



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE GLOBAL HEALTH EDCTP3 JOINT UNDERTAKING

1. Background

The Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking (GH EDCTP3 JU) is a partnership between the European Union and the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) Association whose members are several EU Member States and Associated countries and several African countries. The GH EDCTP3 JU is established by Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 of 19 November 2021 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe¹. It aims at supporting clinical research to deliver solutions to reduce the burden of infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa and strengthen research capacities to prepare and respond to emerging infectious diseases.

The first and second European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) programmes^{2,3} represent since 2003 a flagship for conducting sound multi-country clinical trials in sub-Saharan Africa, building a true partnership between Europe and Africa, and fostering African leadership in scientific research. These programmes have also contributed to improving linkages between African researchers and African research organisations, which resulted in the launch of four African Regional Networks of Excellence for clinical trials. Moreover, they have strengthened the ethics review capacity and national regulatory authorities in many African countries and contributed to establish relevant organisations in the region.

Building on the positive experience of the previous EDCTP programmes, the GH EDCTP3 JU intends to:

- Reduce the socio-economic burden of infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa by promoting the development and uptake of new or improved health technologies;

¹ Council Regulation (EU)2021/2085 of 19 November 2021 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe and repealing Regulations (EC) No 219/2007, (EU) No 557/2014, (EU) No 558/2014, (EU) No 559/2014, (EU) No 560/2014, (EU) No 561/2014 and (EU) No 642/2014 (OJ L 427 of 30/11/2021, p. 17–119)

² Decision 556/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the participation of the Union in a second European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership Programme (EDCTP2) jointly undertaken by several Member States EUR-Lex - 32014D0556 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)

³ Decision No 1209/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 June 2003 on Community participation in a research and development programme aimed at developing new clinical interventions to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis through a long-term partnership between Europe and developing countries, undertaken by several Member States

- Increase health security in sub-Saharan Africa and globally by strengthening the research and innovation-based capacities for preparedness and response to control infectious diseases.

GH EDCTP3 JU is established until 31 December 2031. During the initial period until the Joint Undertaking has reached autonomy the operations are managed by the European Commission.

The governance of the GH EDCTP3 JU is led by a Governing Board, in which both the EDCTP Association and the European Commission, representing the Union, have equal votes. The implementation of the programme is ensured by a programme office under the lead of an Executive Director. The GH EDCTP3 JU is to be advised by a Scientific Committee and a Stakeholders Group.

The Scientific Committee of the GH EDCTP3 JU has the following tasks:

- advise on the scientific priorities to be addressed in the work programmes including on scope of calls for proposals, in line with the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and the Horizon Europe strategic planning;
- advise on the scientific achievements to be described in the annual activity report;
- suggest, in view of the progress of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and individual actions, corrective measures or re-orientations to the governing board, where necessary;
- provide independent advice and scientific analysis on specific issues as requested by the governing board, in particular as regards developments in adjacent sectors or to support the assessment of applications of potential associated members and contributing partners;
- assist in the design of the strategic and scientific planning of the activities of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking;
- advise on strategies to foster synergies and partnerships with all stakeholders;
- contribute to the preparation of strategic and scientific documents relevant to the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, as required;
- provide strategic and scientific advice to the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking and ensure the successful completion of on-going projects;
- identify strategic needs and priorities for accelerating the development of new or improved clinical interventions, including the required training, networking and capacity building to be undertaken to achieve those objectives;
- review the landscape of poverty-related and neglected diseases to identify the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking's role in partnership with other stakeholders to accelerate the development or improvement of interventions against those diseases;
- assess the state of global product development pathways and the critical path opportunities for future product development;
- provide advice on the review of any calls for proposals and other programmes;
- provide support and input on the monitoring and evaluation framework of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, as well as in the monitoring of scientific outcomes and strategic impacts of the grants funded by the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking;

- (n) advise, assist and participate in Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking working groups, stakeholder meetings, EDCTP Forum and other relevant events.

2. Composition of the group

There shall be a balanced representation of experts among the members of the Scientific Committee, within the scope of the activities of the Joint Undertaking, including with respect to gender and geographical balance. Collectively, the members of the Scientific Committee shall have the necessary competences and expertise covering the technical domain in order to make science-based recommendations to the joint undertaking, taking into account the climate, environmental and socioeconomic impact of such recommendations and the objectives of the joint undertaking.

The Scientific Committee shall ensure the inclusion of scientific expertise from African countries.

The Scientific Committee will have fifteen to eighteen Members. Through this call for Expression of Interest a short-list of candidates will be constituted to fill the available seats on the Scientific Committee.

In order to fill seats that may fall vacant, a reserve list of up to thirty candidates for membership in the GH EDCTP3 JU Scientific Committee will also be constituted.

3. Appointment

The Governing Board of the GH EDCTP3 JU shall appoint the members of the Scientific Committee for a three year period. They shall remain in office until replaced or until the end of their term of office, whichever is earlier. Upon recommendation by the Executive Director, the Governing Board may decide to renew the appointment for an additional period of two years.

The approved reserve list shall be valid for the duration of the term, including any subsequent renewal, of the appointed Scientific Committee. In case of a vacancy, the Governing Board shall, subject to continuing eligibility in terms of the criteria presented in section 5, select a new member from the reserve list for a period of three years or for the rest of the duration of the term of the Scientific Committee, whichever is the shortest.

4. Rules of engagement and operation of the Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee shall elect its chair from among its members.

The Scientific Committee shall meet at least twice a year in GH EDCTP3 JU premises or virtually depending on the circumstances. Meetings shall be convened by the chairperson.

The chairperson may invite other persons to attend its meetings as observers. The Scientific Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure. The agenda of meetings shall be made publicly available in a timely manner on the website of the GH EDCTP3 JU.

After each meeting of the scientific advisory body, its chairperson shall submit to the Governing Board a report outlining the body's and its members' opinions on the matters discussed during the meeting. To the extent possible, the report shall be made publicly available on the website of the GH EDCTP3 JU.

The Scientific Committee may, of its own initiative, advise the Governing Board to consult it on specific points not covered by the tasks set out in section 1 of the Council Regulation 2021/2085 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe. To the extent possible, the report shall be made publicly available on the website of the GH EDCTP3 JU.

The Scientific Committee shall be informed of the reasons in the event that its advice on the work programme and the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda is not followed.

The chairperson shall prepare an annual report on the previous year's activities and achievements of the Scientific Committee and submit it for approval by the Governing Board.

Meetings will be conducted in English and documents will be drafted in English.

The GH EDCTP3 JU programme office shall provide secretarial services to the Scientific Committee.

The members of the Scientific Committee, as well as invited observers, shall be subject to the obligation of professional secrecy which, by virtue of the Treaties and the rules implementing them, applies to all members of the institutions and their staff, as well as to the Commission's rules on security regarding the protection of sensitive non-classified and Union classified information, laid down in Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443(31) and (EU, Euratom) 2015/444(32), respectively.

Before appointment, all members of the Scientific Committee shall be required to complete a declaration of confidentiality as well as a commitment to disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest according to the procedure established by the Governing Board to give effect to Articles 33 and 42 of the Council Regulation 2021/2085 establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe.

The same rules on appointment, reimbursement of costs and allowances, applicable to external experts according to the rules of the European Commission shall apply to the members of the Scientific Committee.

5. Application procedure.

Interested individuals are invited to submit their application to the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking via the functional mailbox:

EC-GLOBAL-HEALTH-EDCTP3-EOI-SCIENTIFIC-COMMITTEE@ec.europa.eu

Applications must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. However, applications in English would facilitate the evaluation procedure. If another language is used, it would be helpful to include a summary of the application in English.

An application will be deemed admissible only if it is sent by the deadline and includes:

- A cover letter explaining the candidate's motivation for applying and how the applicant fulfills the criteria set out below.
- A *curriculum vitae* (CV)

Deadline for applications

The duly signed applications must be sent by 15 February 2022 23:59:00 hrs at the latest to the following e-mail address:

EC-GLOBAL-HEALTH-EDCTP3-EOI-SCIENTIFIC-COMMITTEE@ec.europa.eu

The date of the e-mail will be the date of sending.

Selection criteria

The Governing Board of the GH EDCTP3 JU will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications:

Candidate Members of the Scientific Committee shall meet the following essential eligibility criteria:

- University degree in a relevant scientific area, preferably at post-graduate level;
- At least five years of professional experience in the relevant scientific area after having obtained the above mentioned degree;

Candidate Members of the Scientific Committee shall meet the following specific eligibility criteria:

(a) Proven competence and expertise in at least one of the following areas:

- Product development and clinical research in infectious diseases affecting sub-Saharan Africa including HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, neglected infectious diseases, lower respiratory tract infections, diarrhoeal diseases, emerging and re-emerging infections, antimicrobial resistance as well as related co-morbidities
- Epidemic preparedness research and response
- Early warning, risk assessment and surveillance of emerging infectious diseases, climate crisis-related infectious disease and antimicrobial resistance

- Drug and vaccine development, as well as immunisation research for infectious diseases with a focus on poverty-related infectious diseases and neglected tropical diseases
- Epidemiological research on infectious diseases
- Implementation research for medical interventions in low and middle income countries, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa
- Clinical trial design and operations, biostatistics
- Clinical pharmacology and pharmacokinetics
- Mathematical modelling for infectious diseases and clinical health research
- Clinical research ethics
- Regulatory affairs & pharmacovigilance
- Training and capacity development of researchers in clinical trial research in low-resource settings
- Capacity building for medical research in developing countries
- Social science, community engagement and gender balance in research in low-resource settings
- Health research systems and policy, translation of research findings into policy guidelines and adoption within public health systems
- Health research data sharing, data access and governance

(b) Very good command of written and spoken English.

In addition, a record of previous participation in other scientific and/or technological advisory bodies, demonstrating the ability to look for consensus and to provide synthetic, wide-spectrum analyses would be considered an asset.

European Commission staff, including external staff working for the Commission, staff of the Joint Research Centre, officials of Member States, and of national, regional or local authorities shall not be eligible.

Persons who are employed by an organisation that is member of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking or who are employed directly by the Joint Undertaking shall not be eligible.

The Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking shall reserve the right to request any necessary documentary evidence it deems fit and relevant in order to verify the applicants' skills and knowledge.

Selection procedure

The selection procedure shall consist of an assessment of all applications against the admissibility and the essential eligibility criteria. The Executive Director shall prepare a list of all candidates eligible to become members of the Scientific Committee based on the essential criteria.

An evaluation panel composed of a given number of members shall carry out an objective assessment of the eligible candidates on the basis of all the specific selection criteria set out in the previous section.

In its assessment, the Governing Board shall take into account:

- The scientific competencies and expertise that are necessary to make science-based recommendations to the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking. As a whole, the Scientific Committee should have members that are experts in various areas, so there is need to have matching competences among the selected candidates;
- The need to reflect a balanced stakeholder representation, with each of the major groups (academia, research institutes, clinical practice, government and private sector) to be represented;
- The need to ensure geographical and gender balance. As far as possible, the Global Health EDCTP3 Scientific Committee should be balanced in terms of North-South representation with preference for European and African experts.

The Governing Board shall establish a shortlist of fifteen to eighteen candidates who are considered best suited for appointment as well as a reserve list of at most thirty candidates.

The Chair of the Governing Board shall present the results of the evaluation panel's selection process to the Governing Board, including a full record of the candidates not included in the lists mentioned above as well as of the candidates whose applications were deemed inadmissible or ineligible by the Executive Director. Based on the lists established by the evaluation panel, the Governing Board shall appoint the Members of the Scientific Committee and approve the reserve list.

The candidate members shall be required to inform the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking immediately of any changes to their administrative and technical details, which would result in a change to their original application.

6. Further information

For any further information, please contact

EC-GLOBAL-HEALTH-EDCTP3-EOI-SCIENTIFIC-COMMITTEE@ec.europa.eu



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for Research and Innovation

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

This Data Protection Notice (DPN) provides information about the processing and the protection of your personal data

Processing operations: *Selection of members of the Scientific Committee and of the Stakeholders Group of the Global Health (GH) EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking (JU) and publication of the names of the members of the Governance Bodies of the GH EDCTP3 JU on its website*

Data Controller: *European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD), Unit D1*

Records references: DPR-EC-01066 and DPR-EC-00656

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1. Introduction

The European Commission, being responsible for the establishment and initial operation of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking (hereafter ‘GH EDCTP3 JU’) is committed to protect your personal data and to respect your privacy. The European Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/1725](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data.

This privacy statement explains the reasons for the processing of your personal data, the way we collect, handle and ensure protection of all personal data provided, how that information is used and what rights you have in relation to your personal data. It also specifies the contact details of the responsible Data Controller with whom you may exercise your rights, of the Data Protection Officer and of the European Data Protection Supervisor.

This privacy statement concerns the following processing operations:

- (1) *“Selection of members of the Scientific Committee and selection of members of the Stakeholders Group of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking”* undertaken by the Commission department which is responsible for the establishment and initial operation of the GH EDCTP3 JU before autonomy of the Joint and which is the Data Controller for the selection process [DG RTD, unit D.1, and
- (2) *“Publication the names of members of Governance Bodies of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking on the Joint Undertaking’s website”* undertaken by the same department.

The selection of members of the Scientific Committee and of members of the Stakeholders Group are carried out via a public call for expressions of interest.

The Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking intends to demonstrate a high level of transparency of its activities and operations. This includes publishing on its website the names of individuals serving on the different governance bodies, including the members of the Scientific Committee and the Stakeholders Group.

2. Why and how do we process your personal data?

Purpose of the processing operations:

The Data Controller collects and uses your personal data to manage the GH EDCTP3 JU Scientific Committee and the Stakeholders Group, in particular by selecting its members, and to ensure transparency on the Scientific Committee's and Stakeholders Group membership and activities. In that context, in order to select among the applicants who best fulfil the selection criteria mentioned in the respective calls for expressions of interest, Commission services collect and assess personal information of candidate members of the Scientific Committee and Stakeholders Group, respectively.

For candidates, personal data is stored by the Commission service managing the Scientific Committee and Stakeholders Group. Some types of personal data of the appointed members of the Scientific Committee and the Stakeholders Group are made publicly available on the website of the GH EDCTP3 JU, alongside similar information about members of the other governance bodies of the Joint Undertaking.

Your personal data will not be used for an automated decision-making including profiling.

3. On what legal ground(s) do we process your personal data

We process your personal data, because processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest (Article 5(1) (a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725), since it allows for the selection of members of expert groups (individuals appointed as members in a personal capacity, individuals appointed to represent a common interest and organisations) and also increases the transparency on expert groups.

Processing is also necessary to comply with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject (Article 5(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725). The Union act for such necessary processing under Article 5(1)(a) and (b) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 is Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 of 30 November 2021 **establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe and repealing Regulations (EC) No 219/2007, (EU) No 557/2014, (EU) No 558/2014, (EU) No 559/2014, (EU) No 560/2014, (EU) No 561/2014 and (EU) No 642/2014** and in particular Articles 21(4) and 22(3) thereof.

4. Which personal data do we collect and further process?

In order to carry out these processing operations, the Data Controller may collect the following categories of personal data:

Name;

Function;

Contact details (for example, e-mail address, telephone number, mobile telephone number, fax number, postal address, company or university or research institution and department, country of residence, IP address);

Information for the evaluation of selection criteria or eligibility criteria (for example, expertise, technical skills and languages, educational background, professional experience, including details on current and past employment);

Nationality;

Gender;

The provision to the Commission service of the personal data required is mandatory to meet a legal requirement of selecting members of the Scientific Committee and the Stakeholders Group as set in Council Regulation 2021/2085. In principle, the types of personal data listed above (with the exception of contact details and information for the evaluation of selection criteria or eligibility criteria) are made publicly available on the website of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking to ensure transparency on the composition and functioning of the GH EDCTP3 JU governance bodies. If you do not provide the personal data required, possible consequences are that you will not be considered for selection as a member of the GH EDCTP3 JU Scientific Committee or the Stakeholders Group or, if already selected, your membership will be suspended.

5. How long do we keep your personal data?

The Data Controller only keeps your personal data for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing. The following modalities apply:

The competent Commission services keep personal data submitted to them as part of rejected applications for maximum 3 years after the end of the selection process and do not process them for other purposes; these personal data are not published.

The members of the Scientific Committee, the Stakeholders Group and the other governance bodies of the GH EDCTP3 JU and some types of personal data, as described in Heading 4, are published on the website of the GH EDCTP3 JU during the duration of existence of the respective governance bodies.

When an individual is no longer member of the Scientific Committee, the Stakeholders Group or one of the other governance bodies, all personal data related to this individual, is removed from the website and is therefore not public anymore.

The competent Commission services keep personal data for the period during which the relevant individual is a member of the Scientific Committee, the Stakeholders Group or other governance body of the GH EDCTP3 JU and for 5 years after the date on which the individual is no longer member.

6. How do we protect and safeguard your personal data?

Personal data submitted in paper form is stored in the competent Commission service. All personal data in electronic format (e-mails, documents, databases, uploaded batches of data, etc.)

are stored on the servers of the Commission. All processing operations are carried out pursuant to the [Commission Decision \(EU, Euratom\) 2017/46](#) of 10 January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission.

In order to protect your personal data, the Commission has put in place a number of technical and organisational measures. Technical measures include appropriate actions to address online security, risk of data loss, alteration of data or unauthorised access, taking into consideration the risk presented by the processing and the nature of the personal data being processed. Organisational measures include restricting access to the personal data solely to authorised persons with a legitimate need to know for the purposes of this processing operation.

7. Who has access to your personal data and to whom is it disclosed?

Access to your personal data collected in the course of the process of selection of members of the GH EDCTP3 JU Scientific Committee or the Stakeholders Group is provided to the Commission staff authorised for carrying out this processing operation and to other authorised Commission staff according to the “need to know” principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements.

Access to personal data is also provided to the members of the Governing Board or their representatives who are involved in the selection of members of the GH EDCTP3 JU Scientific Committee or the Stakeholders Group. Members of the Governing Board or their representatives are bound by the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Board to confidentiality of all its proceedings and sign a declaration of confidentiality and of conflict of interest to this effect.

Certain personal data collected, as explained in Headings 4 and 5, is made publicly available on the website of the GH EDCTP3 JU.

Please note that pursuant to Article 3(13) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, public authorities (e.g. Court of Auditors, EU Court of Justice) which may receive personal data in the framework of a particular inquiry in accordance with Union or Member State law shall not be regarded as recipients. The further processing of those data by those public authorities shall be in compliance with the applicable data protection rules according to the purposes of the processing.

The information we collect will not be given to any third party, except to the extent and for the purpose we may be required to do so by law.

8. What are your rights and how can you exercise them?

You have specific rights as a ‘data subject’ under Chapter III (Articles 14-25) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, in particular the right to access your personal data and to rectify them in case your personal data is inaccurate or incomplete. Under certain conditions, you have the right to erase your personal data, to restrict the processing of your personal data, to object to the processing and the right to data portability.

You have the right to object to the processing of your personal data on grounds relating to your particular situation in accordance with Article 23(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

Only as regards the publication of your name on the website of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, you may submit a request to the competent Commission service for a derogation where justified on compelling legitimate grounds in relation to your specific situation (such as the case where the publication of your name on the website of Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking could endanger your security or integrity).

You can exercise your rights by contacting the Data Controller or, in case of conflict, the Data Protection Officer. If necessary, you can also address the European Data Protection Supervisor. Their contact information is given under Heading 9 below.

Where you wish to exercise your rights in the context of one or several specific processing operations, please provide their description (i.e. their Record reference(s) as specified under Heading 10 below) in your request.

Any request for access to personal data will be handled within one month. Any other request mentioned above will be addressed within 15 working days.

9. Contact information

The Data Controller

Regarding the personal data collected in the course of the process of selection of the members of the Scientific Committee of the GH EDCTP3 JU, if you would like to exercise your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, or if you have comments, questions or concerns, or if you would like to submit a complaint, please contact

EC-GLOBAL-HEALTH-EDCTP3@ec.europa.eu

Likewise, as regards the data published on the GH EDCTP3 JU website, please contact the same Data Controller.

The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission

You may contact the Data Protection Officer (DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu) with regard to issues related to the processing of your personal data under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)

You have the right to have recourse (i.e. you can lodge a complaint) to the European Data Protection Supervisor (edps@edps.europa.eu) if you consider that your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 have been infringed as a result of the processing of your personal data by the Data Controller.

10. Where to find more detailed information?

The Commission Data Protection Officer (DPO) publishes the register of all processing operations on personal data by the Commission, which have been documented and notified to him. You may access the register via the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register>.

These specific processing operations are included in the DPO's public register with the following Record references: [DPR-EC-01066](#) and [DPR-EC-00656](#).