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THE EXPECTED CONTENT OF “EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST” AND THE PRELIMINARY COMMITMENT OF THE BIDDERS (I.E., PROPOSER ENTERPRISE/CONSORTIA)

For the 1st phase, the expected content of “Expressions of Interest” should include a maximum extent of 4 pages, including the following:

1. A clear statement of interest to build, install and operate a launch base and launch services from the Azores, as of 2021, for small satellites (i.e., smaller than 500 kg). This statement of interest must be associated with the operational concept under which the applicant plans to share responsibilities of the launch base operations, maintenance and associated services;
2. A clear statement on how a commitment will be made to collaborate with Portuguese enterprises and research laboratories to design, install and/or operate a spaceport in the Island of Santa Maria, in the Azores, associated with the development (as applicable) and operation of a new generation of satellite launch services to space;
3. Basic recommendations concerning how best to provide low-cost, frequent and regular access to space for small satellites from Azores, including the process to access the necessary markets for New Space industries, as well as an initial and brief business strategy to establish and run an “Open Spaceport”, by suggesting a potential definition of the operation of such concept compatible with the specifications of selected area(s);
4. A basic technical description of the proposed launching solution, defining minimum service performance parameters and highlighting any competitive advantages or any hazards resulting from the technology used, as well as stating the current and expected level of maturity and launch record at the target date to start the spaceport operations;
5. Basic considerations about the capacity to use and develop systems engineering approaches, perform the necessary analyses, define and apply processes/methods resulting in a reliable written assessment of safety, environmentally safe conditions, geological stability conditions and electrical and water requirements;
6. A nominated single point of contact.

The initial “Expressions of Interest”, regarding the 1st phase of the process, shall be submitted before the **31st of October 2018** (5 pm, Lisbon time), through the website of the Portuguese Science and Technology Foundation (FCT; www.fct.pt).

