



**DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE FUEL CELLS AND HYDROGEN 2 JOINT UNDERTAKING
ADOPTING THE ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND THE BUDGET FOR 2015**

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 Articles 7.3. (c) and (g) 5 and 16.

HAVING REGARD TO the FCH 2 JU Financial rules, 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)"

WHEREAS the annual work plan is the document similar to the Commission work programme adopted by funding bodies entrusted with part of the implementation of Horizon 2020 in accordance with Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013.

WHEREAS the annual work plan should provide the authorisation by the Governing Board for the operational expenditure of the FCH 2 JU on the activities it covers.

WHEREAS the annual work plan should include a plan of research and innovation activities as well as administrative activities and the corresponding expenditure estimates for the coming year.

WHEREAS the Executive Director presents to the Governing Board the Annual Work Plan for 2015 and the Budget 2015 together with the Staff Establishment Plan 2015.

WHEREAS the Annual Work Plan 2015 and the Budget 2015 must be adopted before the beginning of the year 2014,

WHEREAS the content of the call for proposals 2015 should take into account the results of the evaluation of the call for proposals 2014 to ensure that there is no gap or overlap in the topics for which a proposal will be actually funded.

WHEREAS the call for proposal 2014 was launched only in the second part of the year as the FCH 2 JU legal base entered into force in June 2014 and as a consequence the results of the call for proposals 2014 will only be known in the beginning of 2015.

WHEREAS 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.

WHEREAS 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.

WHEREAS 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-fertilization of knowledge within the whole sector, which can be greatly facilitated by the presence of NEW-IG or N.ERGHY members in these consortia.

WHEREAS strengthened exchange of information between the sector players (through presence of members) 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.

WHEREAS for some, well-identified topics it is therefore duly justified to require as an additional condition for participation that at least one constituent entity of the Industry Grouping or Research Grouping is among the participants in the consortium. These topics should relate to (1) topics of strategic importance of horizontal nature: Large demonstration and overarching projects or (2) specific projects of key significance for the FCH sector from energy and transport pillars

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Annual Work Plan of the FCH 2 JU for 2015 annexed to this decision (Annexes 1 and 2) is hereby adopted

Article 2

The list of topics for the call for proposals included in Annual Work Plan 2015 shall be updated and complemented with a detailed description for all topics, following the outcome of the call 2014, which is not yet known, including the specification of any additional conditions for participation.

This shall be done through an amendment adopted according to the same procedure as this decision.

Article 3

The Budget 2015 and the Staff establishment plan 2015 annexed to this decision (Annexes 3) are hereby adopted.

Article 4

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

This decision and its annexes shall be made available on the website of the FCH 2 JU. The call for proposals 2015 shall also be published on the Horizon 2020 Participant Portal.

Done at Brussels, on.....

For the Governing Board of the FCH 2 JU

Pierre Etienne Franc Chair of the Governing Board

- Annex 1: The Annual Work Plan of the FCH 2 JU for 2015 Part 1
- Annex 2: The Annual Work Plan of the FCH 2 JU for 2015 Part 2
- Annex 3a: The Budget 2015
- Annex 3b: the Staff establishment plan 2015