

## Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (S2R JU)

### 28<sup>th</sup> FORMAL MEETING OF THE S2R JU GOVERNING BOARD

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021

10h00-13h00

Remote connection

#### PRESENT:

<b>European Union,</b> represented by the European Commission	SCHMIDT Kristian, DG MOVE	Chair
	CONLON Ian, DG MOVE	Observer
	DONGIOVANNI Leonardo, DG MOVE	Observer
	FIMIN Ana-Maria, DG MOVE	Observer
	FROISSARD Philippe, DG RTD	Observer
	BIRD William, DG RTD	Observer
	CLEUREN John, DG RTD	Observer

<b>ALSTOM</b>	CASTRES SAINT MARTIN Nicolas	Member
<b>AZD Praha</b>	PAVEL Michal	Alternate Member
<b>CAF</b>	DE CASTRO Jorge	Alternate Member
<b>DEUTSCHE BAHN</b>	MARXEN Ralf	Alternate Member
<b>EUROC</b>	PETRASCHEK Thomas	Member
<b>HACON</b>	DEITERDING Lars	Alternate Member
<b>HITACHI RAIL STS</b>	TROMBETTA Antonella	Member
<b>INDRA</b>	LIZANO Javier Rivila	Member
<b>KNORR - BREMSE</b>	HILSE Hans-Christian	Member
	ERTL Martin	Alternate Member
<b>NETWORK RAIL</b>	AMPOMAH Robert	Member
<b>SIEMENS</b>	SCHLACHT Jürgen	Alternate Member
<b>SMART DEMAİN CONSORTIUM</b>	SAMSON Henk	Member
<b>SMARTRACON CONSORTIUM</b>	Michael MEYER ZU HÖRSTE	Alternate Member
<b>SNCF</b>	CHERON Christophe	Alternate Member

<b>THALES (Industrial Spokesperson)</b>	PERREAL Yves	Member
<b>TRAFIKVERKET</b>	OLSSON Bo	Alternate Member
<b>VVAC+</b>	KITANOSKI Filip	Member
<b>European Railway Agency</b>	TOURNIER Ny Tiana	Observer
<b>Vice-Chairperson of the States Representative Group</b>	HALTFU Miroslav	Observer
<b>Chairperson of the Scientific Committee</b>	DI FEBBRARO Angela	Observer
<b>S2R</b>	BORGHINI Carlo	Executive Director
	TRAVAINI Giorgio	Observer
	DECLERFAYT Vincent	Observer
	GONZALEZ GARCIA Isaac	Observer
	KANIA Magdalena	
<b>AERFITEC</b>	CASTILLO ACERO Miguel Angel	Observer

<b>FAIVELEY Transport</b>	BOGGIONE Ambra	Observer
	TIONE Roberto	Observer
<b>MER MEC</b>	SFORZA PATRIZIA	Observer
<b>TALGO</b>	GONZALEZ MORENO Alfredo	Observer

## **LIST OF DECISIONS:**

The following decisions were taken by the Board:

- GB n° 03/2021 approving the List of Actions Selected for Funding under the Shift2Rail JU Call for Proposals H2020-S2RJU-2021
- GB n° 04/2021 on the Final Annual Accounts 2020
- GB n° 05/2021 on the Annual Activity Report 2020

## OVERVIEW OF DISCUSSIONS:

### *INTRODUCTION*

The Chair, Mr Kristian Schmidt, welcomed the participants to the 28<sup>th</sup> Governing Board meeting held remotely via MS Teams.

The Chair indicated that all documents relating to the meeting have been distributed in advance to the participants according to the Rules of Procedure. He briefly presented the items from the Agenda.

### **1. WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The Agenda was approved by the Board.

1. WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA <i>Declarations of conflict of interest based on the Agenda items</i>
2. INFORMATION FROM THE COMMISSION
3. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON S2R JU ACTIVITIES
4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE GB OF 23 March 2021
<b>ITEMS FOR DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD</b>
5. ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2020
6. ADOPTION OF THE FINAL ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2020
7. DECISION APPROVING THE LIST OF ACTIONS SELECTED FOR FUNDING UNDER THE SHIFT2RAIL JU CALL FOR PROPOSALS H2020-S2RJU-2021 <i>This Agenda item is for decision with particular attention to the specific provisions of Article 13 and 14 of the Rules of Procedures of the Governing Board. The report will be distributed two working days in advance in accordance with the same Rules.</i>
<b>ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD</b>
8. UPDATE ON EU-RAIL EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP <i>Information in particular on the transition between the S2R and Europe's Rail</i>
9. OPPORTUNITIES FOR RAIL IN HORIZON EUROPE WORK PROGRAMME 2021 <i>Presentation by the European Commission (tbc)</i>
10. TAKE-OVER BY MER MEC of SIRTI <i>Presentation by MER MEC representative</i>
<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>
11. AOB - RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE KPI EXERCISE TO EU-RAIL JU - APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE TO PERFORM THE ROLE OF REPORTING OFFICER FOR THE 2020 PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - INDICATIVE LIST OF DOCUMENTS TO BE ADOPTED BY WRITTEN PROCEDURE OR AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING - INDICATIVE DATES OF THE NEXT MEETING(S): - 25 November 2021

## **2. INFORMATION FROM THE COMMISSION**

The Chair introduced himself and informed participants to the 28<sup>th</sup> Governing Board meeting that he has been appointed as a Director for Land Transport at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) since April 2021. He thanked all stakeholders for the work in the current S2R JU and for the work on the future Europe's Rail JU. He congratulated the Executive Director on his re-appointment.

The Chair stressed that the future Europe's Rail JU puts forward many objectives, of which two are of a great importance – necessity to accelerate digital and green transformation and deployment of innovative solutions. To achieve these objectives, the Master Plan of the Europe's Rail JU needs to be an ambitious plan with a focused vision, and it should not be a continuation of the *status quo*. New ideas are expected to be pursued with respect to automation and digitalization to reduce costs, increase capacities and enhance flexibility and reliability of railway sector.

The Chair informed the GB about the Commission expectations for the future Europe's Rail JU. The Members of the future JU are expected to collectively cover different areas of expertise in order to maintain a better representation of stakeholder categories (i.e. infrastructure managers, suppliers, freight and passenger operators) and improve geographical coverage of membership.

In terms of the negotiation on the Single Basic Act, the GB was informed that the discussion is ongoing in the Research Working Group in the Council. It is expected to be concluded in a timely manner. The Chair expressed his hope that the future Europe's Rail will still be launched this year.

The representative of DG RTD in the meeting- Philippe Froissard- informed the GB that due to the lack of availability of Rosalinde van der Vlies, he will provide the GB with the latest development on Horizon Europe and the Working Programme.

DG RTD representative informed the GB that the European Commission has adopted the first Horizon Europe work program the last week. Under the framework of Horizon Europe, a total amount of EUR 95.5 billion is reserved for Research & Innovation activities. He invited the participants to compete for grants in open calls and benefit from the opportunities. He indicated the calls for certain topics have been launched last week.

The RTD representative informed the GB on the Research and Innovation Days 2021, an annual event that promotes activities in R&I sector that are supported through the European programmes. He invited

participants to attend the event that will take place between 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June 2021. He pointed to the two specific sessions, a plenary session on the transport sector (24<sup>th</sup> June 2021) and a session that contributes to the European Year of Rail (24<sup>th</sup> June 2021). A link for registration to these events has been provided in the online chat of the meeting.

The GB was informed that the Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya Gabriel, intends to organize a roundtable meeting with the representatives of the rail sector. The meeting, initially planned for July, has been postponed to September. The GB will be informed about the new date.

The RTD representative presented the concept of EU missions that is an integral part of the Horizon Europe framework programme. The missions are designed to address the issues that are of interest to the European citizens. As indicated, a mission that is potentially related to the interest of the rail sector targets climate-neutral and smart cities. The missions are currently under the review by the European Commission.

### **3. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON S2R JU ACTIVITIES**

*For additional details, please refer to the presentation.*

The Executive Director (ED) thanked the Board for the confirmation of his renewal. He provided a brief overview of the activities in the Shift2Rail since the last GB meeting and presented a timeline for the future activities. He informed the GB on the recent staff changes suffered by S2R.

In terms of the European DAC Delivery Programme, the ED presented the current work, with a focus on the preparation for the selection process (coupler head), and definition of stage B criteria.

In terms of the ED Programme Board activities, the Executive Director informed that the current works revolve around supporting the topical working groups of ERA in preparation of TSI2022 revision package. He also informed the work is ongoing in terms of formal methods and Capella engineering tool. At the next PB meeting, a proposal is expected to be presented with regard to the costs and confirmation of the direction for further work. Once the proposal is drafted, it will be submitted for the confirmation to the GB and members of the S2R.

The Industrial Spokesperson (Yves Perreal) asked the ED about the current status of Capella. He indicated that despite the start of a discussion on Capella, there is no continuation of that discussion.



The ED ensured that the work on Capella is ongoing and progressing. The S2R (Giorgio Travaini) confirmed that the current work is focused on the analysis of feasibility of installation and software licenses.

The representative of Siemens (Jürgen Schlacht) commented on the Capella tool. He stressed that it has not yet been confirmed that Capella is a selected engineering tool. He reminded that the current stage relies on the comparison of different tools. He requested to correct the wording in the presentation to avoid pointing to Capella *expressis verbis*. The representative of Alstom (Nicolas Castres Saint Martin) agreed with the concern raised by Siemens. He stressed that the selection is not done, and some companies prefer other solutions. The statement has been endorsed by the representative of CAF (Jorge de Castro). The representative of Deutsche Bahn (Ralf Marxen) stressed that discussion is needed, however, it should not consume too much time. He indicated that a tool is needed for the System Pillar, and Capella has been already discussed at the PB meeting. The representative of Alstom (Nicolas Castres Saint Martin) agreed that a tool is needed, therefore, it is important to frame the selection process in a proper manner.

The ED stressed that the current discussion does not concern the selection of a specific tool. He indicated that Capella has been discussed as one of the possible tools, and the further analysis is going on (i.e. in terms of costs, setting up environment). He endorsed the representative of Deutsche Bahn and stressed that a tool is needed to advance in the architecture setup and definition of the System Pillar. The ED stressed that it is important to select a tool with a capability to interface with other tools also, if necessary. The representative of CAF (Jorge de Castro) suggested to discuss this item during the next Programme Board meeting.

The Executive Director briefly reported on the call for expression of interest and the cooperation with regions and the international organizations. With respect to the experts contracted, the full list will be published by the end of the year. In terms of external cooperation, the ED informed that the S2R signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the CEN and CENELEC, and the cooperation with the bodies will facilitate the standardization processes.

The ED reminded the GB to declare and sign the annual declarations of Conflict of Interest. He stressed that there are still missing declarations from the industry members. The ED stressed that the lack of declarations from the members is at risk to be considered as a conflict of interest. Consequently, members with conflict of interest will not be in a position to vote. S2R monitors the situation. The members who did not provide their declarations and mini CVs are requested to fulfil this obligation.

The ED informed the GB on the upcoming events that are related to the European Year of Rail (i.e. Research & Innovation Days 2021; Connecting Europe Express; Hackathon; S2R Research Innovation Days 2021). He informed the GB on the staff changes in the Communication Unit of S2R.

The Vice-Chairperson of the States Representative Group (Miroslav Haltuf) asked about the opportunity to attend the event organized in Brussels with respect to the Connecting Europe Express. The ED clarified that the general idea is to invite only participants based in Brussels. However, as two meetings will take place in Brussels in early October – the Scientific Committee meeting and the State Representative Group meeting – the participants to the meetings are invited to the Connecting Europe Express event. The ED stressed that the organization of the event is being currently discussed with the Belgian authorities. The representative of Deutsche Bahn (Ralf Marx) expressed interest in supporting the events related to Connecting Europe Express in Germany. He requested the information on contact points. The Chair stressed that every Member State has a national contact point, and the list of national contact points will be distributed among the participants. The ED suggested to contact the Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) that is co-responsible for the organization of events. He also indicated that if necessary, the S2R Communication Unit may help members to promote and facilitate their railway-related events.

#### ***4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE GB OF [INSERT DATE]***

The Chair invited the participants to comment on the minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> Governing Board meeting.

The representative of Alstom (Nicolas Castres Saint Martin) acknowledged the modification to the point 10 of the Minutes. He requested a copy of the opinion of the legal service of the European Commission on Alstom-Bombardier merger with respect to S2R membership. The Chair acknowledged the request and he proposed to check internally if that opinion can be disclosed to the GB members.

The minutes were adopted with no additional changes.

## **ITEMS FOR DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**

#### ***5. ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2020***

The Executive Director informed the GB that the Annual Activity Report 2020 has been distributed in accordance with the GB deadlines. He informed that the comments from the European Commission and the industry members have been incorporated.

The ED presented the key changes and updates to the Annual Activity Report 2020, including clarification on CCA, KPIs, and unique train prize. He presented main updates based on the contributions received with respect to chapter 1.8 on in-kind contribution, chapter 4.3 on ex-post audit, and Annex D Annual Accounts.

### ***Decision***

The Governing Board adopted the Decision of the GB n° 05/2021 on the Annual Activity Report 2020.

## ***6. ADOPTION OF THE FINAL ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2020***

The Executive Director informed the GB that the Final Annual Accounts 2020 have been distributed in accordance with the GB deadlines. The changes have been made in terms of amount of contribution, in line with the elements indicated for the AAR 2020.

The ED mentioned that it can be expected the European Court of Auditor's formulates remarks on the missing Conflict of Interest Declarations and CVs of the GB members.

### ***Decision***

The Governing Board adopted the Decision of the GB n° 04/2021 on the Financial Annual Accounts 2020, providing its opinion too.

## ***7. APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF ACTIONS SELECTED FOR FUNDING UNDER THE SHIFT2RAIL JU CALL FOR PROPOSALS H2020-S2RJU-2021***

The Executive Director informed the GB that the S2R launched a Call 2021 following the amendment of the Annual Plan 2021, making use of administrative appropriation of the S2R for EUR 1.7 million. The ED stressed that the report provided by the external observer is very positive, with some recommendations for consideration, in particular with regard to the role of the observers from the institutional environment (EC, ERA, EUSPA, etc.).

The ED summarized the process of proposal selection. The ED reminded that the industry members who have submitted a proposal in the context of the Call are considered in conflict of interest and they should abstain from voting and commenting.

## *Decision*

The Governing Board adopted the Decision of the GB n° 03/2021 approving the list of actions selected for funding under the Shift2Rail JU call for proposals H2020-S2RJU-2021.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**

### **8. UPDATE ON EU-RAIL EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP**

The representative of DG MOVE (Ian Conlon) provided a brief overview on the current negotiations in the Council on the SBA and the preparatory activities for the Europe's Rail JU.

No major blocking points were observed. There is a general acceptance of the structure and functioning of the future JU. DG MOVE representative expressed his hope that the new JU will be launched by the end of the year.

In terms of preparatory work for the Europe's Rail JU, there are intensive discussions with the Candidate Founding Members in terms of the content of the Master Plan, and the design of the Multiannual Work Programme. As stressed, a System Pillar is a novel element in the JU that draws from S2R JU lessons-learned and best practices from different industries (i.e. aviation, nuclear). In terms of budget, DG MOVE is closely cooperating with DG RTD with regard to legal aspects of the set-up.

The Vice-Chairperson of the States Representative Group (Miroslav Haltuf) thanked the DG MOVE and DG RTD for the work done in the negotiation process. He requested the information on the progress on the Master Plan and Multiannual Work Programme in advance of the SRG meeting that will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021. As stressed, the relevant documents will facilitate preparation of a position of the SRG towards the JU. The representative of DG MOVE (Ian Conlon) stressed that the works on the Master Plan and MAWP are ongoing, therefore, there is no stable text by now. It is, however, possible to provide the SRG with high-level information on the work-in-progress. The Executive Director confirmed that S2R may provide the SRG with the presentation of the planned work. He suggested that either the SGR may consider an additional meeting in September devoted to these issues, or email exchange may be facilitated.

The representative of Deutsche Bahn (Ralf Marxen) asked about the interfaces between the DAC Delivery Programme and the System Pillar. DG MOVE representative stressed that the discussion is ongoing in terms of detailed division of activities between the System Pillar and the Innovation Pillar.

The Industrial Spokesperson (Yves Perreal) asked the Commission about the letters of commitment. He requested the information on the content of the letters. The Executive Director informed that, after having asked to DG RTD, at this moment there is not yet a text available. As soon as the text becomes available, it will be circulated.

The Industrial Spokesperson (Yves Perreal) asked about the potential involvement of the associated countries in terms of Europe's Rail JU's budget. The Chair stressed that the issue of associated countries involvement has been left to the final rounds of negotiations in the Council.

#### ***9. OPPORTUNITIES FOR RAIL IN HORIZON EUROPE WORK PROGRAMME 2021***

The representative of the DG RTD (Philippe Froissard) presented the opportunities for the railway community steaming from the Horizon Europe frameworks (i.e. European Research Council, Maria Sklodowska-Curie Actions, and European Innovation Council). He presented and elaborated on the budget for clusters under the Pillar II of the Horizon Europe. He drew attention to the modalities of applications and deadlines for submission. The Chair reminded that there are several opportunities to be awarded with research grants. The golden principle is to avoid double-funding.

The representative of Deutsche Bahn (Ralf Marxen) asked about the interaction between the projects being financed from the S2R resources and from other sources. The representative of the DG RTD (Philippe Froissard) explained that the organizations need to ensure that there is complementarity and synergy between the projects under the S2R framework and Horizon Europe programme. The key aspect is coordination and a good flow of information. The Executive Director ensured that the work on the future JU is designed in a way that stays in compliance with the work programme of Horizon Europe. He highlighted that the coordination between the JUs and the European Commission should be enhanced in order to avoid situation of lack of access to information. The representative of the DG RTD (Philippe Froissard) acknowledged the need for a better coordination and cooperation between the initiatives. He referred to good practices that have been already developed by different partnerships (i.e. Inter-partnership Assembly developed by the Clean Hydrogen JU).

The representative of Trafikverket (Bo Olsson) asked about the potential deduction from Europe's Rail JU funding in case other activities are financed. The Chair confirmed that the activities financed outside the JU will not be deducted from the contributions to Europe's Rail JU.

## ***10. TAKE-OVER BY MER MEC OF SIRTI***

On behalf of the Mer Mec Patrizia Sforza presented the transfer of branch from SIRTI to MER MEC. The Executive Director informed the GB that Mer Mec, a member of the S2R, has acquired a company that is operating in the open calls. The formal letter has been sent. The common legal service of the DG RTD has been consulted, and the issue will be addressed further, but not at the GB level since it does not affect the membership, but the ongoing grants.

## ***11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS***

### ***1. RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE KPI EXERCISE TO EUROPE'S RAIL JU***

Michael Meyer zu Hörste presented the results of the KPI exercise requested by the EDPB on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Based on the statements and feedback received from all IPs/CCA, EDPB, ERA and Scientific Committee, he presented lessons-learned and recommendations for the management of KPI in the future JU. As stressed, most recommendations go in the same directions (only few were conflicting). The draft document has been finalized, and a one-page executive summary is under the preparation. The recommendations are clustered around four topics: the KPI definition; the KPI assessment process; the modelling tool; and inputs & data management. The timeline for further work has been presented accordingly.

The Industrial Spokesperson (Yves Perreel) asked about the timeline proposed and the status of high-level definition of KPI and feasible targets. Michael Meyer zu Hörste stressed that due to the ongoing discussion on Flagship Areas definition, the discussion on KPI should be postponed. The Executive Director endorsed this statement pointing to the need to ensure coherence between the FAs and KPIs. He informed the GB on a planned meeting with the JCR on KPI, with respect to aspects related to confidentiality, access to information, etc.

The representative of Knorr-Bremse (Hans-Christian Hilse) asked about the legal framework that provides a basis for grant agreements. He asked for a confirmation whether there are plans to change or modify the current model grant agreements. The Executive Director clarified that the proposed model grant agreements for Horizon Europe are available now. They will be similar to the MGAs under the Europe's Rail JU, with certain modifications (i.e. linked to the different institutional nature of the Commission and Europe's Rail). The Horizon Europe Regulation and the MGAs for Horizon Europe will be distributed among the members.

**2. APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE TO PERFORM THE ROLE OF REPORTING OFFICER FOR THE 2020 PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The representative of DG MOVE (Ana Maria Fimin) notified the GB that Kristian Schmidt, in his new role, also replaces Elisabeth Werner as Commission Reporting Officer with regard to the annual performance assessment of the Executive Director, as of 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021. In the same manner, Mr Yves Perreal as Industry Spokesperson is the second Reporting Officer in accordance with the GB Decision.

**3. INDICATIVE LIST OF DOCUMENTS TO BE ADOPTED BY WRITTEN PROCEDURE OR AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING**

There are no expected documents to be adopted by written procedure.

**4. INDICATIVE DATES OF THE NEXT MEETING(S):**

The next meeting of the GB is planned on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Depending on the progress in adopting the Single Basic Act, the meeting will either be the last Shift2Rail GB meeting, or possibly the first meeting of the GB of Europe's Rail JU.

Done in Brussels on 22 June 2021.

Signed:



Henrik HOLELEI  
Chairman of the Governing Board