



**DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE FUEL CELLS AND
HYDROGEN 2 JOINT UNDERTAKING
ADOPTING THE ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET FOR 2017**

**THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE FUEL CELLS AND HYDROGEN 2 JOINT
UNDERTAKING (FCH 2 JU),**

HAVING REGARD TO the Statutes annexed to Council Regulation (EC) No 559/2014 of 6 May 2014 establishing the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking (FCH 2 JU) and in particular Article 7.3(c) and (g), and Article 16;

HAVING REGARD TO the Financial Rules of the FCH 2 JU adopted by the Governing Board on 22 May 2016 and in particular Articles 15 and 31.4;

HAVING REGARD TO Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 laying down the rules for participation and dissemination in "Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)" and in particular Article 9(5);

HAVING REGARD TO the FCH 2 JU Governing Board Rules of Procedure and in particular Article 11 thereof;

WHEREAS:

- 1) The annual work plan should provide the authorisation from the Governing Board for the operational and administrative activities of the FCH 2 JU;
- 2) The annual budget should provide the authorisation from the Governing Board for:
 - (a) the revenue and expenditure considered necessary for the FCH 2 JU to cover its activities including a summary statement of the schedule of payment for the subsequent financial years; and
 - (b) the staff establishment plan indicating the number of temporary posts by function group and by grade and complemented with the number of contract staff and seconded national experts;
- 3) It is imperative that key innovation actions of strategic importance, which accelerate the commercialisation of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies and thereby achieve the principal objective of the FCH 2 JU partnership, are closely linked to the FCH 2 JU constituency in order to ensure full alignment with the FCH 2 JU strategic agenda (MAWP) and to ensure the continuity of the work performed within projects funded through the FCH 2 JU under FP7, by building up on their experience;

In this context it is also crucial to secure that relevant project results are exploited fully in line with the commercialization needs of the European industry with maximised cross-fertilisation of knowledge within the whole sector, which can be greatly facilitated by the presence of Industry Grouping (Hydrogen Europe) or Research Grouping (N.ERGHY) constituent entities among the participants in the consortium;

Strengthened exchange of information between the sector players (through presence of FCH 2 JU members' constituent entities) will help avoid duplication of effort with other activities performed outside the FCH 2 JU and contribute to a maximum coherence of the overall European technology investment and a maximum impact of the EU funding;

According to Article 9(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013, the annual work plan where appropriate and duly justified, may provide for additional conditions according to specific policy requirements or to the nature and objectives of the action, including inter alia conditions regarding the number of participants, the type of participant and the place of establishment;

Therefore, for some, well-identified topics it is duly justified to require as an additional condition for participation that at least one constituent entity of the Industry Grouping (Hydrogen Europe) or of the Research Grouping (N.ERGHY) is among the participants in the consortium. These topics relate to topics of strategic importance of horizontal nature: Large demonstration and overarching projects or specific projects of key significance for the FCH sector from energy and transport pillars;

The annual work plan identifies three call topics concerning large demonstration and overarching projects and specific projects of key significance and justifies their significance for the FCH 2 JU;

- 4) The Scientific Committee advised on the scientific priorities in the annual work plan for 2017 on 09/09/2016.
- 5) The States Representatives Group provided its opinion on the annual work plan for 2017 on 07/09/2016.

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Article 1

The FCH 2 JU Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2017 set out in the Annex is adopted.

Article 2

The Executive Director shall make publicly available the Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2017 on the FCH 2 JU website.

Article 3

This decision shall enter into force on the day following its adoption by the FCH 2 JU Governing Board.

Done at Brussels, on 20/12/2016

For the Governing Board of the FCH 2 JU,
Mr Raphaël Schoentgen
Chair of the Governing Board



Annex: Annual Work Plan and Budget of the FCH 2 JU for 2017