



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

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ERAC

COMMUNICATION

NOTICE OF MEETING AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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Subject: 32nd meeting of the European Research Area and Innovation Committee
(ERAC)

Date: 2 December 2016

Time: 10.00

Venue: COUNCIL
JUSTUS LIPSIUS BUILDING
Rue de la Loi 175, 1048 BRUSSELS

**co-Chairpersons: Robert-Jan Smits, Director-General, DG RTD and
David Wilson, Deputy Director, International Knowledge & Innovation,
BIS, UK.**

1. **Adoption of the provisional agenda**
2. **The draft summary conclusions of the 31st meeting of ERAC, held in Bratislava on 15-16 September 2016, were approved by written procedure**
3. **Information from the co-Chairs and Presidency**
 - *The co-Chairs report back on the latest ERAC Steering Board meeting.*
 - *The co-Chairs welcome the new countries associated to H2020: Armenia and Georgia*
 - *As a basis for discussion by ERAC, the MT incoming Presidency and the rapporteur Ms Karina Angelieva (BG) will present a draft ERAC Opinion on "Streamlining the R&I Monitoring and Reporting Landscape". The opinion should preferably be approved by ERAC by written procedure by the end of January 2017, to pave the way to a set of Council Conclusions to be adopted at the planned 30 May 2017 Competitiveness Council.*
4. **ERA and Innovation Policy**

4.1 Interim evaluation of Horizon 2020 and preparations for the next Framework Programme for research and innovation

Delegates will debate ERAC's role in the interim evaluation of Horizon 2020 and ERAC's contribution to preparations for the next Framework Programme. A timeline with modalities for ERAC's involvement in the preparations of the next FP, incorporating contributions from the ERA-related groups, will be provided.

4.2 ERA national action plans and strategies

The Commission will make a short presentation of the latest developments. In addition this point will allow ERAC to have a debate -on the basis of a discussion paper prepared following the Steering Board meeting on 18 October- on the follow-up of the National Action Plans, especially addressing the exchange of best practice, the assessment and the monitoring of the National Action Plans, which should be done in close cooperation with the Commission

4.3 EUROSTAT

EUROSTAT will give a presentation on the relevance of statistical data for R&I and evidence-based policy making, including an overview of its activities to improve the quality of the European Innovation Scoreboard.

5. Standing Information Point

Information will be provided in writing to delegations prior to the meeting. Delegations will have the opportunity to ask questions in relation to the information provided.

– Update on the PSF activities: overview of the lessons learnt from 2016 country-specific activities, including the numerous MLEs, the MD, HU and UA peer reviews, and the specific supports to MT and SK. The outcome of the 3rd expression of interest for the H2020 PSF services launched before Summer will serve to plan the activities of the PSF throughout 2017.

-Update on the 2017 European Semester: The Commission will present an information note on the 2017 approach, to be circulated when the 2017 Semester is kick-started to inform delegations on the methodology and key focus areas for this year's exercise. Delegates will also discuss the ongoing EPC review with ECFIN.

6. ERA Governance

6.1 ERAC Annual Report 2016

Based on the report presented in 2015, Delegates will discuss the follow-up and preparation of the ERAC Annual Report 2016.

6.2 The updated version of the ERAC Work Programme 2016-17 was approved by written procedure

6.3 The draft ERAC Opinion on the streamlining of the expert groups set up by the Commission was approved by written procedure

6.4 Updates from the ERAC Working Groups

6.4.a Ad-hoc Working Group on Measuring the Impact of EU Framework Programmes for R&I at National Level

6.4.b Standing Working Group on Open Science and Innovation

6.5 Updates from the ERA-related groups

Following the adoption of the December 2015 Council conclusions, the timing for the adoption of the revised mandates of the other ERA-related groups will be discussed. The Committee will also discuss the status of the Helsinki and SGHRM groups.

7. Any other business

7.1 Invitation to Armenia, Georgia and Tunisia to participate in ERAC meetings as observers (in accordance with Article 6.3 of ERAC's Rules of Procedure)

7.2 33rd ERAC meeting (16-17 March 2017, St. Julien's)

The Steering Board will draw up the provisional annotated agenda of the next meeting on the basis of the updated Work Programme 2016-2017