

DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

N°09/2025

on the adoption of the Work Programme 2026

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 points (f) and (k) of Article 17(2) and point (b) of Article 94 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing Horizon Europe - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination²,

Having regard to the positive scientific advice of the EU-RAIL Scientific Steering Group and to the positive opinion of the EU-RAIL States' Representatives Group expressed at their meetings of 21 and 22 October 2025, respectively.

Whereas:

- 1) The Governing Board shall adopt the Work Programme of the Joint Undertaking and the corresponding expenditure estimates as proposed by the Executive Director after having consulted the Scientific Steering Group, the States' Representatives Group and the System Pillar Steering Group.
- 2) The Governing Board shall also adopt the annual budget of the Joint Undertaking, as proposed by the Executive Director, including the staff establishment plan.
- 3) The Governing Board shall approve the annual additional activities plan, set out in an annex to the main part of the work programme, on the basis of a proposal from the members other than the Union and after having consulted the EU-RAIL Scientific Steering Group and after taking into consideration the States' Representatives Group's opinion. The IKAA plans is proposed for amendment.

¹ OJ L 427, 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 OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p.1

- 4) The System Pillar Steering Group confirmed the budget and implementation plan with regard to the System Pillar on 19/11/2025³, which were duly considered by the Executive Director on 21/11/2025.
- 5) The comments received in the consultation process from the Members of the Joint Undertaking, by the Scientific Steering Group, the States' Representatives Group, the System Pillar Steering Group and the European Union Agency for Railways were duly considered by the Executive Director and, when appropriate and possible, included in the final version.
- 6) The necessary appropriations for the implementation of the Work Programme for 2026 are provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2026 which has not yet been adopted.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Work Programme 2026 set out in the Annex of this Decision is hereby adopted.

Article 2

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2026.

Article 3

The Executive Director shall make this decision publicly available on the EU-RAIL's website.

Article 4

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

Done at Brussels, on 2 December 2025.

For the Governing Board



Magda KOPCZYNSKA
The Chairperson

Annex: Work Programme 2026 of the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking

³ Internal reference Ares(2025)10136830).