



Brussels, 18 September 2014

CM 4152/14

ERAC

COMMUNICATION

NOTICE OF MEETING AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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Subject: 21st meeting of the European Research Area and Innovation Committee
(ERAC)

Date: 2 and 3 October 2014

Time: 9.00, 9.00

Venue: Tese of the Arsenale, Tesa 94, 30122 Venezia, Italy

Provisional Agenda

DAY 1: THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER (9.00 – 13.00h)

Chairperson: Rudolf Strohmeier, deputy Director-General

- 1. Adoption of the provisional agenda**
- 2. Approval of the draft summary conclusions of the 20th meeting of ERAC, held in Heraklion, Crete, 5-6 June 2014**

3. Standing information point

There are no topics under this agenda item.

4. Implementation and monitoring of the innovation union in the context of Europe 2020

4.1 Research & Innovation as sources of renewed growth

ERAC will have an update on the Commission Communication.

The Vice-Chair will inform ERAC on the proposal to prepare ERAC's advice in follow-up to the Council Conclusions (December) focussing on actions in MS regarding the implementation of the Communication, including the potential links with Finance Ministries and coordination in capitals of ERAC and EPC delegates.

The Commission will indicate to MS the potential role of the policy support facility in this context.

4.2 Peer Review of R&I systems and lessons learnt

- ***Presentation of the peer review of Iceland***
- ***Presentation of the peer review of Spain***

The recently completed reviews have been conducted according to a specific methodology and carried out by an international expert panel.

The peer reviews will be presented, focussing on the R&I policy conclusions and experiences that are transferable to other R&I systems.

5. Presentation of R&I policy in Italy

Italy will give a presentation on its National Research and Innovation System.

6. ERA and Innovation Policy

6.1 ERA Progress Report

The Commission will give a brief overview of the main messages in the 2014 ERA Progress report.

The Working Group on the European Semester and on ERA Monitoring will present the draft ERAC advice on the 2nd ERA Progress report with a view to giving an input to the IT Presidency.

DAY 2: FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER (9.00 – 13.00h)

6. ERA and Innovation Policy (cont.)

6.2 ERA Roadmap

ERAC will discuss, based on a presentation of the analysis of the inputs received from MS, the key actions from the 6 ERA Priorities to be addressed in the ERA Roadmap at EU level.

The ERA-related group Chairs or their representatives will be invited to respond to ERAC's proposals for the prioritisation of the ERA Priorities and actions at EU level and indicate the contribution their group can make to the exercise.

7. Mandate / Rules of Procedure/ Administrative Issues

7.1 Review of ERA-related groups

ERAC Steering Board is of the opinion that this is the moment to initiate discussions on options to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the ERA advisory structure. The Vice-Chair will present the current status, rationales and needs. The DE delegation will be invited to share its views on the possible changes to the ERA advisory structure, including ERAC's own role and its operational effectiveness in that structure, following the upcoming establishment of the new Commission, which may result in structural changes. The current (IT) and forthcoming (LV) Presidencies will be invited to present their plans to progress this topic.

ERAC will have an initial exchange of views, but given the timings and need to advance the discussions on this topic, ERAC Steering Board proposes to have an additional ERAC Plenary meeting in November dedicated to the ERA advisory structure, in order that ERAC may prepare and present its advice as an input to the IT PRES preparatory work on this topic during December.

7.2 Election of Vice-Chair

Under Article 3 (1), first paragraph, of the Rules of Procedure of ERAC the Committee shall elect a Vice-Chair from among Member State representatives for a period of two years which shall be renewable once. The first term of the current Vice-Chair, Mr Krzysztof Gulda, expires in November 2014.

In response to the Secretariat's note on the election / re-election of the Vice-Chair of ERAC of 16 July 2014, the German ERAC delegation informed the Secretariat that in view of the upcoming developments on the ERA advisory structures, the DE delegation suggested it would be premature to decide on any personal changes to the governance of ERAC at this juncture (including the election / re-election of the Vice-Chair).

The Secretariat was also informed by the DE delegation that it is willing to put forward a high-level DE candidate for any new governance structure of the Committee that may be set up. No other delegations have expressed their interest in putting forward a candidate for the vice-chairmanship.

The ERAC Steering Board therefore suggests to the Plenary that, in the given circumstances, there is an extension of the current Vice-Chair's term until a new governance structure is in place or until at latest 31 May 2015.

7.3 Update of the work programme

ERAC will approve the provisional work programme for 2014/2015, pending any additional items following from the discussions during the meeting.

8. Any other business

Next ERAC meeting (3 December, 2014, Brussels)

The Steering Board will draw up the provisional annotated agenda of the next meeting on the basis of the Work Programme 2014.
