

Selection of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking Stakeholders Group Members

Work of the evaluation panel

14 October 2022

A total of 44 candidatures were received following the call for Expression of Interest to select the members of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking Stakeholders Group. Check for admissibility (consisting of a cover letter/e-mail, containing a CV, sent by the deadline) and eligibility (over 5 years of work experience in the field) was carried before the work of the evaluation panel started. One candidature failed on admissibility (it arrived late) and another one on eligibility (did not meet the required duration of experience).

An evaluation panel of four members was constituted by the Governing Board by asking both partners for nominations: the European Commission nominated two representatives, including one of its Governing Board members, and the EDCTP Association nominated two representatives.

The admissible and eligible candidatures (42 in total) were made available to the evaluators through a secure Commission web-sharing platform (Circa) and the confidentiality of the proceedings was recalled. The evaluators had access to all 42 candidatures and were asked to go through them and score them for:

1. Representing a stakeholder having expertise or working in one of the areas specified in the Expression of interest;
2. Very good command of written and spoken English;
3. A record of previous participation in other scientific and/or technological advisory bodies.

The criteria were scored on a scale of 0-5 (not addressed/poor/weak/good/very good/excellent) and the score for criteria 1 was given double weight (i.e. the maximum number of points an evaluator could award to a candidate was 20 points).

Given the limited number of female candidatures received (13 female; 29 male candidates to be evaluated) and in order to comply with the need to reflect a balanced gender representation, the candidatures were evaluated in two groups, according to the gender stated by the applicants. Both groups were evaluated following the same criteria described above.

After having carried out their individual evaluations, the four evaluators met in a web-conference on 4 and 14 October 2022 to discuss their scores and agree on the members to be proposed for the Stakeholders Group, as well as a reserve list.

This process allowed fulfilling the overarching criteria to be considered in the selection:

1. Competencies and expertise necessary to make recommendations to provide input on the scientific, strategic and technological priorities to be addressed by the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking;
2. The need to reflect a balanced stakeholder representation;
3. The need to ensure geographical and gender balance.

Outcome

Given the need to compose a gender balanced Stakeholder Group, the selection panel went first through the list of female candidates to discuss the merits of each candidate and agree on the candidates to be put forward to become members. Based on the individual scoring and the discussion among the evaluators, five candidates were proposed for the main list and two were proposed for the reserve list. Subsequently, the evaluators went through the list of male candidates, with the aim to propose a similar number of male candidates for the main list of the Stakeholders Group. The evaluators selected five candidates for the main list and another five for the reserve list, taking into account the geographical representation of such stakeholders and the type of stakeholder organisation they represented.

Overall the received candidatures were considered of good quality, although not many were considered excellent. Many of the candidatures did not correctly fulfill criteria A as specified in the Expression of Interest (i.e. representing a stakeholder). Based on the summed-up individual scores, only 12 (3 Females; 9 Males) out of the 42 evaluated candidates scored 60 or above out of a maximum score of 80

Looking at the stakeholders groups proposed for appointment, it is noted that the following types of organisations are represented: product development partnerships (PDPs), organisations coordinating funding and support to Global Health research, not-for-profit partnerships in the area of global health, international agencies for prevention and control of infectious diseases, research institutes.

Looking at the expertise amongst the members proposed for appointment, the following areas of work are noted: poverty-related infectious diseases (TB, malaria and HIV), neglected tropical diseases, epidemiology, prevention, health economy, population and community based programmes, collaboration & strategic partnerships, AMR, capacity strengthening, ethics & good clinical practice, global health policy-making.

The composition of the resulting Stakeholders Group is in **Annex 1**. The members included represent the competences and expertise required in the fields listed in the call for Expressions of Interest to the extent possible, given the limited number of excellent candidates that applied to the Stakeholders Group. The Stakeholders Group proposed is gender balanced (5 females; 5 males). From the geographical perspective, in the proposed group six members work in sub-Saharan Africa and four in Europe. Three experts work in South Africa and all other experts proposed work in a different country.

As a final step, the panel selected the candidatures to be proposed for the reserve list in **Annex 2**. A total of 7 candidatures were selected. The reserve list provided does not meet gender balance (2 Females; 5 Males) nor geographical balance (1 African based candidate; 5 European based candidate; 1 U.S. based candidate). This unbalance is due to the limited number of female candidates compared to male candidates that applied to the Call for expressions of interest as noted above and the limited number of excellent candidates that applied.

The whole list of applicants is in the Excel file as **Annex 3**.

Agreed by the evaluation panel on 14 October 2022.

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