

DECISION 8/2018
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

ON THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR NEW EIT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

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

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2008 establishing the European Institute of Innovation and Technology¹, as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1292/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013² ('EIT Regulation'), in particular to the Statutes annexed thereto ('Statutes'), Section 1(2) and (4);

Having regard to the Guiding principles adopted by the Governing Board in April 2010 on the replacement of appointed EIT Governing Board members;³

Having regard to the Decision of the Governing Board of 10 July 2014 on the terms of office of the appointed Governing Board members⁴;

Having regard to Decision 13/2015 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 3 June 2015 on the Code of Good Conduct on conflicts of interest for members of the EIT Governing Board;

Having regard to Decision 30/2017 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 23 November 2017 on the Endorsement of the proposed shortlist to the selection for new appointed members of the GB⁵

WHEREAS

- (1) The mandate of four appointed Governing Board Members expires on 30 June 2018.
- (2) In addition, one Governing Board Member tendered her resignation to the EIT in her capacity as EIT Governing Board Members on 30 May 2017. She would have ended her mandate as EIT Governing Board member on 30 June 2020.
- (3) As laid down in the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation, in the event that an appointed member is unable to complete his/her term of office, a substitute member shall be appointed by the same procedure as the incapacitated member in order to complete the latter's term of office. A substitute member who

¹ OJ L 97, 9.4.2008, p. 1.

² OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 174.

³ EIT GB (10) 13 2.2a REPLACEMENT GB MEMBERS.

⁴ 01729.EIT.2014.I.

⁵ 11581.EIT.2017.I.GB49

has served for a period of less than two years may be re-appointed by the Commission for an additional period of four years at the request of the Governing Board.

- (4) The EIT Governing Board shall consist of 12 appointed members, appointed by the Commission, providing a balance between those with experience in business, higher education and research. They shall have a four-year non-renewable term of office.
- (5) Following the Decision of the EIT Governing Board on the Selection Procedure⁶, a Call for expression of interest was launched on 3 August 2017 for the appointment of five new EIT Governing Board members. According to the selection procedure laid down in the above-mentioned Call, the EIT Governing Board submitted a proposed shortlist of three candidates (out of the five vacant positions) to the European Commission for appointment. The EIT Governing Board could not find a suitable candidate to replace the Governing Board member unable to complete her term of office. Equally, the EIT Governing board could not find a suitable candidate to replace one of the four outgoing EIT GB members as of 1 July 2018.
- (6) The EIT Governing Board decided to relaunch the call for expressions of interest to identify suitable candidates to replace the two vacant posts as EIT Governing Board members.
- (7) The candidates should be chosen on the basis of the outcome of a transparent and open procedure.
- (8) The Governing Board members are appointed by the Commission based on a proposal for appointment of new members.
- (9) The members of the Governing Board shall participate in their personal capacity and act having in mind only the best interests of the EIT and its mission, independently from any academic, institutional or political conflicts of interest.
- (10) A sectorial, geographic and gender balance among Board members must be ensured.
- (11) Members of the Governing Board are bound by the Code of Good Conduct on conflicts of interest for members of the EIT Governing Board.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 *Selection process*

The proposal for the appointment of new members of the EIT Governing Board shall be subject to the procedure set out in Annex I.

Article 2 *Steering Committee*

The composition, mandate and role of the Steering Committee for the selection process for new members of the EIT Governing Board is hereby adopted as set out in Annex II.

Article 3 *Timeline of the selection procedure*

The indicative timeline for the selection procedure for the appointment of new members of the Governing Board is hereby adopted as set out in Annex III.

Article 4

⁶ Decision 18/2017 of the Governing Board of 2 August 2017 on the selection process of the EIT Governing Board members;

Entry into force

This decision shall enter into force on the day of its signature

Done in Budapest on 22 March 2018

Signed

Peter Olesen

Chairman of the EIT Governing Board

ANNEX I

Selection process for the appointment of new members of the EIT Governing Board

1. The selection procedure shall follow the requirements laid down in the Statutes of the EIT Regulation (Annex, Section 1(2)).
2. The EIT intends to submit to the Commission a proposal for the appointment of two new members of the Governing Board.
3. Considering that the mandate of four EIT Governing Board ends on 30 June 2018, the EIT intends to submit to the Commission a proposal for the appointment of a new member for a period of four years. The new member's mandate will not be renewed as per the Statutes of the EIT Regulation.
4. Considering that another member should be appointed to substitute the GB member unable to complete her term of office, and whose mandate would have ended on 30 June 2020, the EIT intends to submit to the Commission a proposal for the appointment of another new member of the Governing Board till 30 June 2020.
5. The selection process is expected to take around 5-6 months following the setting up of the Steering Committee⁷.
6. The Governing Board shall approve the establishment of a Steering Committee and shall decide on its composition, role and mandate⁸.

I. Call for expression of interest and selection criteria

7. This selection process shall consist of a call for expression of interest.
8. The said call is for the selection of two new EIT GB members out of which one candidate should be appointed as replacement of Ms María Garaña⁹.
9. Mandate of the new EIT GB Member, replacing one of the four outgoing EIT GB members as of 30 June 2018, should be four years non-renewable.
10. Mandate of the new EIT GB member, substituting Ms María Garaña shall initially run till 30 June 2020. A substitute member who has served for a period of less than two years may be re-appointed by the Commission for an additional period of four years at the request of the Governing Board.
11. Start of the period of the term of office of the new EIT GB Members should be counted from the day of the official appointment by the European Commission.
12. The Steering Committee, appointed to identify potential candidates as new EIT GB members shall decide during the application process (including potential interviews) which candidate shall be proposed to replace Ms María Garaña, based on profile and background.
13. The above-mentioned call shall be published on the EIT website and shall remain open for at least six weeks. Similarly, the call will be disseminated via the EIT's stakeholder network by e-mail, including the EU institutions, Member States, and multiplier organisations from the Knowledge Triangle, in order to attract the right calibre of applicants.
14. The following criteria shall be specified in the call for expression of interest: eligibility criteria and specific criteria.

⁷ See Annex II.

⁸ See Annex II.

⁹ The mandate of Ms Garaña would have ended on 30 June 2020.

a) Eligibility criteria:¹⁰

The EIT shall assess the eligibility of individual candidates against the following mandatory criteria:

- *Professional Experience* — Have at least 5 years' experience
- *Languages* — Have an excellent knowledge of the English language.

In addition to the above requirements, the following exclusion criteria will be considered:

- The candidate is in a situation of conflict of interest within the meaning of the Code of Good Conduct on conflicts of interest for members of the EIT Governing Board.
- The candidate has been convicted of an offence concerning his/her professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata.
- The candidate has been found guilty of grave professional misconduct.
The candidate has been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity detrimental to the Union's financial interests.

b) Specific criteria:

The new members of the EIT Governing Board must demonstrate:

- a strong track record and widespread reputation in at least one, of the following fields: innovator, academic, scientist, entrepreneur, business leader, or investor,
- outstanding networking at European or global level;
- a track record of knowledge triangle integration, i.e. cooperation between business, research and education to foster innovation;
- a strong track record of experience and ability to mobilise private, public or philanthropic resources;

15. The call for expression of interest shall also indicate the main reasons for considering an application as incomplete or incorrectly submitted.

II. Applications

16. Applications shall be submitted via e-mail to a functional mailbox (EIT-APPLICATIONS-GB@eit.europa.eu) before expiry of the deadline specified in the call for expression of interest.
17. The candidates will be assessed on the basis of the merit related criteria.
18. Applications shall be submitted in English and shall contain the following:
- a) a detailed curriculum vitae (CV) (*including a high resolution profile photo*)
 - b) the application form: identification, selection criteria (including eligibility, exclusion and specific criteria) and motivation, duly signed and completed by the candidate;

¹⁰ Final wording is subject to the approval of the Steering Committee nominated to the selection of the GB Members

III. Internal Selection Procedure — Governance

19. Following the closing of the call for expression of interest and after receipt of the applications, the EIT Staff shall compile a list of the applications received. The EIT Staff shall check whether the applications are complete and have been correctly submitted. In the interest of the EIT, where a deficiency has been corrected in an application, such application may be included in the list of proposed candidates.
20. The EIT Staff shall then perform a further quality review of the above-mentioned list of applications. In this preliminary assessment/quality review, the EIT Staff should take into account the eligibility criteria set out above.
21. EIT Staff who are involved in the assessment of applications are required to disclose any potential conflicts of interest in relation to any of the applications received.
22. After establishing the preliminary list of candidates, the EIT Staff shall forward this list to the Steering Committee.
23. The Steering Committee shall analyse this list of candidates and evaluate the applications received against a set of criteria.
24. A decision on a proposed list of candidates shall be taken by the Steering Committee in consultation with the European Commission Observer. The Steering Committee will propose a shortlist of a maximum four candidates to the European Commission, out of which two will be shortlisted to substitute the GB member who was unable to complete her term of office. Two other candidates will be shortlisted to replace one of the four outgoing EIT GB members as of 30 June 2018.
25. Before the proposed list is submitted to the Governing Board for its adoption, the Steering Committee may decide to interview the highest scored candidates¹¹. The final list of proposed candidates shall be submitted by the Steering Committee to the EIT Governing Board for its approval.
26. The EIT Governing Board will forward the proposed list of candidates to the European Commission for the appointment of the two new EIT Governing Board members. Those candidates not appointed by the European Commission may be invited to constitute a reserve list to be used in the event of the need to replace appointed members who are unable to complete their mandate¹².

IV. Appointment of new members of the Governing Board

27. On the basis of a proposal submitted by the EIT Governing Board, the Commission will send a report summarising the selection process and its results to the Council and the European Parliament, who have a period of one month to take cognisance of the outcome of the selection process. The new members of the Governing Board will then be appointed by means of a Commission Decision.
28. This call is for the selection of two new EIT GB members out of which one candidate should be appointed as replacement of the GB member who resigned on 30 May 2017. The mandate of the new EIT GB member, substituting the GB member who resigned on 30 May 2017, shall initially run till 30 June 2020¹³. The mandate of the other new EIT GB member, replacing one of the outgoing EIT GB members as of 30 June 2018, should be four years non-renewable from the moment of his/her appointment.

¹¹ Based on the threshold agreed by the Steering Committee.

¹² The reserve list shall remain valid for three years from the date of the appointment of the new member(s) of the Governing Board by the European Commission.

¹³ As laid down in Annex, Section 1. 2, of the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation, a substitute member who has served for a period of less than two years may be re-appointed by the Commission for an additional period of four years at the request of the Governing Board.

Annex II

Mandate of the Steering Committee for the selection process for the new members of the EIT Governing Board

I. Composition

29. The **Steering Committee** (hereinafter 'SC') is appointed by the EIT Governing Board and shall be responsible for drawing up and submitting to the EIT Governing Board a list of potential candidates for the selection of two new members of the Governing Board. The Steering Committee is composed of three members of the EIT Governing Board, to be appointed by the EIT Governing Board, and of one observer from the European Commission.

II. Mandate

30. The Steering Committee is fully mandated to approve the text for the call for expression of interest (hereinafter 'the call text') in view of the appointment of the new members of the EIT Governing Board proposed by the EIT in consultation with the European Commission.
31. Following the closing of the call and after receipt of the applications, the EIT Staff shall produce a list of the applications received. The Steering Committee may decide to extend the duration of the call for expression of interest if an insufficient number of applications has been received.
32. The Steering Committee shall analyse the proposed list of candidates submitted by the EIT Staff. The Steering Committee shall evaluate the applications received against a set of criteria. The Steering Committee may decide to invite shortlisted candidates for an interview before the proposed list of candidates is finalised and submitted to the Governing Board for its approval.

III. Role of the Steering Committee

33. The Steering Committee shall identify and approve a proposed list of candidates in consultation with the European Commission Observer. The Steering Committee will propose a shortlist of a maximum four candidates to the European Commission, out of which two will be shortlisted to substitute Ms María Garaña. Two candidates will be shortlisted to replace one of the four outgoing EIT GB members as of 30 June 2018.
34. Before the proposed list is submitted to the Governing Board for its adoption, the Steering Committee may decide to invite at least four and maximum eight candidates for an interview. The final list of proposed candidates shall be submitted by the Steering Committee to the EIT Governing Board for its approval.
35. Once the final list for the appointment of the new Governing Board members has been adopted by the EIT Governing Board, it will be forwarded to the European Commission, which will formally appoint the two new Governing Board members.
36. The Steering Committee shall guarantee that the principles of transparency, neutrality and absence of conflict of interest are respected. In this regard, EIT Staff are required to assess and disclose any conflicts of interest they may have in relation to any of the candidates proposed by the Steering Committee in accordance with the Code of Good Conduct on conflicts of interest for members of the EIT Governing Board.¹⁴ The Steering Committee is expected to produce a Selection Report at the end of the process, which will be submitted to the EIT Governing Board and the European Commission.

¹⁴ Decision 13/2015 of the EIT Governing Board of 3 June 2015. Ref.no. 00227 EIT 2015 IU GB35.

37. The EIT Director shall provide secretariat support to the Steering Committee. During the selection process, the Commission Observer at the EIT Governing Board will be consulted in relation to the implementation of the selection criteria and of the principles of transparency, neutrality and absence of conflict of interest. The EIT will cover the travel and accommodation expenses of the SC members.
38. Following the appointment of the three members of the Steering Committee, the EIT shall publish a news item informing stakeholders about the upcoming call as well as of the establishment of the Steering Committee and the names of its members.

IV. Role of the Steering Committee Chairperson

39. The members of the Steering Committee (SC) shall appoint a Chairperson who will lead and coordinate the work of the SC. The Chairperson shall ensure the full independence of the Steering Committee.
40. The Chairperson shall communicate progress regarding the selection process to the EIT Governing Board and the European Commission and shall draw up a Selection Process Report at the end of the process.

Annex III

Timeline of the selection procedure¹⁵

The procedure for the selection of the five new EIT Governing Board members will last approximately six months, including Interservice Consultation within the European Commission. In order to ensure appropriate on-boarding of the new Governing Board members, in compliance with the following timeline and actions is recommended:

Steps to be followed	Description	Responsible entity	Timeframe	
			From	To
Approval of the selection procedure, selection criteria and timeline Appointment of the Steering Committee Adoption of the call text	The Governing Board shall approve: 1) the selection procedure for the proposal for the appointment of the four new members of the EIT Governing Board, the selection criteria and the related timeline in consultation with the European Commission; 2) the appointment and the mandate of the Steering Committee. 3) the call for the expression of interest for the appointment of two new EIT GB members	GB	22 March 2018	22 March 2018
Launch of the call and collection of applications	The call text will be published on the EIT website. A wide dissemination among relevant stakeholders will be ensured by the EIT Community. The EIT Director will ensure that applications are processed in accordance with data protection rules.	EIT/Steering Committee/ Commission	Publication March 2018	Deadline: end May 2018
Evaluation and shortlist of candidates Adoption of the list of the proposed candidates by the EIT Governing Board	Steering Committee will evaluate the applications submitted within the deadline. The Steering Committee will propose a list of candidates to the Governing Board providing justification of their opinion. List of other candidates and their evaluation will also be available to GB Members and the Commission Observer in a report. Data protection requirements have to be assured. The EIT Governing Board will adopt the list proposed by the Steering Committee	Steering Committee (involving the Commission Observer at the EIT Governing Board) GB	May –July 2018 July 2018	July - August 2018 July 2018

¹⁵ The timeline of the selection procedure indicated in the table below is indicative.

Submission of the proposed list of candidates to the European Commission	Following the adoption of the list by the GB, it will be formally sent by the GB Chairperson to the Commission (with the Steering Committee in copy).		July 2018	July 2018
Appointment by the Commission	The Commission will consider the proposed list with regard to the balance between higher education, research, innovation and business experience as well as to gender balance and an appreciation of the higher education, research and innovation environments across the Union. On this basis, the Commission will appoint the new members of the GB. The Commission should inform the European Parliament and the Council about the selection process and the final appointment of the member of the Governing Board. 'The appointed candidates will be informed by the Commission. Those who have not been appointed will be informed by the EIT, depending on their individual situation.'	Commission	November – December 2018	November-December 2018