



DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE ECSEL JOINT UNDERTAKING

Amending Decision ECSEL GB 2017.79 on ECSEL Lighthouse Initiatives

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE ECSEL JOINT UNDERTAKING,

Having regard to the Statutes annexed to Council Regulation (EU) 561/2014 of 6 May 2014 establishing the ECSEL Joint Undertaking¹ and in particular Articles 5, 6 and 7 of the Statutes,

Having regard to decision ECSEL GB 2015.47 adopting the work plan 2016 as well as decision ECSEL GB 2016.75 adopting the work plan 2017 and decision ECSEL GB 2017.96 adopting the work plan 2018;

Having regard to decision ECSEL GB 2017.79 on Lighthouse Initiatives;

Having regard to the ECSEL Guide for Applicants with regards to ECSEL Calls for Proposals;

WHEREAS:

- 1) The work plan 2016 introduced for the first time the concept of Lighthouse Initiatives aimed at “improving and accelerating the impact of ECSEL JU by engaging all needed actors in the supply/value chain”, “giving industry in Europe differentiating factors to compete in next generation integrated solutions for electronic components and systems”.
- 2) The first projects for the Lighthouse Initiatives are to be selected among the projects retained for funding by the ECSEL Public Authorities Board in the respective Calls for Proposals.

¹ OJ L 169/152 of 7.06.2014

- 3) Consortia have expressed their aspiration to become part of a Lighthouse Initiative. ECSEL should build on their willingness, nurture their dynamism and provide a means to capture their enthusiasm. This may involve providing an opportunity for these Lighthouse Initiatives to be instrumental in building a strategic project portfolio and to assist them in implementing a comprehensive outreach strategy. In this, individual company interests and public interest should go together without giving undue advances and in full respect of the rules, including transparency, openness and competition.
- 4) Legal clarity about the functioning of Lighthouse Initiatives and the advisory role of the LIASE is required to ensure that all power of decision remains within the remit of the Governing Board in accordance with Article 7 no. 3q) of the Statutes annexed to the Council Regulation Establishing the ECSEL Joint Undertaking;
- 5) The Governing Board shall amend its original decision on Lighthouse Initiatives.

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING:

Article 1 – Lighthouse Initiatives

1.1 Definition and Purpose of a “Lighthouse Initiative”

A “Lighthouse Initiative” is a concept first introduced by the Governing Board of the ECSEL Joint Undertaking in the Annual Work Plan 2016 to signpost a specific subject of common European interest that calls for a set of coordinated activities² including, but not limited to, facilitating the cooperation of several ECSEL Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs) and Innovation Actions (IAs) with H2020 (e.g. FET Flagships), Eureka, national or regional projects, as well as the contribution to standardisation, or assisting the uptake of technology to address societal challenges. Lighthouse Initiatives provide a "container/umbrella" for a set of well-coordinated activities.

The goal of Lighthouse Initiatives is to focus part of the ECSEL JU activities on achieving concrete socio-economic objectives along an agreed approach, including for establishing de facto standards when appropriate. Lighthouse Initiatives should improve and accelerate the impact of relevant projects by engaging all needed actors in the supply/value chain to achieve these goals and by connecting investment in R&I in ECSEL JU with investments done, for example, in application areas in the Societal Challenges in HORIZON 2020 or EUREKA, as well as giving recommendations to R&I investments in ECSEL that are in accordance with other policy measures, such as standardisation or deployment and regulatory measures.

² Examples of coordinated activities are field tests, active involvement of third private parties etc.

1.2 Application of the “Lighthouse Initiative” concept in ECSEL

Lighthouse Initiatives combine bottom-up and top-down processes:

- *Bottom-up* refers to the application for becoming Lighthouse Initiatives and actual project submissions by consortia, as well as to the implementation of the Lighthouse Initiative as an activity.
- *Top-down* refers to the selection and endorsement of Lighthouse Initiatives corner stoned by an approved ECSEL project, and later strategic guidance, provided by the ECSEL Governing Board.

A Lighthouse Initiative project proposal within ECSEL shall follow the rules and conditions that apply to any other project in ECSEL without any preferential treatment. There will be a strict separation between:

- The procedures regarding the application, selection and funding of projects in ECSEL: exclusive competences of the Public Authorities Board; and
- The processes that govern the endorsement of a Lighthouse Initiative: A competence of the Governing Board.

1.3 The Governing Board as the strategic driver and ‘go-between’

The Governing Board is uniquely positioned to raise the agenda of the Lighthouse Initiatives with the ECSEL Participating States, the European Commission, ECSEL Industry Associations and other relevant stakeholders and communities.

In particular, the ECSEL Participating States and the Commission should try to take an active stance to promote the results and, where appropriate, to facilitate take-up at policy level.

Article 2 – Supporting Lighthouses and setting up of LIASE

2.1 Procedural Steps

Step 1: Endorsement of Lighthouse Initiatives by the Governing Board

On the basis of Lighthouse proposals submitted by approved projects of the ECSEL calls, the ECSEL Governing Board can select as Lighthouse Initiatives those proposals that:

- will benefit from this endorsement;

- will have a large impact on the market as a result of the proposed actions, and
- have a potential mobilising effect on the stakeholders.

The Governing Board shall take the decision of launching a new Lighthouse Initiative through a motion to include its description in the ECSEL Annual Work Plan.

Step 2: Supporting the selected Lighthouse Initiatives in the ECSEL Multiannual Strategic Plan (MASP)

The Executive Director will make a proposal to the Governing Board as to how the Lighthouse Initiative may be supported in the next MASP. The Governing Board will then take a decision. This may take place at the same time as the implementation of the Lighthouse Initiative, which can cause an impact on the MASP at a later stage.

Step 3: Setting up a LIASE and developing a "Lighthouse Initiative Roadmap"

For each Lighthouse Initiative that is selected by the Governing Board, a "Lighthouse Initiative Advisory Service" (hereinafter LIASE) will be initiated by the ECSEL JU Office. The provisions regarding the composition and detailed role of LIASE are laid out in Article 2.2.

The initial task of the LIASE is to develop the "Lighthouse Initiative Roadmap" as follows:

- drafting technical and non-technical objectives to be achieved in order to define and realise the mission of the Lighthouse Initiative;
- the Lighthouse Initiative Roadmap shall be drafted in a comprehensive way and set out concrete actions, beyond project implementation and control points, which allow a meaningful measuring of progress and impact and building coherently upon the ECSEL MASP through a dialogue with the PMB
- the Lighthouse Initiative Roadmap shall have noticeable support of top-level executives of relevant entities covering significant R&D&I efforts in Europe in the field of each Lighthouse Initiative. The LIASE group is responsible for keeping the roadmap up to date and for facilitating and monitoring its implementation.

To ensure impact of the proposed actions described in the Roadmap, it is important that the Roadmap is supported and promoted by top-level executives and is well communicated to relevant stakeholders. Formal endorsement of the Roadmap by those stakeholders that wish to do so is possible.

Step 4: Supporting Role of the ECSEL JU office and of the Governing Board

The ECSEL JU office will assist in providing administrative and communication support to the LIASE throughout its lifetime.

The Governing Board will decide case by case on how to support the Lighthouse Initiative. This may include the setting up by the Governing Board of one or several Working Groups to act as the point of contact for the LIASE or any other appropriate measure.

2.2 “Lighthouse Initiative Advisory Service” (LIASE)

Composition of LIASE

The membership of LIASE will be initiated by the ECSEL JU Office by taking into account suggestions of ECSEL members (Participating States, European Commission and ECSEL Industry Associations) and agreed by the Governing Board (in accordance with Article 7 no. 3q of the statutes annexed to the ECSEL founding regulation). The Governing Board will in particular decide on specific conditions required for this membership. The LIASE will include project leaders and action holders capable of executing its tasks, as defined in step 3 of Article 2.1.

Membership of LIASE should be open to experts that can and are willing to contribute to the implementation of the Lighthouse Initiative. LIASE can invite third parties with well-defined, specialised *ad hoc* roles, which are independent from decision making authorities in ECSEL JU, when their participation is beneficial to or essential for the achievement of the Lighthouse Initiative ambitions.

Objectives of LIASE

The main task of LIASE is to develop, maintain, facilitate and monitor the implementation of the Lighthouse Initiative Roadmap as described in step 3 of Article 2.1, including the conditions for achieving the ambitions of the Lighthouse Initiative.

To this end:

- A Lighthouse Initiative must go beyond the mere collection of a set of projects. LIASE shall therefore inter alia:
 - Bring projects closer together;
 - Facilitate interaction and communication between projects;
 - Facilitate cooperation and coordination with other European initiatives or projects;
 - Formulate, as part of the Roadmap, concrete objectives and timeframes for the Lighthouse Initiative level activities;
 - Address roadblocks for the implementation of project results;

- Propose topics to be included in the MASP and/or the ECSEL Annual Work Plan. This may include suggestions for activities such as procurement, inclusion of non-technical issues to be addressed, specific communication events that it deems necessary to achieve the ambition of the Lighthouse Initiative.
 - The decision on including those proposals in the ECSEL documents will be made by the Governing Board.
- It is assumed that, in most cases, non-technical support activities will increase the impact of the technical projects included in the Lighthouse Initiative. Non-technical support activities include contacts with organisations like insurance companies, interest groups, regulators, etc. as well as advice for the Lighthouse Initiative on legislation, standardisation, communication, conditioning for large scale experiments, etc.

Thus, LIASE shall:

- Define, when needed, an agenda with third parties (private or public) on topics relevant for achieving the Lighthouse Initiative objectives. Examples include impact of legal issues, regulation, standardisation to the objectives of the Lighthouse Initiative roadmap etc.;
 - Assist coordination between the public and private sector within the domain of the Lighthouse Initiative;
 - Interact with and report to the Governing Board on development and progress of the Lighthouse Initiative objectives;
 - Propose other support activities.
- Reporting and Outreach:
 - By default at each Governing Board, a LIASE representative shall present a Lighthouse Initiative activities update including an updated list of the projects participating to the Lighthouse Initiatives;
 - It is of the responsibility of LIASE to present to the ECSEL Governing Board, a report on the Activity Plan and its implementation once per year;
 - LIASE shall support effective outreach;
 - LIASE shall ensure communication among the participating projects with the aim of maximizing the efficiency and impact of the Lighthouse Initiative actions.

Further considerations on the Role of LIASE

- LIASE should balance entrepreneurial spirit and public interests.
- LIASE will prepare a Strategy to be endorsed by the relevant private actors and/or public parties. This Strategy must contain a vision and a mission for the Lighthouse and shall be

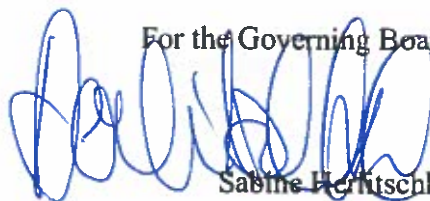
described in the form of a public Strategy white paper. LIASE will communicate this document and seek its endorsement by the relevant private and public parties.

- Based upon that Strategy, LIASE will identify projects (within or outside ECSEL) that contribute to one or more of its objectives. These projects will be presented to the Governing Board, who can invite them to become part of a Lighthouse Initiative. Other projects, not identified by LIASE, that express a wish to join will be analysed. If, according to LIASE, they contribute to one or more of the objectives of the Lighthouse Initiatives, the Governing Board can equally invite these projects into the existing Lighthouse Initiatives. All invitations will be fully minuted and formally agreed through an endorsement by the GB of the report by the LIASE to the GB.
- Based on the endorsed Strategy, LIASE will identify ongoing non-technical activities that contribute to one or more of its goals. LIASE will not supervise these activities, but will invite relevant private or public parties which are independent from decision making authorities in ECSEL JU to provide essential guidance and support on an *ad hoc* basis. LIASE will also look into spontaneous third-party offers by such entities, or those suggested by ECSEL members. The LIASE will ensure communication between the actors with the aim of avoiding unnecessary overlap; it will also identify gaps which preclude realization of the goals (and report these gaps to the relevant endorsers of the Strategy) and it will assist in maximizing the impact of the non-technical activities. Each year, the LIASE will report to the Governing Board which actors, dealing with non-technical activities, were admitted, which were refused and the rationale for each.

Article 3 – Entry into force

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, on 28th June 2018

For the Governing Board

Sabine Herfitschka
Chairperson of the Governing Board

