

## DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

### approving the Back Office Arrangements- information and communication technologies

N° 5/2024

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPE'S RAIL JOINT UNDERTAKING, (hereafter referred as "EU-RAIL")

Having regard to the Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085 of 19 November 2021 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe and repealing Regulations (EC) No 219/2007, (EU) No 557/2014, (EU) No 558/2014, (EU) No 559/2014, (EU) No 560/2014, (EU) No 561/2014 and (EU) No 642/2014<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Recital 12, Articles 13, 17(1) and 19(4)(w) thereof;

Whereas:

- (1) According to Article 13(1) of the Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085, in order to gain synergies and efficiencies, the Joint Undertakings established by this Regulation should operate back-office arrangements (hereafter "BOAs") in several areas listed in this article.
- (2) Those BOAs should be operated by the Joint Undertaking within one year following the date of entry into force of Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085.
- (3) The establishment of those BOAs should take the form of service level agreements, subject to the need to guarantee an equivalent level of protection of the Union's financial interest when entrusting budgetary implementation tasks to Joint Undertakings.
- (4) To ensure an effective and efficient implementation of the BOAs, during its 5th meeting held on 30 November 2022<sup>2</sup> the Governing Board of EU-Rail empowered the EU-Rail Executive Director to negotiate and sign the Service Level Agreements linked to the Back Office Arrangements and approved the proposal for BOA for Accounting Services as recorded in the minutes. By decision n° 12-2023<sup>3</sup> the EU-Rail Governing Board approved the BOA for Human resources and the BOA for Procurement.
- (5) Following the formal proposal for BOA in the area of information and communication technologies sent by the Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking to the Executive Directors

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 427, 30.11.2021, p. 17–119

<sup>2</sup> [https://rail-research.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/GB-Minutes\\_5th\\_GB\\_Meeting\\_30Nov\\_HH-signed.pdf](https://rail-research.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/GB-Minutes_5th_GB_Meeting_30Nov_HH-signed.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://rail-research.europa.eu/about-europes-rail/europes-rail-structure-of-governance/europes-rail-governing-board/>

of the Joint Undertakings, on 20 December 2023 EU-Rail expressed an interest in joining this BOA<sup>4</sup>.

- (6) On 7 March 2024 the EU-Rail Acting Executive Director communicated to the Governing Board the concept note for BOA information and communication technologies.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

The Governing Board of EU-Rail hereby approves the Back Office Arrangement for information and communication technologies proposed by Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking.

*Article 2*

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, on 9 April 2024.

For the Governing Board

Magda KOPCZYNSKA  
*The Chairperson*

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<sup>4</sup>Joint Undertakings – Back-office arrangements for ICT (internal reference Ares(2024)442481)