**Memorandum of Understanding**

**[ERA-NET Plus/ Cofund] Call**

Established between the following organisations

[Name Organisation]

[Name Organisation]

[Name Organisation]

[…]

Referred to hereinafter as “**the Parties**”.

The Parties agree as follows:

1. **Scope of MoU**

The Parties intend to issue a Transnational Call for Collaborative Proposals in the area of [Name of research field].

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) sets out the principles dictating the common action of the Parties with respect to the organization and management in [year] of a transnational call for collaborative proposals in the field of [Name of research field].

This MoU is a common statement of intent by all the Parties which agree to make every reasonable effort to fulfill the interests expressed herein.

For each Party the MoU will come into force on the date of signature by the Parties’ authorized representative and shall remain into force until the end of the funded projects (no later than [Date]).

The parties have requested the financial support of the European Commission (EC) by submitting a proposal for an [ERA-NET scheme/cofund] action in response to the [name of the programme, year and topic of the call] call launched by the EC. In case the proposal for an [ERA-NET scheme/cofund] is not accepted, the Parties agree to maintain the organization of the joint call.

1. Governance and operational management of call

Two bodies are created fro the governance and concrete implementation of the call:

* The [name, i.e. Management, Governing] Board is in charge of the coordination between all Parties and takes the decisions relating to items that would not be covered by this MoU and for which decision authority was not explicitly given to the [name secretariat body]. In addition, the [name, i.e. Management, Governing] Board will decide on the list of projects recommended for funding in accordance with the provisions of sections [number of section/s of the MoU concerning the reviewing procedure] of this MoU and, if necessary, upon consultation of the European Commission. The [name of the board] Board will also decide of accompanying actions ensuring a joint follow-up of the funded projects throughout their whole duration thus allowing to evaluate the impact of the call.

A Consortium Agreement will be signed between all Parties before the launching of the call in order to establish the decision-making process within the [name of the board] Board.

Each Party will appoint to the [name of the board] Board one delegate with a clear mandate in order for him/her to participate efficiently in the decision-making process.

* Joint [name of the body, i.e. Secretariat] is responsible for the operational management of the call and the actual implementation of the processes which shall be done centrally, including the advertising of the call, the reception and eligibility check of the proposals, the selection of the panel of referees, the supervision of the reviewing procedure and the communication with the applicants. The Joint [name of the body] will be constituted by three persons appointed by the [name of the management/governing board]. It will be dissolved once the funding decisions have been communicated to the applicants.

A Contact Group constituted by personnel working for the Parties will be the interface between the [name of the secretariat body] and the Parties for all operational issues. Members of the Contact Group are in charge of the implementation of the call at the national level. The Contact Group will remain active until the end of all the projects funded thought the joint call.

1. **Thematic focus of the call**

 A key objective of [name of research field] is to [briefly describe the research field and its scope]. The present call is limited to [type of research projects and addressed topic/s – if]. [description of the topic/s, and their specific scope within the call].

In order to facilitate a correct perception by applicants of the scope of the present call or mitigate the risk of oversubscription of any other reason deemed necessary, the phrasing of the call topic as laid down in the call announcement may differ from the above description, following the approval of the amended phrasing by all representative to the [name of the management/governing board].

1. **Launching of the call**

The call will be launched on [date] on the website of [name web-site], where all relevant documents will be available for download. In addition, all Parties will advertise the call using their own usual channels of communication.

The call will also be published in one international journal in three different national newspapers in three different countries among these represented by the Parties [include if necessary].

1. **Application procedure**
* Eligibility of Applicants

Applicants entitled to request funding must:

1. Be based for their research in a country represented by one of the Parties

and

1. Fulfill national eligibility rules for research grant application as set by the relevant Party(ies).

A proposal may include one applicant from a country not represented by any of the Parties, if the coherence of the project so requires. However, such an outside applicant cannot request funding from the Parties and must declare to own all the necessary resources for carrying out the projects.

Each applicant must have a steady position in his/her institution for the duration of the project, In countries where rules allow it, the applicant may hold a temporary position whose funding is requested as part of the proposal. In such a case the applicant must provide a letter from the hosting institution certifying that the candidate will have access to all resources necessary for carrying out the project.

Each applicant must have the official approval to submit from the person authorized to legally commit the applicant’s institution.

In countries where it is so required, the official applicant may be the researcher’s institution. In such a case, the details of the researcher must be explicitly given, as discussed in the section on the contents of proposals below.

* Structure of proposals

Each collaborative proposal must involve applicants based for their research in at least [number] different countries represented by the Parties. The maximum number of applicants per collaborative proposal is restricted to [number]. No more than [number] applicants may come from the same country. Co-applicants from the same laboratory cannot enter the same proposal.

An applicant can enter only one proposal.

Proposals that include women as applicants are encouraged.

The co-applicants entering the same proposal designate a Project Leader among them.

* Requirements for collaborative projects
* The research carried out must involve novel, ambitious and original ideas at the frontier of knowledge in [name of research field].
* The Young researchers must provide evidence of scientific independence and initiative, such as constitution or leadership of a small research group.
* Proposals must have well-identified collaboration vectors (e.g. common PhD students post-docs, sample circulating among partners) demonstrating clearly the added value of transnational collaboration. Parallel-run national projects with little interaction are not acceptable.
* Contents of proposals

The application procedure will be carried out in two stages: 1) Letter of Intent and 2) Full proposals. All material must be in English. At each stage, proponents will be requested to follow strictly the instructions established jointly by the Parties.

* A Letter of Intent will typically contain:
* A short application form
* A description of the scientific idea of the collaborative project, highlighting the originality and novelty of the proposal ([number pages] maximum, according to the format stipulated in the instructions). References will be listed on one additional separate side. References should mention the full title of the cited paper
* A description of the value added by the collaboration (collaboration vector, complementarities of partners, what could not be done without the collaboration…) and the role of the Young researchers ([number pages] maximum)
* For each applicant, CV including the [add number of publications] most important publications and for the Young research, the date of the PhD defence and evidence for independent and initiative (number pages] /applicant)
* A Full proposal will typically consist of:
* An identity form
* The extended application form with all the required supporting documents in annex.

The Project Leader will have the possibility, at both stages, to name [number] experts with whom direct conflict of interest exists.

* Funding period

Projects will be funded for up to [number] years.

* Funding maxima

The maximum amount that each applicant in a proposal can request depends on the country where he/she is established for his/her research. The following maxima apply:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Country | Amount (€) |
| [name country/ies] | [add amount] |
| [name country/ies] | [add amount] |
| […..] | […..] |

* Eligible budget items

Each applicant in a proposal may request funding to finance the vectors of collaboration, as well as local research necessary for the collaboration.

Eligible items include the stipend or salary for a PhD student, the salary for a post-doctoral fellow (I.e. temporary position for up to three years, financed according to national gross wages), consumables, small equipment (≤ € [add amount]), travel and visiting costs can access time in clean rooms.

In countries where national rules allow it, the salary of the Young researcher may be included. Subcontracting (for example for the fabrication of sample at a specialized facility) if its need is demonstrated, overheads and VAT shall be handled according to national rules. Within the maximum sum given above.

All budget items must conform to the national rules relevant for each applicant. In each country applicants should be informed of the national rules.

* Participation in reviews

By submitting a proposal, all applicants acknowledge the obligation for one representative of each of the applicants participating in the project to attend the review meetings that the parties will organize jointly for the follow-up of the funded projects.

* Submission of proposals

Each proposal is submitted by its Project Leader on behalf of all the applicants. By submitting a Letter of Intent, the Project Leader certifies that each co-applicant has received the official approval to submit from the person authorized to legally commit this co-applicant’s institution and that no co-applicant participates in another proposal.

Proposals will be submitted both in signed paper version to the [name of the secretariat body] and in electronic form through the [name of the web-site].

Only those explicitly invited by the [name of the secretariat body] to submit a Full proposal will be authorized to do so. Signed statement of approval from the persons authorized to legally commit each applicant’s institutions should be included in the Full proposal.

1. **Reviewing procedure**
* Panel of referees

A panel of referees ill be constituted to evaluate the proposals submitted, consisting of typically [number] internationally recognized experts in the field [name of research field].

The selection of the panel will be based on the quality of the nominees, their thematic orientation and their overall view of [name of research field], explicitly excluding any national or geographic considerations. The members of the panel must in no way represent the nominating Parties ((if relevant) or adopt geographical considerations but make their assessment purely on basis of the scientific merit of the proposals they have to examine and their relevance to the evaluation criteria stipulated below.

[At least [number] of the referees will be drawn from countries not represented by the parties – add if relevant].

The [name of the secretariat body] will select the members of the panel based on its appreciation of their qualifications or upon proposition by the Parties. Once established, the list of prospective referees will be submitted to the [name of the management/governing board] for approval.

In order to ensure adequate thematic coverage, the ultimate selection of the panel will be made after all Letters of Intent have been submitted.

Prospective referees will be contacted by the [name of the secretariat body] and asked to express their willingness to participate and accept the time frame and the procedure.

At the Full proposal stage applicants will have the possibility to suggest referees, however with no obligation for the [name of the management/governing board] to follow their suggestions.

During the evaluation process the panel may solicit outside reviewers to evaluate one or more proposals, after consultation of the [name of the management/governing board].

* Evaluation fees

Referees will not be remunerated for their efforts during the reviewing procedure. Travel and living expenses, when incurred, will be reimbursed by the Party of the referee’s country of residence. For third-country referees expenses incurred for their attendance to panel meeting will be covered by the Party that hosts the meeting.

* Anonymity of reviewers

The composition of the panel may become public information, but the reviewers of the proposals, whether internal or external to the panel, shall remain anonymous.

* Confidentiality

Referees shall enter into [number years] confidentiality agreement before undertaking their evaluation task.

All parties shall keep confidential any information with regard to the reviewing procedure, unless this information is decided to be made public by the [name of the management/governing board].

* Conflict of interest

Referees must declare any conflict of interest which they are aware of and exclude themselves from reviewing a proposal for which a conflict of interest exists with one or several of the co-applicants.

* Modalities of evaluation

The evaluation will be carried out in two stages: 1) selection of Letter of Intent and 2) review of Full proposals.

**Letter of Intent**

In a first step, Letters of Intent will be checked by the [name of the secretariat body] with respect to the general requirements of eligibility outlined in Section [number of the section concerning the application procedure]. Only those Letters of Intent that meet all the general requirements will be given further consideration and be forwarded to all Parties. Each Party will determine whether applicants based in the country it represents meet all national requirements.

In case on non-eligibility of an applicant, the Party in charge will notify the [name of the secretariat body] to stop further consideration of the proposal he/she is involved in.

Letter of Intent that meet all formal requirements will be forwarded top the panel of referees.

The panel of referees will evaluate the Letters of Intent on the following criteria:

[specify criteria, marks, thresholds to be rejected]

Reviewers will be requested to write a summary assessment in terms suitable for a communication towards the applicants.

The [name of the management/governing board] will decide of the maximum number of the Letters of Intent that may be invited to submit a Full proposal. This number will attempt to ensure the success rate at the Full proposal stage is no less than [percentage – if decided].

The panel of referee will meet in order to discuss the merits of the proposals that were not rejected based on the results of the remote assessment. For each referee, marks will allow the [name of the secretariat body] to establish a ranking of all the proposals reviewed by this referee. All the rankings will be communicated to the whole panel before it convenes.

The outcome of the panel meeting will be a list of Letters of Intent that the panel of referees collectively recommend to select for the second stage of submission in accordance with the maximum number of invitations decided by the [name of the management/governing board]. This list will be submitted to the [name of the management/governing board] for approval before the [name of the secretariat body] issues invitations to submit a Full proposal.

**Full Proposals**

After a second check of formal eligibility, the [name of the secretariat body] will forward a copy of all Full Proposals to all Parties, on open the review process.

Additional experts may be included in the panel of referees at this stage, if necessary. All panel members will receive a complete version of all eligible Full Proposals.

Full Proposals will be evaluated according to the following set of criteria:

[add criteria, scores, etc.]

Each Full Proposal will be assessed by [number] Reviewers (possibly external to the panel following the approval by the [name of the management/governing board]. The assignment of the proposals to Reviewers and Readers will be done by the [name of the secretariat body]. Reviewers of a proposal will each furnish a written report and at least [number] of them will actively participate in the panel discussion.

The Reviewers’ assessment reports on a proposal shall be sent to its Project Leader, who has the possibility of sending back a rebuttal within [number] weeks. The panel will convene for a plenary meeting and proceed with its final deliberation.

For each referee, a ranking of the proposals reviewed by this referee will be established and communicated to the whole panel before it convenes. The panel of referees, upon consideration of the reviews, the rebuttals and the rankings will conclude its meeting by issuing a fully ranked list of all proposals evaluated.

* Project approval

The [name of the management/governing board] determines the total number of projects recommended for funding, in conformity with the ranking made the review panel, the available budget and the funding procedure and in accordance with the provisions of [number section concerning financial aspects] section of this MoU.

The maximum number of projects approved by the [name of the management/governing board] should be equal to the number that can be fully funded within the Principal Budget, as defined in section [number section concerning financial aspects] and following the agreed terms for the management of this budget.

If the number of high-quality proposals, as judged by the panel of referees, is smaller that the number of projects that could be supported by the Principal Budget, the [name of the management/governing board] may decide not to disburse the entirely of the Principal Budget.

Once established, the list of projects recommended for funding will be further submitted to the individual formal approval of all Parties.

* Interaction between Parties during the review process

All activities surrounding the review process will be supported and coordinated by the [name of the secretariat body].

1. **Financial matters**

Successful projects will be funded on a budget constituted from funds contributed by the Parties. In case the application for an [ERA-NET scheme/cofund] action is successful, the budget will be increased by a topping-up from the European Commission.

The modality of participation to the call is defined at the level of countries.

Applicants based for their research in a given country are referred to hereinafter as “Nationals” of this country and of the relevant Parties.

For each country the relevant Parties have decided between the following two modalities of participation for their country; Pooling Country of Associate Country.

**“Pooling Countries”** are those countries for which the relevant Parties will constitute a National Envelope and contribute to the Mutualized Envelope, as defined below. The total financial contribution to the call of each Pooling Country is set in order to balance its contribution and the funds that its Nationals can altogether expect top receive for their participations in successful projects.

When applicable, Parties which jointly represent the same country have agreed on their respective shares in the financial contribution that shall be committed in whole by this country.

[Name country], [Name country], […..] participate in the call as Pooling Countries.

**“Associate Countries”** are those countries for which the relevant Party does not contribute to the Mutualized Envelope. Nationals of Associate Countries cannot be funded by the Mutualized Envelope and each Associate Country will provide the funds necessary to the funding of all its Nationals involved in any of the successful projects.

The financial contribution of each Associate Country is purposely set at a level that exceeds the expected return for its Nationals in order to avoid any shortage of funding that would perturb the distribution of the budget assembled by the Pooling Countries.

[Name country], [Name country], […..] participate in the call as Associate Countries.

* Principal and Complementary Budgets

The funds contributed by the Parties are distributed between National Envelopes and one Mutualized Envelope, in the following way:

1. The Mutualized Envelope will receive funds contributed by all the Pooling Countries according to the table below. Funds in the Mutualized Envelope may be used to fund Nationals of any of the Pooling Countries.
2. Each of the Pooling and Associate Countries will constitute a National Envelope containing funds that will be used only for the funding of its Nationals that are involved in successful projects.

The amounts contributed to the Mutualized and National Envelopes by all the Parties are the following:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Organisation | Country | Contribution (€) |
| National Envelope | Mutualized Envelope |
| [Name organization] | [Name Country] | [Amount] | [Amount] |
| [Name organization] | [Name Country] | [Amount] | [Amount] |
| [Name organization] | [Name Country] | [Amount] | [Amount] |
| [Name organization] | [Name Country] | [Amount] | [Amount] |
| [Name organization] | [Name Country] | [Amount] | [Amount] |
| [Name organization] | [Name Country] | [Amount] | [Amount] |
| [Name organization] | [Name Country] | [Amount] | [Amount] |
| [...] | [...] | [...] | [...] |

The National Envelopes and the Mutualized Envelopes constitute altogether the Principal Budget of the call. IN addition, a Complementary Budget is constituted by the [add additional funding – if] to fund [name country providing additional funds - if] teams participating in successful projects for the part of their “full economic costs” that is not covered by the allocation of funds from the Principal Budget.

**The financial liability of each Party is effectively limited to the contributions indicated in the above table**.

* Management of the Principal Budget

The ranking established by the panel of referees and further approved by the [name of the management/governing board] sets the order of priority for considering the projects for funding.

A project can only be funded if all projects ranked higher were funded, in which case the following provisions apply:

1. Applicants in the projects are funded in priority from the relevant National Envelopes.
2. If an applicant based in one of the Pooling Countries cannot be funded at all, or in whole, from the relevant National Envelope, if available.
3. The project cannot be approved if, after applying the 2 principles above, the remainder in the Mutualized Envelopes does not suffice to fund one or several applicants.

The Mutualized Envelope shall be managed by the [name organization], hereinafter called the **“Managing Organisation”**, on behalf of the Parties on a trust basis. The Managing Organisation will act as a central clearing house in channeling the funds of the Mutualized Envelope among the Parties.

The Parties agree to commit themselves and to transfer to the Managing Organisation each year, upon notification, the amount pledged for the Mutualized Envelope minus the amount corresponding to the funding of all their Nationals funded by the Mutualized Envelope. The notification from the Managing Organisation will be given no later than [add date/s and years] for the funding periods of [add years] respectively.

For the funding period of [add year] each Party agrees to transfer the due payment before [add date and year], within a week after the list has been formally approved. For the funding periods [add years], each Party agrees to transfer the due payment to the Managing Organisation within two weeks after receiving notification (no later than [add date] of each year).

In turn the Managing Organisation shall transfer the necessary funds to the relevant Parties of those Pooling Countries whose pledged amount in the Mutualized Envelope is insufficient for funding all their Nationals participating in successful projects. This transfer by the Managing Organisation will only take place after receiving payment from all contributing Parties.

A summary of all the transactions necessary to the disbursement of the Principal Budget will be available on a secure internet-accessible storage archive.

The Managing Organisation shall disburse the funds of the Mutualized Envelope according to the decisions of the [name of the management/governing board]. Any amount left in the Mutualized Envelope after successful projects have been funded, may be allocated to the follow-up activities, such as the review or evaluation of the successful projects, upon decision by the [name of the management/governing board].

* Management of the EC topping-up

If the application for an [ERA-NET scheme/cofund] action is successful, the Principal Budget will be complemented by a topping-up contributed by the European Commission.

In accordance with the provisions applicable to [ERA-NET scheme/cofund] actions, as set by the EC, the sum of the EC topping-up and the contribution granted by the EC for eligible activities related to the launch and management of the call cannot exceed 50% of the funding allocated in total to the successful projects by the Parties.

A [add percentage] of the contribution from the EC will be used as a common pot to permit to balance the gaps in financing the projects in the ranking list. For every project considered for funding, a fixed percentage of the project budget will add to the topping-up that the Parties will collectively request from the EC. In kind contributions will be taken into account. This percentage will be the same for all projects and is currently set to [add percentage]. It will be lowered if necessary in order to comply from the EC under the [ERA-NET scheme/cofund]. The remainder of the project budget will be funded from the Principal Budget assembled by the Parties.

The list of the projects selected for funding and the requested topping-up will be submitted to the European Commission for approval.

Considering that the topping-up, once approved by the EC, will be transferred to the Managing Organisation (in its role of Coordination of the [ERA-NET scheme/cofund] action), in the form of three yearly pre-financings, each one covering a 12-month funding period, the transfer to the Parties by the Managing Organisation of the part of the topping-up intended for the funding of their Nationals shall also be done on a yearly basis.

For each country, the part of the topping-up intended for its Nationals will add to the amount corresponding to the funding of all its Nationals funded by the Mutualized Envelope (if applicable) before calculating the net amount that shall be received from or transferred to the Managing Organisation by the relevant Parties.

Parties for which a payment to the Managing Organisation is due will receive a yearly notification from the Managing Organisation no later than [add date and years] for the funding periods of [add years] respectively.

For the funding period of [add year] each Party agrees to transfer the due payment before [add date and year], or for a Party that would not have formally approved the list of projects recommended for funding by [add date], within a week after the list has been formally approved. For the funding periods of [add years], each Party agrees to transfer the due payment to the Managing Organisation within two weeks after receiving notification (no later than [add date] of each year).

The transfer of funds by the Managing Organisation will only take place after receiving payment from all contributing Parties (if applicable) and after the yearly pre-financing fro the EC as its contribution to the topping-up.

There will be one single yearly transfer of funds between the Managing Organisation and each Party.

* Management of the Complementary Budget

[specify if applicable]

1. **Project administration and funding**

The financial administration and contracting of the successful projects will be done at the national level, with each Party being responsible for contracting and funding its Nationals according to national rules and, if necessary, following an agreement between other Parties representing the same country.

Each Project Leader, on behalf of all the participants in the projects, should submit a brief annual scientific progress report on the project which will be transferred to all Parties. In addition, each funded team may have to report to its funding Party, in accordance with national rules.

The project participants may enter into a Collaboration Agreement to specify the mode of operation of the collaboration and the handling of Intellectual Property Rights. The Parties have no claims on the Intellectual Property Rights, as the funds they provide constitute a grant in support of the research activity. As a general rule, the Intellectual Property Rights and the exploitation of any results obtained in a project shall be regulated according to the established practice (analogous to that in the projects funded by the European Commission) and may be further specified in the Collaboration Agreement signed between the participants in the project.

1. **Projects follow-up and programme evaluation**

The Parties will jointly organize [number] meetings for the mid-term and final review of the funded projects. These meetings will aim at:

* Assessing the projects progress towards their initial objectives
* Strengthening the community through a networking of scientists
* Getting a feedback from the research teams in view of the future improvements of the programme

The scientific evaluation will be under the responsibility of a group of experts appointed by the Parties, some of them ideally chosen among the Referees who assessed the projects at the proposal stage.

The final review, along with the final reports submitted by the Project Leaders, will constitute the basis of an evaluation of the programme as a whole (implementation and outcomes). The evaluation will focus on the following:

* Quality of scientific outputs
* Career development of the researchers involved
* Contribution to long-lasting cooperation

Researchers involved in funded projects will not claim any additional financial contribution from the Parties to attend the review meetings.

Each Party will cover the travel expenses incurred by its delegates for their attendance to the review meetings or other meetings organized for the joint follow-up of the projects or the evaluation of the programme. General costs incurred for the organization of these meetings (such as reservation fees for conference rooms, catering expenses, travel and accommodation expenses of experts, etc.) will be covered in common by all Parties. For each of its Nationals that is funded through the call, each country will reserve a budget of [amount – if] € in support to the general costs incurred for the review meetings.

Whenever relevant, Parties representing the same country will find an agreement regarding their respective contribution to this budget. If no agreement can be found, each of the Parties representing a given country will contribute the same amount.

1. **Proposed timetable**

The tentative timetable for the call is the following:

[add date] Announcement of the Call

[add date] Deadline for the submission of Letters of Intent

[add date] End of eligibility check and selection of referees

Eligible Letters of Intent sent to the referees

[add date] Completion of review of Letters of Intent

[add date] Meeting of the panel of referees. Selection of projects to be invited for the second stage

[add date] Selected project invited to submit Full Proposals

[add date] Deadline for the submission of Full Proposals

[add date] Full Proposals sent to referees

[add date] Reviewers return their evaluation (deadline)

[add date] Reviews sent to Project Leaders for rebuttal

[add date] Deadline for receiving rebuttals

[add date] Rebuttals sent to referees

[add date] Meeting of the panel of referees. Ranking of all the proposals. List of projects recommended for funding approved by the [name of the management/governing board]

[add date/period] Start of funded projects

1. **Modifications**

The MoU will be amended by written agreement of all signatories of their substitutes for any modification of section [number of section] (financial matters), except in the case when this modification would only detail the modalities of participation of a new Party without modifying any provision applicable individually to any other Party or collectively to all the other Parties. The inclusion of a new Party is ruled by the procedure described in section [number of section].

Any decision that does not modify the contents of section [number of section, concerning financial matters] come into force following its approval by the [name of the management/governing board].

Before the Consortium Agreement is signed, the approval of a decision will require the agreement of all the Parties.

1. **Inclusion of new Parties**

Any research funding organization established in a country of the European Research Area and not currently listed among the signing Parties may be accepted as a new Party. Before it is accepted, such an organization is referred to hereinafter as a “Candidate Organisation”.

The inclusion of a Candidate Organisation may be refused if time does not permit to make this inclusion effective prior to the launching of the call.

The inclusion of a Candidate Organisation as a new Party requires the explicit approval of all the signing Parties.

The financial contribution to the call budget requested from the Candidate Organisation will be calculated following the common principles applicable to all Parties, in accordance with the modality of participation of the country represented by the Candidate Organisation. The amounts that the Candidate Organisation will be requested to contribute to the relevant National Envelope and the Mutualizes Envelope (if applicable) cannot be negotiated.

The Candidate Organisation shall agree to enter the [ERA-NET scheme/cofund] contract if the proposal submitted to the EC is accepted.

For every Candidate Organisation accepted as a new Party, an amendment to this MoU will be made and signed by both the Managing Organisation (on behalf on the existing Parties) and the Candidate Organisation. By signing this amendment, the Candidate Organisation becomes a Party with the same rights and obligations as any other Party and accepts all the provision included in this MoU.