

A stylized globe in shades of blue and green, showing flight paths and airplane icons. The globe is positioned on the left side of the slide, overlapping the main text area.

SJU information session

Main considerations for a potential member of the SESAR 3 Joint Undertaking

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Joining the S3JU means joining the EU research micro-world

- JUs do not function in isolation. The SBA states that:

„In order to ensure a coherent approach and capture the scientific, technological, economic, societal and environmental impacts of European Partnerships in relation to the objectives of Horizon Europe and Union priorities, this Regulation should set out general and specific objectives that should be collectively delivered by all joint undertakings. All joint undertakings contribute collectively to achieving these objectives by reaching their individual objectives. In addition, the common part of the Regulation defines common operational objectives derived from the objectives set for Horizon Europe Specific Programme, established by Council Decision (EU) 2021/764

The JUs work in open and accessible environment

- The principle of openness:

„This Regulation is based on the principles and criteria set out in the Horizon Europe Regulation, including openness and transparency, a strong leverage effect and long-term commitments of all the involved parties. One of the objectives of this Regulation is to ensure the openness of the initiatives to a broad range of entities, including newcomers.“

„The partnerships should be open to any entity that is willing and capable to work towards the common goal, and promote broad and active participation of stakeholders in their activities, membership and governance, and to ensure that the results would be for the benefit of all Europeans, notably through a broad dissemination of results and predeployment activities across the Union“

The founding members have some benefits but should also commit to projects

„In line with the ambitions set out in the Horizon Europe Regulation, one of the preconditions of setting up institutionalised partnerships is ensuring partner’s contributions throughout the lifetime of the initiatives.

In this context, private partners should deliver a significant part of their contributions in the form of in-kind contributions to operational costs of the joint undertaking.

In justified cases, it should be possible to introduce additional conditions that require the participation of a member of the joint undertaking or their constituent or affiliated entities, targeting activities where the industrial partners of the joint undertaking can play a key role, such as large-scale demonstrations and flagship projects, and contribute more via lower funding rates.

The level of participation of members should be monitored by the executive director in order to empower the governing board to take appropriate actions, ensuring a balance between commitment from partners and openness.

Bases for becoming a member

„It is appropriate that the members other than the Union commit to the implementation of this Regulation by means of a letter of commitment, without imposing conditions regarding their accession. Those letters of commitment should be legally valid throughout the lifetime of the initiative and closely monitored by the joint undertaking and the Commission.

Types of membership available

- The members of the JUs can be:

The members of the joint undertakings referred to in Article 3 shall be the Union, represented by the Commission and any of the following, as specified in Part II:

- (a) Participating States;
- (b) Founding Members;
- (c) Associated Members.

SJU is obliged to launch a call to select associated members. The requirements towards the associated members can be more demanding than towards Founding Members.

The rules for joining are more specific for associated members (Art 7.4) than for the Founding Members.

The JU is not Hotel California

„Any member of a joint undertaking may terminate its membership to that joint undertaking. The termination shall become effective and irrevocable six months after notification to the executive director of the joint undertaking, who shall inform the other members.“

„The governing board shall decide on a redistribution of the voting rights in the governing board due to the change to membership or due to termination.“

Structures of the JUs

- Each JU will have:
 - Governing Board
 - Executive Director
 - States' Representatives Group
 - SJU will also have Scientific Advisory Body and the Programme Committee.

Governing Board

- Is the highest decision making body of the JU;
- Will try to take decisions in consensus;
- As a rule each member should have equal number of votes, unless the members decide to measure their individual commitments;
- Will need to hear and take into account in certain cases the opinions of the state representatives' group;
- Will have a lot of work right after the establishing of the JU.

Executive Director

- Will be selected by the Board from the list drawn up by the Commission;
- Will be nominated for a 4 year period, renewable for another 3 years;
- Has to attract new members, in particularly SMEs, universities and research organisations;
- Has all the tools to manage the activities of the JU.

Financing of the JUs

- The EU cannot invest more than the private partners

The Union financial contribution to the joint undertakings, including EEA appropriations, shall cover administrative and operational costs up to the maximum amounts specified in Part Two provided that that amount is at least matched by the contribution of members other than the Union, or its constituent or affiliated entities.

- The participation of the 3rd countries can increase the Union contribution.

The amount of the Union contribution specified in Part Two may be increased with contributions from third countries associated to Horizon Europe.

Types of contributions to the JU

Unless specified otherwise in Part Two, the contributions of private members shall consist of financial contributions and of any of the following:

- (a) in-kind contributions to operational activities;
- (b) (b) in-kind contributions to additional activities, approved by the governing board.

SESAR 3 JU

- Members of the SJU are: EC, EUROCONTROL and the founding members included into the Annex III of the SBA and eventually the associated members;
- The companies in the current Annex III could become associated members but this would not be beneficial to the companies as the status of associated members will have additional requirements attached to it.
- The 3rd countries need to have air transport agreement with the EU.

SESAR 3 JU

- The Union financial contribution to the Single European Sky ATM Research 3 Joint Undertaking, including EEA appropriations, to cover administrative costs and operational costs shall be up to EUR 600 000 000, including up to EUR 30 000 000 for administrative costs.
- The private members of the Single European Sky ATM Research 3 Joint Undertaking shall make or arrange for their constituent or affiliated entities to make a total contribution of at least EUR 500 000 000, including up to EUR 25 000 000 for administrative costs over the period set out in Article 3.
- EUROCONTROL shall make a contribution to the operational and administrative costs of the Single European Sky ATM Research 3 Joint Undertaking of up to EUR 500 000 000, including up to EUR 25 000 000 for administrative costs over the period set out in Article 3.

SESAR 3 JU

- The SESAR related IKAA can be in the following categories:
 - activities covering all the non-Union funded part of the Single European Sky ATM Research projects that contribute to the achievement of the agreed work programme of the Joint Undertaking;
 - industrialisation activities, including standardisation, certification and production, related to SESAR Solutions from the Single European Sky ATM Research 3 Joint Undertaking or the previous initiative, the SESAR Joint Undertaking;
 - communication and outreach activities related to SESAR Solutions from the Single European Sky ATM Research 3 Joint Undertaking or the previous initiative, the SESAR Joint Undertaking;
 - activities ensuring the global ATM harmonisation based on SESAR Solutions from the Single European Sky ATM Research 3 Joint Undertaking or the previous initiative, the SESAR Joint Undertaking;
 - deployment or uptake of results from projects under the Single European Sky ATM Research 3 Joint Undertaking or the previous initiative, the SESAR Joint Undertaking, which have not received any Union funding.

SESAR 3 JU

- The Governing Board shall be composed as follows:
 - (a) two representatives of the Commission on behalf of the Union;
 - (b) one representative from each of the members other than the Union.
- The Governing Board shall be chaired by the Commission on behalf of the Union.
- The number of votes of the members of the Single European Sky ATM Research 3 Joint Undertaking shall be in proportion to their contribution to the budget of the joint undertaking. However, the Union and EUROCONTROL shall each have at least 25% of the total number of votes and the representative of the civil users of airspace shall have at least 10 % of the total number of votes.

Other challenges

The private members need to conclude an agreement in which they agree on how their collective contribution will be shared among them in accordance to with the financial rules of the SJU.

This agreement needs to be concluded by October 2021.

The members can aim at equal representation or decide to estimate individual ICAA potential.