

DECISION 06/2023
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EDUCATION ADVISORY GROUP OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 2021/819 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (recast) (hereafter the 'EIT Regulation (recast)')¹, in particular Articles 4.1, 6(a)(f)(j)(s)(t), 7(1)(c) and 13 thereof and 2 (h) of Section 2 the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation;

Having regard to Decision 2021/820 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) 2021-2027: Boosting the Innovation Talent and Capacity of Europe and repealing Decision No 1312/2013/EU (hereafter referred to as the "EIT SIA 2021-2027")², in particular Section 3.4 thereof;

Having regard to Decision 18/2021 of the EIT Governing Board of 7 May 2021 on the Rules of Procedure of the EIT Governing Board and Executive Committee³, in particular, Article 20;

Having regard to Decision 11/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 17 March 2021 on the adoption of the New EIT Label Framework⁴;

Having regard to Decision 20/2022 of the EIT Governing Board of 22 June of 2022 setting the Honoraria of the members of the Governing Board, its chairperson and the members of the Executive Committee of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, in particular, Article 4 thereof⁵;

WHEREAS

- (1) Pursuant to the EIT Regulation, the Governing Board shall establish, where appropriate, advisory groups with a defined objective, tasks, and duration.
- (2) The established Advisory Groups shall contribute to the work of the Governing Board and shall report to the Governing Board via the Executive Committee in line with the Rules of Procedure of the EIT Governing Board and Executive Committee. The organisation, scope and mandate of such groups shall be determined by the Governing Board in separate decisions.
- (3) EIT and KICs should foster excellence in higher education, and ensure the widespread implementation of EIT-labelled degrees and diplomas by KICs, strengthen their promotion outside the EIT Community and extend them to lifelong learning programmes.
- (4) The EIT shall monitor the implementation of activities to be undertaken by the KICs for the development of the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of their member organisations, in particular HEIs, vocational

¹ OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 61–90

² OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 91

³ Ares (2021)3139636

⁴ Ares(2021)1930763

⁵ Ares(2022)4609321



- education and training providers, SMEs and start-ups and their integration in innovation ecosystems, throughout the Union and in line with the knowledge triangle approach.
- (5) The EIT shall design, in cooperation with the Commission and after consulting the KICs, launch and coordinate a pilot initiative supporting the innovation and entrepreneurial capacities of higher education institutions (HEI Initiative) and their integration in innovation ecosystems (pilot higher education initiative), which is to be implemented by the KICs.
 - (6) The Governing Board shall steer and supervise the implementation and monitoring of the activities of the KICs. Particular attention shall be paid to ensuring an open and inclusive approach to attract HEIs beyond the KICs' partners aiming for wide geographical coverage; an inter-disciplinary and inter-sectoral approach; a broader participation of women in sectors where they are underrepresented; and a link with the RIS, relevant thematic platforms and smart specialisation strategies, and the Policy Support Facility when appropriate.
 - (7) The evaluation of the pilot phase of the HEI initiative shall be conducted by independent external experts and the results shall be communicated to the Member State Representatives Group (MSRG) and to the European Parliament. Based on the results of that evaluation, the Governing Board shall decide whether the pilot higher education initiative is to be either continued and scaled-up or discontinued.
 - (8) In March 2021, the EIT Governing Board adopted the New EIT Label Framework. According to the EIT Label Framework, the EIT is responsible for strategic leadership, setting a clear direction, development of guidelines, instructions and principles in relation to all elements of the EIT Label model at the strategic level.
 - (9) The Education Advisory Group should be established by a decision of the Governing Board of the EIT. This Decision shall govern its composition, mandate, tasks and duration.
 - (10) The term of office of the members of the EIT, including the Chairperson, shall be two years. This term of office may be extended once for a period not exceeding the duration of the first term of office.
 - (11) The Governing Board members appointed as members of the Education Advisory Group shall receive remuneration for the work performed in this regard as set out in Decision of the Governing Board of EIT on the Honoraria of the members of the Governing Board, its chairperson and the members of the Executive Committee of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Mandate, Membership, Composition

- (1) The Education Advisory Group shall contribute to the work of the Governing Board and shall report to the Governing Board via the Executive Committee.
- (2) The Education Advisory Group is composed of three representatives from the members of the EIT Governing Board nominated and appointed by the EIT Governing Board and an observer from the Commission.
- (3) The Education Advisory Group shall appoint its Chair from among the three representatives from the EIT Governing Board.
- (4) The Chair of the Education Advisory Group shall report to the EIT Governing Board on the implementation of the tasks and activities assigned to this advisory group.

Article 2

Term of office

- (1) The members of Education Advisory Group members shall serve for a period of two years. This term of office may be extended once for a period not exceeding the duration of the first term of office.
- (2) The term of office of the members of the EIT Governing Board appointed as representatives for this Advisory Group shall automatically terminate in any of the following cases:
 - if his/her term of office as member of the Governing Board expires without extension,

- or in the event that s/he is unable to complete his/her term of office,
- or because of the end of his/her term of office.

Article 3

Scope and objectives

- (1) The Education Advisory Group shall assist the EIT Governing Board and provide:
 - strategic advice for the EIT on its education agenda to enhance EIT impact and visibility in the education area.
 - strategic guidance relating to development, implementation and monitoring of the key EIT Education priority areas, in particular concerning the HEI Initiative, EIT Label model and Deep Tech Talent Initiative.
 - strategic guidance relating to development of the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of the EIT community members, in particular HEIs, vocational education and training providers, and their integration in innovation ecosystems, throughout the Union and in line with the knowledge triangle approach;
- (2) Members of the Education Advisory Group might represent the EIT at relevant meetings related to tasks and activities that fall under the scope and mandate of this advisory group.

Article 4

Functioning of the Education Advisory Group

- (1) The meetings of the Education Advisory Group shall take place on a quarterly basis; however, actual tasks may trigger more or less frequent meetings.
- (2) The EIT shall provide administrative support to the Education Advisory Group.
- (3) The minutes of each meeting of the Education Advisory Group shall be distributed to all its members via email or any other electronic means and submitted to the Education Advisory Group for its approval before its next meeting.

Article 5

Confidentiality and conflict of interests

- (1) In case a conflict of interest situation is identified with respect to any of the representatives to be appointed by the Governing Board of the EIT and the observer, as a result of the decision on the assessment of the annual declaration exercise on conflict of interest for members of the Governing Board, this should be taken into account prior to their appointment. The decision on whether the conflict of interest situation identified would affect the impartiality and independence as a representative of this Advisory Group shall be taken by Chairperson of the EIT Governing Board and the EIT Director.
- (2) The representative of the Education Advisory Group appointed by the Governing Board of the EIT and the observer will be required to sign a declaration of absence of conflict of interest upon their appointment.
- (3) The representatives of the Education Advisory Group will inform the Chair of Governing Board of the EIT and the EIT Director as soon as possible of relevant professional changes. The Chair of the Governing Board of the EIT and the EIT Director shall consider whether such changes affect their capacity as a member of the Education Advisory Group or could represent a substantial conflict of interest in line with the EIT Code of Conduct for members of the Governing Board. In such a case, the Chair of the Governing Board of the EIT and the EIT Director, upon consultation with the Chair of the Education Advisory Group, may ask the respective Education Advisory Group member to vacate the current position and the Governing Board of the EIT to select a new Education Advisory Group member.

- (4) The representatives and the observer will be bound by the same confidentiality and conflict of interest requirements laid down in the Code of Good Conduct of Conflict of Interest for Member of the EIT Governing Board⁶.
- (5) At the start of each meeting, any member whose participation in the Education Advisory Group's deliberations would raise a conflict of interest on a specific item on the agenda relating to his/her position shall inform the Chair of the Education Advisory Group.
- (6) In the event of such a conflict of interest, the member shall abstain from discussing the items on the agenda concerned and from any vote on these items.
- (7) In the event that the Chair's participation in a specific item on the agenda would raise a conflict of interest, the Chair shall inform the Education Advisory Group and the discussion of that item shall be managed by another member of the Education Advisory Group agreed by the members.

Article 6 **Reimbursement of expenses**

An annual fixed amount shall be paid to the members of the Education Advisory Group appointed by the EIT Governing Board according to Article 4. 3.b) of Decision 20/2022 of the Governing Board of the EIT setting the Honoraria of the members of the Governing Board and the members of the Executive Committee of the EIT.

Article 7 **Entry into force**

This decision shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

Done in Budapest on 14 March 2023

[E-signed]

Nektarios Tavernarakis
Chair of the EIT Governing Board

⁶ Decision 13/2015 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 3 June 2015.