

Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (S2R JU)

19^h FORMAL MEETING OF THE S2R JU GOVERNING BOARD

BRUSSELS, 25th March 2019, 01:00-04:30

White Atrium building,

Avenue de la Toison d'Or 56-60, B-1060 Brussels

PRESENT:

European Union, represented by the European Commission	Clara DE LA TORRE, Director, DG RTD	Chair (Alternate)
	Keir Fitch, DG MOVE	Observer
	Mihaela WILLIAMS, DG MOVE	Observer
	Leonardo DONGIOVANNI, DG MOVE	Observer
	William BIRD, DG RTD	Observer
ALSTOM	Sophie PERROCHEAU	Member
ANSALDO STS	Nadia MAZZINO	Member
ANSALDO STS	Antonella TROMBETTA	Alternate Member
AZD Praha	Michal PAVEL	Alternate Member

BOMBARDIER	Massimo SIRACUSA	Member
CAF	Jorge DE CASTO	Alternate Member
DEUTSCHE BAHN	Ralf MARXEN	Alternate Member
EUROC	Thomas PETRASCHEK	Alternate Member
HACON	Rolf Goossman	Alternate Member
INDRA	Javier Rivilla LIZANO	Member
INDRA	Jesus LACOSTA GIMENO	Alternate Member
KNORR - BREMSE	Martin DEUTER	Member
NETWORK RAIL (Industrial Spokesperson)	Andy DOHERTY	Member
SIEMENS	Jürgen SCHLAHT	Alternate Member
SMART DEMAIN CONSORTIUM	Henk SAMSON	Member
SMARTRACON CONSORTIUM	Meyer zu HÖRSTE	Member
SMARTRACON CONSORTIUM	Jaizki MENDIZABAL	Alternate Member (Remotely)
SNCF	Christophe CHERON	Alternate Member
THALES	Yves PERREAL	Alternate Member
TRAFIKVERKET	Bo OLSSON	Member

TRAFIKVERKET	Christer LOFVING	Alternate Member
VVAC+	Erik STOCKER	Alternate Member
European Railway Agency	Anna GIGANTINO	Observer
Vice-Chairperson of the States Representative Group	Miroslav HALTUF	Observer
Chairperson of the Scientific Committee	Angela DI FEBBRARO	Observer
S2R	Carlo M BORGHINI	Executive Director
	Giorgio TRAVAINI	Observer
	Isaac GONZALEZ GARCIA	Observer
	Robert LISKOUNIG	Observer
	Valerie LORGÉ	GB Secretariat

JU Members invited by the Governing Board to attend the meeting as observers:

CFW	Roland BÄNSCH	Observer
FAIVELEY Transport	Claude BAUDRY	Observer
KAPSCH	Jochen NOWOTNY	Observer

MERMEC	Antonella SEMERANO	Observer
TALGO	Alfredo GONZALEZ	Observer

LIST OF DECISIONS:

The following decisions were taken by the Board:

- There was no item for decision according to the GB agenda

The following written procedures will be launched:

- Written procedure to amend the Decision on the procedure for the Executive Director annual appraisal.

OVERVIEW OF DISCUSSIONS:

INTRODUCTION

Mrs Clara de la Torre, informed the Governing Board that due to a last minute request, the Chair, Ms Elisabeth Werner, was not able to attend the meeting. As a consequence, Mrs Clara de la Torre acted as Chair of the 19th Governing Board meeting in accordance with the Rules of the Procedures of the Governing Board. She welcomed the participants of the Governing Board and in particular the new representative of CAF, Mr Jorge De Castro, replacing Mr Aitor Galarza as alternate member.

The Chair briefly presented the items on the Agenda. The Ansaldo STS representative indicated she wished to present the rebranding of Ansaldo STS into Hitachi Rail STS in the AoB item.

1. WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The final agenda, as indicated below, was approved by the Board.

1. WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA - Declarations of conflict of interest based on the Agenda items (the forms will be available in the meeting room. Please note request for prior submission of Annex 2 annual declaration on conflict of interests if there is a change from the situation mentioned in the 2018 declaration).	01:00
2. INFORMATION FROM THE COMMISSION <i>Update by DG Move and DG RTD on Horizon Europe (next EU R&I programme 2021-2027) and S2R 2</i>	
3. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON S2R JU ACTIVITIES	
4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE GB OF 4 th DECEMBER 2018	02:00
ITEMS FOR DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD	
5. <i>p.m.</i>	02:05
ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD	
6. PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2018 AND THE PROVISIONAL ANNUAL ACCOUNTS	02:10
7. REPORT ON IKOP AND IKAA 2018	02:30
8. UPDATE ON THE MAAP, S2R CATALOGUE OF SOLUTIONS	02:45
9. PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT AWP2020	03:00
10. EUROPEAN COMMISSION NOTE ON ACCESS TO PROJECT RESULTS	03:20
11. PRESENTATION OF THE INFRASTRUCTURES TESTING FACILITY PAPER	03:30
12. PRESENTATION ON INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES DEVELOPMENTS	04:00

13. PRESENTATION ON THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	04:15
14. INFORMATION FROM THE COMMISSION ON THE PROCEDURE FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNUAL APPRAISAL AND ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST	4:30
ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
15. AOB ▪ DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: 24 JUNE 2019	04:40

The Chair asked all members of the Governing Board to declare and sign a declaration of confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest and to abstain from deliberations should a conflict of interest on the matter exist. The declarations for Conflict of Interest (CoI) were available in the meeting room, including Annex 2 of Decision n°07/2018 on the annual declaration on conflict of interests of the S2R JU Governing Board, should there be a change from the situation mentioned in 2018.

2. INFORMATION FROM THE COMMISSION

The Chair started by congratulating the S2R JU for successfully showcasing the results of developed projects and for a fruitful S2R representation in the various high-level events in the past months.

The Chair then presented the partial general agreement of the Council for the next EU Framework Programme for research and innovation, Horizon Europe. The shadow Transport Programme committee will meet on May 3rd to analyse the proposal and possibly provide the Commission with the greenlight to launch the impact assessment procedures, including for the Joint Undertakings. Meetings will take place with Member States in April and May on strategic programming, and only after this will formal discussions on areas for institutionalised partnerships based on Article 185 and Article 187 (including Joint Undertakings) be launched. For Article 185/187 initiatives; impact assessments will be supported by a central study and co-ordinated across all services. The impact assessment process on the partnerships will span from May 2019 until autumn.

The Chair indicated that the Commission proposal had been followed as regards the cluster approach, and that the cluster on transport, energy and climate change remains unchanged, with the possibility to set up an ad hoc Programme Committee for Mobility. Moreover, she underlined that the list of potential partnerships are included in the agreement, encompassing one in the field of rail.

The industrial spokesperson asked for further indications concerning the upcoming timeline. The Chair shared with the GB members the institutional changes foreseen in 2019, as well as their implications (European elections on 23-26 May 2019 and new College in autumn 2019). The Chair underlined the rail highlights for 2019, *inter alia* the adoption of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), the revision

planning of secondary legislation, the entry into force in June of the 4RP Technical Pillar with ERA acting as a One Stop Shop for authorisation of rolling stock. The Chair stated that the European Parliament ITRE Committee vote on Horizon Europe would take place beginning of April and the last Plenary in the course of April 2019. The envisaged start of the Horizon Europe programme is January 2021. The Chair brought to the attention of the Governing Board members the organisation of the EU R&I Days on 24-26 September, following the consultation on strategic programming end of June. The European Parliament and Council negotiations on the Union budget for 2021-2027 (Multi-Annual Financial Framework) are also currently on-going and should be finalised by the end of the year, including the budget for Horizon Europe. She stressed that synergies with CEF and Structural Funds should be reinforced.

The Chair concluded by highlighting the importance of governance and accountability in the future set-up of the partnerships.

3. *REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON S2R JU ACTIVITIES*

The Executive Director indicated that the S2R JU call 2019 was launched on 15th January with deadline 18th of June, and that the S2R InfoDay of 6th February was successfully attended.

He further stated that the RCA (Reference “Command Control and Signaling” Architecture) requires further adjustments, and that this will be implemented from the perspective of the different IPs. RCA meetings were held by the S2R JU in this respect.

He provided the members of the Governing Board with an update on the 2018 grant signature status; all grant agreements of the 2018 call have been signed except for one. The CFM and OC Projects’ reviews show that the programme is in line with objectives, that overall there are expectations of a slightly slower funding absorption and that some adjustments of projects and transfer of resources to intertwined projects will take place.

He indicated that the FCH study’s final report is under approval, with a publication expected in April. A common event will be organised jointly by the S2R JU and the FCH JU on 17 May 2019 in Brussels.

The Systems Integration Working Group took place, with a focus on the Demo plans.

The Executive Director further stated that the S2R JU participated in several key events (Rail Live Bilbao, Space for Innovation in Rail in Vienna – a joint S2R-ERA-GSA event, etc.) where a lot of interest was expressed for the S2R Programme.

Moreover, the written procedure on the amendment of the Membership Agreements with the S2R JU has been finalised on 22nd March. Following this written procedure, the GB Decision N°01/2019 was adopted on 22nd March 2019 – including the amended 27 Membership Agreements as annexes. The Executive Director indicated that four Membership Agreements had been further updated as a result of the written procedure, and that since the amendment proposed by the Commission and the revisions received from these four Members are not on the substance, they are in compliance with Article 12(5) of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Board. The Executive Director will now proceed with the signature of the amended Membership Agreements on the basis of the amended versions. Should further administrative adjustments be required during the signature process without impact on substance, they will be brought to the attention of the Governing Board at its next meeting for information. Furthermore, the Executive Director indicated that according to Article 8 of the Membership Agreements, the “Membership Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which it is signed by the last party”.

The Executive Director then informed the members of the GB of the upcoming events, namely the International Exhibition of Railway Technology – SIFER 2018, in March in Lille, as well as the World Congress on Railway Research – WCRR, in October in Tokyo, and InnoTrans 2020 where the S2R JU will present demo activities and future activities. He invited the GB members to indicate whether their companies would like to participate on the S2R JU stands foreseen for these events, and whether they wish to present additional material.

Furthermore, the Executive Director shared with the GB members the plan to organise, back-to-back with the upcoming GB meeting of 14th November, an event on the results of S2R projects, inviting the new Commissioners for Mobility and Research to participate, and conveying the message of S2R2 in a more palpable form, in sync with the timing of the impact assessment on the Article 185/187 initiatives.

The Industrial Spokesperson suggested the organization of an event in Brussels, such as the one proposed by the Executive Director, and/or another under the Finnish or the Croatian Presidencies on S2R2 and in alignment with the work on the catalogue of solutions. The Chair welcomed this idea, and asked the Executive Director whether an event would be organised end of 2019 or beginning 2020, in Strasbourg, possibly with all the Joint Undertakings. The Executive Director indicated that the timeline would need to be discussed.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE GB OF 4 DECEMBER 2018

The Chair invited the participants to comment on the minutes of the eighteenth Governing Board meeting. The minutes of the eighteenth Governing Board meeting were adopted.

ITEMS FOR DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

5. ITEMS FOR DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD: There are no items of decision.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

6. PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2018 AND THE PROVISIONAL ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Executive Director of the S2R JU presented the draft Annual Activity Report 2018. In accordance with the S2R JU Regulation, in particular Article 10 of the Statutes of the Joint Undertaking, the draft AAR 2018 of the S2R JU was sent to the Governing Board members on 2nd March 2019. The Executive Director indicated that the document would still be subject to key updates in the next months and before the submission to the GB for approval, due to the following elements:

- The update declarations of the Members with regard to IKOP and IKAA, following the ongoing certification process till end of April 2019;
- The submission by the Members of the 2018 cost statements related to the ongoing projects;
- The results of the ongoing audits of the European Court of Auditors and the External Auditor;
- Any comments provided by the Commission and/or any other Members on the draft text.

The Executive Summary of the AAR 2018 provides the initial assessment of the status of the Programme and will be further elaborated considering the first two above-mentioned items. The Executive Director explained that the Executive Summary was extended to 3-4 pages, following the GB members request of last year asking for a better summary of the status of the Programme. He indicated that the programme status is now divided according to the progress of each IP.

Although the final draft will be submitted in the first half of May 2019 – when the Final Annual Accounts from the Commission Accounting Officer, the aforementioned audit reports, members' comments and project review results are available, the GB members were invited to produce their comments on this first draft by end of April.

The Executive Director also invited the Members coordinating an IP/CCA to pay particular attention to the summary assessment and the more detailed assessment in Section 1.7. In this respect, he invited the IP/CCA coordinators to present the progress on the respective IPs/CCA at the Governing Board of 24th June, which will assess the AAR and endorse it.

He stated that the document had also been provided to the Scientific Committee, to the States Representatives Group and to the URID WG.

The Executive Director then indicated that the provisional annual accounts were prepared by the Commission Accounting Officer (also S2R Accounting Officer) and submitted to the European Court of Auditors and the External Auditor in view of their respective audits and future discharge procedure. The comments are expected in April. The Executive Director stressed that for the time being there are no elements of materiality brought to the attention of the S2R JU. He underlined that this is all the more gratifying that the S2R JU pioneered the lump sum approach in 2018.

The Chair agreed and asked the members if they would like to share initial feedback from beneficiaries on the lump sum implementation. The Executive Director indicated that one of the preliminary comments received related to the financial experts' opinion on Lump Sum proposals, which was not inserted in the Proposal Evaluation Summary Report. He explained that this comment was nonetheless taken into account by the S2R JU during the GAP phase.

The Chair indicated she would appreciate receiving feedback in the future from the members on the implementation of advantages and possible drawbacks of the Lump Sum projects in the framework of this new administrative simplification.

The GB members took note of the information provided on the draft AAR 2018 and the provisional annual accounts.

7. *REPORT ON IKOP AND IKAA 2018*

The Executive Director indicated that the final report on the IKOP and IKAA was provided to the Governing Board members on 2nd March, and transmitted to the SRG, in accordance with the S2R Regulation. The Chair stressed that the document shows that the progress of the programme is in line with the expectations. The Executive Director further elaborated that there were no issues with regard to IKOP, and that the IKAA for additional activities is already well above the threshold, at 157 million Euros. The Executive Director stressed that the audit certificates of three members are not considered sufficient to account for the members' in-kind contribution as net assets. This view is also shared by the ECA. Discussions are currently on-going with the concerned members to find a way forward. The Executive Director reassured the members that this represents a small but key technicality in the recognition of the S2R JU's net assets.

The GB members took note of the information provided.

8. *UPDATE ON THE MAAP, S2R CATALOGUE OF SOLUTIONS*

The S2R JU Head of Research and Innovation presented the current progress on the MAAP Part B and the expected calendar that will bring it for adoption by the Governing Board by the end of the year, with a first draft publication expected in April, and the informal consultation of the GB, SC, SRG and URID-

WG from end April until end of June. A possible adjustment of Part A (pending also RCA and outcome of workshops discussions) could take place on 19th May. Formal submission to the GB for discussion and open consultation will take place on 19th June, with a possible GB adoption on 19th November.

Based on the results of the informal consultation process, the next steps will be decided in view of a possible adoption by the GB in November or by written procedure.

The Head of Research&Innovation also presented the first “S2R Catalogue of Solutions”, which is intended to be a marketing tool presenting all S2R solutions in a user-friendly way, with maximum two slides per solution. It should provide i.) a precise view of what each IP/CCA is delivering (what current investments are generating as possible solutions to be pushed in the market); ii.) an explanation of successful results in terms of possible products/solutions; iii.) detailed benefits for customers on the solutions provided; and iv.) the advantages of integrating the demonstrators into market solutions.

He indicated that the first draft version is ready, but still needs to be further refined. For the time being, more than 40 solutions have been put forward. Some solutions coming from R&I do not yet have an identified market.

He stated that the harmonisation of the presentation is ongoing, based on the Governing Board’s draft approval, and he presented three solutions as examples (track circuit maintenance, full electric last mile propulsion, and new wireless train backbone node), seeking the GB approval on the format and content.

The presentation will be made available to the GB for informal feedback and distributed afterward - possibly in the form of a brochure, if the content is agreed upon.

Regarding the MAAP Part B, the Industrial Spokesperson stated that a review process, involving the SI WG, should be established to ensure a complete document reaches the GB. The Commission representative stressed the importance of underlining the EU added-value and network-wide deployment of solutions, including from the regulatory and financial point of views.

The Vice-Chairperson of the States Representatives Group highlighted the need to stay in line with national development plans and already existing results and enhance communication with the SRG. The Chair indicated this point could be further addressed under agenda item 12.

The Chair underlined that the language of the catalogue of solutions should be adapted to the target audience, and asked how the content is being selected and how it will be validated. The Head of Research and Innovation indicated that the first validation is at the S2R JU level, and then at GB level.

The Industrial Spokesperson stated that the catalogue for solutions should also identify if the solutions require a change in standards or a change of company procurement processes. The ERA observer stressed the importance of new standards and assessment of conformity.

The Trafikverket representative stated clarity should be made as to which S2R is addressed (S2R or S2R2).

The Executive Director highlighted that the MAAP is related to S2R and acts as a bridging point for R&I up to the next Framework Programme, with the ERRAC document of April 2019 as starting point for S2R. He further stated that regarding the catalogue for solutions, it should not replace the demo roadmap or standardization planning, and that the cooperation of the GB members was expected.

The GB members took note of the information provided on the MAAP Part B and the Catalogue of Solutions.

9. PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT AWP 2020

The Head of Research and Innovation indicated that the preliminary draft budget 2020 and the AWP 2020 were shared with the GB members in January 2019, with deadline for comments by 8th March. It includes an estimate of the S2R JU revenue and expenditure and the general guidelines underlying these estimates. This is the first step towards the preparation of the AWP2020 that is expected to be adopted by the Governing Board on 14th November 2019. Based on the comments received, a more detailed version of the AWP will be prepared by 24th May, and the draft AWP 2020 will then be submitted to the SRG and SC by end of April for final input by end of July 2019. The draft version will then be sent to the GB on 16th October for decision on the 14th November.

A dedicated workshop will be organised back-to-back with the 4th of September GB.

The Head of Research and Innovation presented the content of the draft AWP 2020, indicating that in terms of co-funding, each Membership Agreement is being completed, and that all TD activities for CFM are being closed and all call topics are reaching TRL 7.

The SmartDeMain representative recommended splitting IP3.

The Chairperson of the States Representatives Group asked whether it would be possible to indicate which IP may serve as input for the Open Calls. The Chair stated that topics need to be self-standing and the topics should be well-defined.

The Executive Director underlined that the aim of the September workshop will be to perform a coherence check of the draft AWP2020. If issues are detected in the call, an email should be sent to the S2R info-call mailbox for publication in the official call 2019 Q&A.

The GB members took note of the information provided on the draft AWP2020.

10. EUROPEAN NOTE ON ACCESS TO PROJECT RESULTS

The Chair presented the Commission note on access to project results of 20th December 2018, which was circulated to the GB members. The note indicates that the Commission has the right to access the results of participants who received European Union funding under Horizon 2020 for the duly justified purpose of developing, implementing and monitoring European Union policies or programmes (cf Article 49(1) of the H2020 Rules for Participation). This right is also embedded in the JU MGAs under Article 31(5) as an obligation of beneficiaries to grant the European Union institutions with access to their project results for policy purposes.

This access right/obligation covers the content of proposals and the project results, and is also extended to any confidential information included therein (as stipulated in Article 36(1) of the JU MGA).

In any case, the Chair stressed that the Commission is bound by a general duty to maintain confidentiality under Article 3 of the H2020 Rules for Participation and under Article 20 of the Delegation Agreements between the Commission and the JUs. In addition, the Commission staff has an obligation to refrain from any unauthorised disclosure of information received in the line of duty. Moreover, the Commission processes personal data in accordance with the new EU Data protection Regulation (EU) N° 2018/1725.

The benefits of this obligation include having a global overview at Framework Programme level of the R&I areas already explored and funded, participation data and statistics and identifying synergies among the different parts of the programme.

Therefore, Commission services dealing with JUs and other Commission services dealing with the evaluation of the Framework Programme will be granted full access on the basis of necessity and proportionality. Furthermore, access will be provided on a need-to-know basis. A list of names of Commission staff are enclosed in Annex to the note in this respect.

The Chair indicated that the letter from the Commission was already distributed by the Executive Director on 27th December 2018 and that will be further distributed to the Governing Board.

The GB members took note of the information provided by the Chair; they did not express any comments and validated the approach presented on access to project results, as established in the letter of 20th December 2018 based on Article 31.5 of the Model Grant Agreement.

11. PRESENTATION OF THE INFRASTRUCTURES TESTING FACILITY PAPER

Mr Robert Liskounig, SNE at the S2R JU, presented the work of the infrastructure test facilities working group, including the development and next steps for S2R's position paper on European railway R&I testing facilities. The detailed feedback of ERA to the second draft was highly appreciated by the JU.

Based on the relaunch of the survey of testing facilities in Europe, the JU will start to work on a testing facility inventory to provide robust and easily available information to the sector.

The Commission representative asked if S2R envisages financing in order to perform the R&I planned work. He considered that proving a virtual testing is more linked to product implementation and less linked to R&I. He stressed the need to explain the EU added-value of European testing facilities.

The Executive Director explained that the S2R programme is not financing test facilities, but that in the MAAP adopted by the GB there is virtual testing R&I and in particular a dedicated TD in IP2. He stressed the need to also align with the work deployed by the Commission in the field of testing facilities.

The Industrial Spokesperson said that the main issue is the fact that the infrastructure IP3 results do not have a place in Europe where a high level of tonnage for infrastructure cannot be tested in a coherent manner in one facility for consistent results. Moreover, with regard to the scope of this activity, he asked to clarify the ambiguity between infrastructure for testing and infrastructure to be tested.

The Chair concluded by underlining that a mapping of the existing testing facilities compared to S2R R&I needs is necessary, coupled with the identification of gaps, and thanked the JU for having relaunched the survey with the Member States. She explained that the future EC Framework Programme for Research and Innovation could finance design studies, but before this, an agreement on priorities is needed. The Structural Funds cover 37 billion euros across the European Union to also finance this type of activities.

12. PRESENTATION ON COOPERATION WITH REGIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The Executive Director presented the work of the S2R JU following the request from the European Parliament with regard to the establishment of relations with regions/Member States to mutualise R&I and to foster deployment, and the request from the Commissioner on establishing S2R as a platform for international relations under the Commission umbrella, in order to foster European standards and the competitiveness of the European rail industry.

He presented the MoUs signed by the S2R JU (with the Czech Republic) and the imminent signature of MoUs with CUTRIC/CRITUC, the World Alliance for Efficient Solutions, GCC project and ETSI.

He also provided an overview of the ongoing work on cooperation with ESIF Funds and with European regions (Andalusia, Basque Region, Dutch regions, Austrian regions, and Regions that have indicated railway as a priority in 3S documents).

The Executive Director further exhorted the Members to provide support in the identification of regional needs so that the EFSI representatives can be informed of the stakeholder needs and operationalise an appropriate collaboration with S2R.

The SRG Vice-Chairperson explained that national funding instruments can be used to support S2R Demo projects, and that there is a need to sign additional MoUs with other regions in order to create fruitful synergies.

As regards the World Alliance for Efficient Solutions, he mentioned that according to the Commission, there is no legal basis for S2R JU becoming a member of the World Alliance. Therefore, a two-pronged approach will be deployed, implying on the one hand the sponsoring by two S2R Members (Alstom and Bombardier) of the three S2R solutions pre-selected for the 1000 Solutions Label, and on the other hand, the signature by the S2R JU of an MoU with the World Alliance in order to attain collaborator status, on par with the European Commission.

The GB members took note of the information provided.

13. PRESENTATION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES BY THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

At the request of the Industry Spokesperson and further to the agreement of the GB on 4 December 2018, the Chairperson of the SC was invited to make a presentation of the activities performed by the SC during the previous year, the expected 2019 activities, and the impact of the changes introduced by the new rules of procedures.

The Chairperson of the SC presented the current composition of the SC (10 members), as well as the profiles of the candidates on the reserve list.

She explained that the rules of procedure of the Scientific Committee were amended to allow SC members to be contracted as individual experts by the S2R JU for the review of S2R projects, whilst ensuring their independence, their impartiality and the absence of conflict of interest. Following the approval at the 18th Governing Board meeting of the amendment to the SC Rules of Procedure, a consolidated version was published on the S2R JU website, along with the Executive Director Decision ED-18-14 of December 2018 “Request for Amendment to the Rules of Procedure of the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking Scientific Committee”. The amended provisions are the following: Article 6, Article 11, Annexes 1 to 3. SC members will now indicate whether they wish to be engaged in the review of projects and if so, they will register in the H2020 database.

She indicated that in 2019, the focus should be placed on filling in the vacant seats of the SC. In order to fill the two vacant positions, the profiles from the reserve list will be shared with the SC members under confidentiality restrictions, indicating which profiles are the most interesting in light of the current composition of the SC. A written procedure to the SC will then be launched in order to put forward 2

names for the GB approval at the meeting of June 2019. A new call for expression of interest would be launched after, and the rotational mechanism of one-third will apply as of 2020.

The Chairperson of the SC highlighted the quality of the draft AAR 2018, and stated that the members of the SC had highly appreciated the restructuring brought to the Executive Summary. She detailed the activities and contributions of the SC in 2018 and 2019.

The Chairperson concluded by stating that the SC members wished for an increased consideration of their role and of their comments provided to the documents of the S2R JU programming cycle, as well as an involvement at an earlier stage in the creation of the various documents.

The Chair agreed, stating that a programme focused on R&I requires a strong scientific credibility.

The Executive Director replied that certainly the SC comments are highly appreciated and recalled the clear mandate given to the SC in the S2R JU Regulation. He stated that the process of involving the SC members in the Programme should be improved. For this very reason, amending the Rules of Procedure and allowing the SC members to be engaged as experts in the review of the projects will result in a better understanding of the Programme's future needs, fostering a stronger connection in the full project cycle. S2R will therefore test the new setup of the Scientific Committee in 2019 and 2020 and put forward some lessons learnt for the next Framework Programme.

The Industrial Spokesperson stated that the SC should advise the S2R JU on the relevance of science and the quality of research.

The Siemens representative encouraged the SC to be more forthcoming, sharing their vision of the future from a scientific perspective, and not solely reacting on R&I topics setup to implement the MAAP.

The Executive Director highlighted that in addition to the mandate given to the SC in the S2R Regulation, the SC is involved in the definition of the MAAP. This can also be suggested for the design of the new legal framework.

The Chair concluded by suggesting that at the next GB Meeting, the IP/CCA coordinators presenting the results of their activities should also explain how the SC input has been taken into account.

The Chair thanked the Chairperson of the SC for her presentation and the messages conveyed.

14. INFORMATION FROM THE COMMISSION ON THE PROCEDURE FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNUAL APPRAISAL AND ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Commission representative explained that the Director General of DG MOVE, Mr Hololei, wishes to be of the Reporting Officer for all Executive Directors of the agencies and joint undertakings under DG MOVE supervision. In addition, the appeal assessor for the appraisal of the Executive Director of S2R JU will also need to be nominated.

The Decisions concerned are the GB Decision N°02/2018 of 23 March 2018 concerning the annual appraisal, probationary and management trial period of the Executive Director of the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking and the GB Decision N°19/2016 concerning the nomination of the Reporting Officers for the implementation of article 14(3) of the CEOS.

The Governing Board gave its agreement to the change of Reporting Officer on the European Commission side and the Appeal Assessor with regard to the annual appraisal of the Executive Director. The Commission representative indicated that a written procedure will be launched for this purpose.

Regarding the Annual declaration of interests of the Executive Director, it shall be sent to the GB for assessment. The Chair proposed to the GB members that two GB members should be designated to assess the annual declaration of the Executive Director and bring to the attention of the Governing Board any matter of interest. Where no element would require follow up, the Governing Board will be informed accordingly by the Commission. The names of the designated assessors will be recorded in the minutes of the GB meeting; no decision of the Governing Board is needed in this respect.

Regarding the recruitment procedures, if the Executive Director declares that he has a conflict of interest arising from the selection process (i.e. when the Executive Director declares to know one or several candidates in personal capacity and declares that he cannot maintain his impartiality and neutrality), he will immediately inform the GB. In addition, in such a scenario, the Chair proposed to have the same approach as for the annual declaration. . The Governing Board will be informed accordingly and take the necessary steps.

This procedure is recorded in the minutes as agreed to by the GB

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

16.AOB

The Ansaldo STS representative presented the rebranding of Ansaldo STS into Hitachi Rail STS as of the 1st of April 2019. Hitachi completed the full acquisition of Ansaldo shares and, subsequently, delisted the Company from the Italian Stock Exchange starting from 30th January 2019.

The company's legal addresses, registration numbers, share capitals, invoicing details and VAT numbers shall remain unchanged. As a consequence, except for the re-branding, legal and contractual obligations concerning the participation in S2R remain unchanged including at Membership and Project levels.

The Chair confirmed that the legal services of the Commission indicated that no amendments are needed to the Grant Agreements or any other legal acts in this respect.

The Commission representative presented the current interest some Hyperloop promoters have in terms of support from the European Union, mainly on standardisation and regulatory activities. Activities could be supported in the future, depending on the funding opportunities. He indicated Hyperloop technologies should remain under the radar screen in the future. The Executive Director mentioned that S2R is involved in the discussion.

***INDICATIVE LISTS OF DOCUMENTS TO BE ADOPTED AT THE
NEXT BOARD MEETING OR BY WRITTEN PROCEDURE***

- Written procedure to amend the Decision on the procedure for the Executive Director annual appraisal.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next GB meeting will take place on 24th June 2019.

The subsequent GB meeting will take place on 4th September 2019 (possibly by conference call) with adoption of the 2019 call results and organization of a workshop on the AWP2020 and KPI model.

Done in Brussels on 25th March



Signed:

Henrik HOLOLEI

Chairman of the Governing Board