Informatīvā ziņojuma “Par publiskā līdzfinansējuma nodrošināšanu projekta “Baltijas Biomateriālu ekselences centrs” īstenošanai” 1.pielikums

Issuer of the Commitment

Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia

Brīvības bulv. 36, Rīga, LV-1520, Latvia

Tel: +371 67082800, Fax: +371 67082962

E-mail: vk@mk.gov.lv

…October 2018

Riga Technical University

Kaļķu Street 1, Rīga, LV-1658, Latvia

Tel: +371 67089333

E-mail: info@rtu.lv

**Letter of Commitment for financial support of BBCE**

**under the EU framework programme for research and innovation**

**“Horizon 2020” programme “Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation”**

**call "WIDESPREAD-01-2018-2019: Teaming Phase 2"**

***Introduction***

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia hereby commits to provide the funding necessary for the infrastructure development for the BBCE (Baltic Biomaterials Centre of Excellence) project coordinated by Riga Technical University. The funding to be committed constitutes in total EUR 12,085,000.

BBCE project ́s objective is to establish a joint Baltic Biomaterials Centre of Excellence for advanced biomaterials development based on the long-term strategic cooperation between Riga Technical University (RTU), Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis (LIOS), Rīga Stradiņš University (RSU) and LTD “Rīgas Stradiņa universitātes Stomatoloģijas institūts” (RSU IS) on the one hand and AO Research Institute Davos, Switzerland and Friedrich- Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany on the other hand. Activities of BBCE will provide an opportunity to combine existing expertise and infrastructure, to create critical mass and excel in development of solutions for biomedical applications, as described in business plan of BBCE. Significant impact of BBCE on all national partners is foreseen in development of infrastructure, strengthening research excellence, cooperation ability with industry and valorization intensity. The implementation of BBCE business plan agrees with “Riga Technical University strategy for 2014 - 2020”, “Development Strategy of The Research Institution Riga Stradiņš University, for 2015 - 2020” and “Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis strategy for 2016 - 2020”.

***Background information of entities involved***

The Cabinet of Ministers is the highest executive body of the Republic of Latvia. The role and functions of the executive power are stipulated in the *Satversme* (the Constitution) of the Republic of Latvia and in the Cabinet of Ministers Structure Law.

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia is in charge of developing the state policy and funding distribution for the calls in field of education, science and sports (including regulations, evaluation and policy supervision of ESIF funding).

The Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia is the leading public administration institution in the field of economic policy development in Latvia. The Ministry of Economics represents the economic interests of Latvia in European Union and participates in all stages of decision making. The Ministry of Economics represents the opinion of Latvia at the EU Competitiveness Council and the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council. Another functions of the Ministry is to introduce and supervise the programs and projects of the ESIF and other foreign financial instruments.

Riga Technical University is state-founded autonomous institution of higher education and science with the right of self-governance and is a derived public body. Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis is autonomous public research organization. LTD “Rīgas Stradiņa universitātes Stomatoloģijas institūts” is a commercial company (Reg. Nr. 40003579713) providing medical services in dentistry and maxillofacial surgery and it is a clinical and scientific basis for RSU Dentistry students. Company`s sole shareholder is Rīga Stradiņš University. Rīga Stradiņš University is autonomous state institution of higher education and science with the right of self-governance and is a derived public body

***Details regarding the commitment***

The committed funding amounts to EUR 12,085,000 and will be granted to the BBCE consortium partners located in the territory of the Republic of Latvia under ESIF programs administered by the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Economics, and funding of the RTU, RSU and LIOS.

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia assures that the funding is to be used by the BBCE consortium partners located in the territory of the Republic of Latvia for the implementation of the BBCE project and no deviations to decrease the committed funding will be applied.

***Details on ESIF funds***

The public funding in the amount of EUR 3,596,000 (European Regional Development Fund and State Budget resources) is already granted to the RTU, RSU and LIOS under the Operational Programme “Growth and Employment” Measure 1.1.1.4 “Development of the R&D Infrastructure in Fields of Smart Specialisation and Strengthening of Institutional Capacity of Scientific Institutions” and is allocated to the implementation of BBCE according to the Infrastructure Development strategies of the above mentioned consortia members within the frame of ESIF programs and are available to be spent until 2023.

The public funding in the amount of EUR 8,489,000 (European Regional Development Fund) has been reserved for BBCE project under the Operational Programme “Growth and Employment” Priority Axe 1 “Research, technological development and innovation” and is to be ensured under the Measure 1.1.1.4. “Development of the R&D Infrastructure in Fields of Smart Specialisation and Strengthening of Institutional Capacity of Scientific Institutions” by reallocating funding in amount of EUR 4,000,000 from the Measure 1.1.1.3. “Innovation Grants for Students” and EUR 4,489,000 from the Measure 1.2.1.2. “Aid for Improvement of Technology Transfer System”. Funding will be accessible during the period 2019 – 2023 and will be allocated as national commitment to the BBCE project if the project will be approved for Phase 2.

Overall, the national commitment funding of EUR 12,085,000 is guaranteed.

***Risk factors***

There are no significant risk factors in the fulfilment of this financial commitment. Timely implementation of the commitment will be addressed by the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia. The Ministry of Education and Science will ensure the supervision of the process in order to assure full allocation of the funding reserved for this project.

***Conditions***

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia is interested in development of BBCE as it will foster innovations, scientific excellence and knowledge transfer between industry, research, academia and society in general. The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia undertakes to provide the funding in the amount of EUR 12,085,000 for the development of infrastructure for BBCE project, which is realized by the RTU, RSU, LIOS and RSU IS under the conditions that the business plan for implementation of Phase 2 of BBCE project is approved.

***Legal validity of this document***

This document is legally binding for the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia as being signed by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia.

Sincerely,

Māris Kučinskis

Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia