

EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA
AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE
Strategic Forum for International
S&T Cooperation

Secretariat

Brussels, 17 June 2016
(OR. en)

ERAC-SFIC 1357/16

NOTE

From: SFIC Secretariat
To: SFIC delegations
Subject: Mandate of the SFIC Working Group on Brazil

Delegations will find annexed to this Note the mandate of the SFIC Working Group on Brazil as approved by the SFIC plenary on 15 June 2016.

MANDATE OF THE SFIC WORKING GROUP ON BRAZIL

1. The Working Group on Brazil has the **objective** to advise the SFIC (Member States, Associated Countries and the Commission) on areas for which there is potential for a more coordinated approach vis-à-vis Brazil adding value to existing successful research and innovation cooperation activities.
2. The Working Group will follow a **step-by-step approach** (where each step has a value on its own), focusing in particular on the following activities:
 - a) Collecting and sharing information on EU/MS/AC S&T activities towards and with Brazil, including framework conditions for mobility schemes and innovation activities while taking into account the ongoing bilateral and bi-regional projects under the H2020 involving Brazil, as well as considering the dimension of reciprocity in the STI cooperation. in collaboration with the INCOBRA project. This will be done also in collaboration with the EU/MS/AC science counsellors in Brazil and other actors and stakeholders such as different existing networks;
 - b) Improving the information and consultation structure with the Commission, MS/AS and projects and the science counsellors;
 - c) Analysing the variety of on-going successful cooperation activities and recommending areas where there is potential for a more coordinated approach vis-à-vis Brazil, which would add value to existing successful cooperation activities jointly with the INCOBRA project;
 - d) Taking full advantage of the opportunities and synergies offered by the Policy Service Facility;

- e) Developing a SFIC Roadmap towards Brazil based on the set of recommendations for joint actions emerging from the national initiatives, successful joint actions such as Destination Europe and Tour of Brazil, EU-funded projects concerning collaboration with Brazil (INCOBRA) as well as dialogues with Brazilian counterparts and the various other events organized by and with the group. The Roadmap should include an Action Plan with activities to take place during the two to three next years based on voluntary participation of SFIC Members and Observers as well as taking into account the variable geometries in the future activities;
 - f) Contributing to the development of the specific activities included in the SFIC Roadmap towards Brazil and its Action Plan and ensuring an annual follow-up and reporting of its implementation.
3. The Working Group shall contribute to and take account of the EU Multi-Annual Roadmap for Brazil and activities in Horizon 2020 and future initiatives planned for the next framework programme, as appropriate.
 4. The Working Group was set up for a period of 2 years, commencing on 19 May 2014¹. The SFIC plenary on 15 June 2016 decided to extend the mandate of the Working Group for an additional two years until 15 June 2018. This period can be extended after assessment and approval by the SFIC Plenary.
 5. The SFIC Rules of Procedure (ERAC-SFIC 1355/16) are applicable to this Working Group.

¹ ERAC-SFIC 1354/14.