

DECISION 15/2023  
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF  
THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

ON THE EIC-EIT JOINT WORKING GROUP

**THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY,**

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 2021/819 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (recast) (hereafter the 'EIT Regulation'), in particular 2 (h) of Section 2 the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation<sup>1</sup>;

Having regard to Decision 18/2021 of the EIT Governing Board of 7 May 2021 on the Rules of Procedure of the EIT Governing Board and Executive Committee<sup>2</sup>, in particular, Article 20;

Having regard to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the European Innovation Council (EIC) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) concluded on 8 January 2021<sup>3</sup>;

Having regard to Decision 11/2023 of the EIT Governing Board of 12 May 2023 on setting the honoraria for the member of the EIT Governing Board its chairperson, the members of the Executive Committee, the EIT GB Rapporteurs and members of the EIT GB Advisory Groups of the EIT<sup>4</sup>;

Having regard to the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group Terms of Reference<sup>5</sup>;

**WHEREAS**

- (1) The European Innovation Council (EIC) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 8 January 2021 with the objective to work together, to design and implement a fully-fledged systemic and structural cooperation, at both strategic and operational levels, whereby European innovators, innovative SMEs and startups, higher education institutions and research organisations should receive high-level support and services in order to deploy and scale their innovations faster and with greater impact.
- (2) In line with the MoU, the EIC Board and the EIT Governing Board established a permanent joint Working Group, composed of at least three members of each Board, with mandate to oversee implementation of complementarities, identify opportunities for stronger cooperation, and report to both Boards.
- (3) The EIT Governing Board members of the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group shall report to the Governing Board via the Executive Committee in line with the Rules of Procedure of the EIT Governing Board and Executive Committee.
- (4) The term of office of the EIT GB representatives in the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group, shall be two years. This term of office may be extended once for a period not exceeding two years.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 61–90

<sup>2</sup> Ares (2021)3139636

<sup>3</sup> [Memorandum of Understanding-eic-eit\\_08012021\\_signed.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> Ares(2023)3471368

<sup>5</sup> Ares(2023)1450629

- (5) The EIT Governing Board members appointed as members of the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group shall receive an annual fixed amount for the work performed in this regard as set out in Decision of the Governing Board of EIT on setting the honoraria for the member of the EIT Governing Board its chairperson, the members of the Executive Committee, the EIT GB Rapporteurs and members of the EIT GB Advisory Groups of the EIT.

**HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**Article 1**

**Membership, composition and mandate**

- (1) The EIC-EIT Joint Working Group is composed of representatives of the EIC Board and representatives of the EIT Governing Board. The EIC Board and EIT Governing Board are responsible for nominating their respective members and co-chairs, and for renewing membership when a member steps down. The EIC-EIT Working Group will decide on a chair, in agreement with the Chair / President of the EIC Board and the Chair of the EIT Governing Board. Unless decided otherwise, the chair shall rotate between an EIC Board and EIT Governing Board member on a yearly basis<sup>6</sup>.
- (2) The EIT GB members of the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group report to the Governing Board of the EIT via the Executive Committee in line with the Rules of Procedure of the EIT Governing Board and Executive Committee.
- (3) The appointment of at least three members of the EIT Governing Board and alternate(s) shall be made by the EIT Governing Board and they shall be selected from among its members.
- (4) The members of the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group and their alternate(s) appointed hereby by the Governing Board of the EIT shall serve for a period of two years. This term of office may be extended by the Governing Board once for a period not exceeding two years.
- (5) Should a member's position be vacated for whatever reason before the end of their service, a new member shall be appointed.
- (6) As mentioned in the Terms of Reference, the EIC-EIT Working Group will have advisers from the Commission (DG RTD and DG EAC) and for DG EAC Mr Luca Perego is assigned with this role.

**Article 2**

**Scope and objectives**

- (1) The scope and objectives of the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group are laid down in its Terms of Reference<sup>7</sup>.
- (2) The Working Group shall focus on the strategic development of the cooperation whereas the EIT and EISMEA will deal in direct cooperation with the implementation of the already identified synergy areas and agenda.
- (3) The High-level objectives of the Working Group are as follows:
  - a) Oversee implementation of the joint actions that have been agreed between EIC and EIT and endorsed by the European Commission.
  - b) Identify opportunities for enhanced cooperation and make recommendations for new joint actions to be included in the respective work programmes of the EIC and EIT.
  - c) Develop a vision for long-term strategy on the cooperation between EIC and EIT.
  - d) Advise the EIC and EIT Boards and management regarding strategy, implementation and positioning to reinforce synergise and complementarities.

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<sup>6</sup> Ares(2023)1450629

<sup>7</sup> Ares(2023)1450629

- e) Align and amplify messages towards common stakeholders, as appropriate.
- f) Review the MoU periodically and propose amendments to the EIC and EIT Boards as necessary.

### **Article 3**

#### **Functioning of the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group**

- (1) The functioning of the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group is detailed by its Terms of Reference<sup>8</sup>.
- (2) The permanent joint Working Group is set up for an indefinite period, subject to the validity of the MoU in line with the applicable EU legal framework.
- (3) The meetings of the EIT-EIC Joint Working Group shall take place on a quarterly basis, however, actual tasks may trigger more or less frequent meetings.
- (4) The meetings of the Working Group will be aligned with the EIC and EIT Board meetings and the key dates in the process of establishing the respective annual work programmes.
- (5) The EIC and the EIT shall provide to a joint Secretariat function to the Working Group, which includes the coordination of the meetings, preparation of the draft agenda and topics for discussion, preparation of minutes and reports. In particular, the joint Secretariat will provide an update for each meeting on the implementation of joint activities. Members of the Working Group may propose additional topics for discussion.

### **Article 4**

#### **Appointment of the Governing Board members for the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group**

- (1) The following members of the EIT Governing Board are appointed as members of the EIC-EIT Joint working Group: Attila VEGH, Nora KHALDI and Silvia LENAERTS.
- (2) The following members of the Governing Board are appointed as alternate members of the EIC-EIT Joint Working Group: Stefan DOBREV and Paul RÜBIG.
- (3) Their mandate starts on 12 May 2023 and will end on 11 May 2025.
- (4) The term of office of the members of the EIT Governing Board appointed as representatives for this Conflict of Interest Advisory Committee shall automatically terminate in any of the following cases:
  - a. if his/her term of office as member of the EIT Governing Board expires without extension,
  - b. or in the event that s/he is unable to complete his/her term of office,
  - c. or because of the end of his/her term of office as members of the EIT Governing Board.

### **Article 5**

#### **Reimbursement of expenses**

An annual fixed amount shall be paid to the three members of the Advisory Group appointed by the EIT Governing Board according to Article 4. 3.b) of Decision 11/2023 of the Governing Board of the EIT setting the Honoraria of the members of the Governing Board and the members of the Executive Committee of the EIT.

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<sup>8</sup> Ares(2023)1450629

Article 6  
Entry into force

This decision shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

Done in Budapest on 12 May 2023<sup>9</sup>

*(e-signed)*

Nektarios Tavernarakis  
Chair of the EIT Governing Board

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<sup>9</sup> Adopted by means of written procedure on 12 May 2023