa
12. Brightoil Petroleum (Uganda) Limited, Hong Kong/China
13. Petoil (Uganda) Limited, Turkey
14. Swala Energy (Uganda) Limited, Australia
15. WaltersmithPetroman Oil Limited, Nigeria
16. MDC Oil and Gas Holding Company, LLC, United Arab Emirates

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