

DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

Selection of associated members with the potential to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking

N° 01-2025

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085¹ 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, as last amended by Council Regulation (EU) 2023/1782 of 25 July 2023, and in particular Articles 2(3), 6, 7, 17(2) point (b), 19(4) point (k), 28 and point (c) of Article 87(1) therein,

Having regard to the EU-RAIL Governing Board decision $n^{\circ}09-2024^{2}$ 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.

Whereas:

- Upon adoption of the above-mentioned Governing Board decision n° 09-2024, EU-RAIL published an open call for expression of interest³ with a view to selecting EU-RAIL associated members on its website, and announced it on its social media, with a deadline for submission of applications on 4 November 2024, at 12.00 CET/Brussels time;
- (2) In accordance with Article 7(2) and 19(4)(k) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2085, the EU-RAIL Executive Director shall assess the applications for associated members and present a list of pre-selected applicants to the Governing Board for its approval;
- (3) The EU-RAIL Executive Director ensured the assessment of the applications submitted, with the assistance of independent external and EU-RAIL experts, in accordance with the assessment process set in the above referred call for expression of interest;
- (4) The Governing Board took note and acknowledged the "Executive Director's assessment report of the applications for Associated Members of EU-Rail for the presentation of a short-list for the Governing Board final assessment and selection, and European Commission endorsement, in view of the negotiation and signature of the Letters of Commitment with the Executive Director";

¹ OJ L 427, 30.11.2021, p. 17—119. Current consolidated version: <u>21/09/2023</u>

² <u>https://rail-research.europa.eu/about-europes-rail/europes-rail-structure-of-governance/europes-rail-governing-board/</u>

³ <u>https://rail-research.europa.eu/participate/call-for-expression-of-interest-with-a-view-to-selecting-eu-rail-associated-members/</u>



- (5) Based on the output of the technical assessment report (Ares(2024)9071139) and the above referred Executive Director's assessment report (Ares(2025)122803) the EU-RAIL Executive Director proposes to the Governing Board to select the following applicants as EU-RAIL associated members⁴:
 - (1) ACCIONA CONSTRUCCIÓN S.A.
 - (2) FREQUENTIS AG
 - (3) INFRAESTRUCTURAS DE PORTUGAL S.A.
 - (4) KONTRON TRANSPORTATION GMBH
 - (5) XLAB D.O.O;

In accordance with Article 33 (confidentiality) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2085, neither the technical assessment report nor the EU-Rail Executive Director's assessment report will be published.

- (6) Article 17.2(b) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 provides that the EU-RAIL Governing Board assesses, accepts or rejects the applications for membership based on the list proposed by the Executive Director in accordance with Article 7 of that Regulation;
- (7) According to Article 87(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2085, the list of EU-RAIL associated members is to be endorsed by the Commission;
- (8) In accordance with the above referred call for expression of interests and Article 6(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2085, the EU-RAIL Executive Director should be empowered to enter into negotiations with the selected entities endorsed by the Commission in accordance with Article 87(1) of that Regulation and confirming their engagement to become associated member will be required to enter into negotiations with the EU-RAIL Executive Director in order to finalise their Letter of Commitment detailing the scope of the membership in terms of content, activities and its duration, as well as the contributions to the Joint Undertaking, including an indication of the envisaged additional activities.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The following applicants⁵ are, upon their endorsement by the Commission, selected as associated members with the potential to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking:

- (1) ACCIONA CONSTRUCCIÓN S.A.
- (2) FREQUENTIS AG
- (3) INFRAESTRUCTURAS DE PORTUGAL S.A.
- (4) KONTRON TRANSPORTATION GMBH
- (5) XLAB D.O.O

⁵ Idem as footnote n°4.

⁴ By alphabetical order.



Article 2

In accordance with Governing Board decision $n^{\circ}09-2024$, upon endorsement by the Commission, all the applicants will be notified simultaneously and individually by registered e-mail of the decision reached by the EU-Rail's Governing Board and will receive their individual "Assessment Consensus Report" as drawn up by the assessment panel.

Article 3

The EU-RAIL Executive Director is empowered to enter into negotiations with the selected applicants referred to in Article 1 upon their endorsement by the Commission in order to finalise their Letter of Commitment.

Done at Brussels, on 5 February 2025.

For the Governing Board

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Magda KOPCZYNSKA The Chairperson

