

DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

Approving the call for expression of interest with a view to selecting associated members with the potential to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking

N° 09/2024

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

Having regard to 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 642/2014¹, and in particular Articles 6, 7, 28 and point (c) of Article 87(1).

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Article 7(1) of Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085 and given EU-RAIL has its founding members listed in Annex II of that Regulation, the EU-RAIL is to launch open and transparent calls for expression of interest with a view to selecting associated members with the potential to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the joint undertaking.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7(2) of Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085, the executive director shall assess the applications for membership with the assistance of independent experts on the basis of documented knowledge, experience and added value of the applicant in achieving the objectives of the joint undertaking, the applicant's financial soundness and long-term commitment for financial and in-kind contributions to the joint undertaking, and taking into account potential conflicts of interest.
- (3) During the 9th Governing Board meeting held on 5 December 2023², the Executive Director a.i. presented to the Governing Board the indicative planning and the process leading to the selection of associated members. This included the setup of a dedicated Task Force, within the ED System and Innovation Programme Board (ED-SIPB).
- (4) The EU-RAIL States Representative Group and the Scientific Steering Group were informed about the process for the selection of associated members in their meetings of 28 and 20 February 2024 respectively. They were both consulted on the preparation of the call for expression of interest in their meetings of 14 and 15 May 2024 respectively.

¹ OJL 427 of 30/11/2021, p. 17, as amended by Council Regulation (EU) 2023/1782 of 25 July 2023 amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe, as regards the Chips Joint Undertaking.

² https://rail-research.europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/09-GB-Meeting_minutes.final_.pdf

- (5) The Acting Executive Director presented the outcome of the Task Force work to the Governing Board in its 10th meeting on 9 April 2024. The Acting Executive Director also consulted the ED-SIPB on 3 May 2024.
- (6) Considering that in accordance with Article 7(2) of Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085 the Governing Board is to assess and approve the application of the associated members of EU-RAIL, it is appropriate that it approves the content of the call for expression of interest with the aim of selecting EU-RAIL associated members before its publication on the on the Joint Undertaking's website.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The documentation included in Annex I of this Decision related to the Europe's Rail call for expression of interest for associated members is thereby approved for publication on the EU-RAIL website.

Article 2

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

Done at Brussels, on 21 June 2024.

For the Governing Board



Magda KOPCZYNSKA
The Chairperson

Annex: Europe's Rail call for expression of interest for associated members in accordance with Article 7(1) of Council Regulation (EU) No 2021/2085