



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 26 November 2013
(OR. en)**

16547/13

**Interinstitutional File:
2013/0240 (NLE)**

**RECH 559
COMPET 851
IND 344
SAN 459**

NOTE

From:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part I)
To:	Council
No. prev. doc.:	16219/13 RECH 538 COMPET 827 IND 332 SAN 449
No. Cion doc.:	12370/13 RECH 357 COMPET 575 IND 213 SAN 272
Subject:	Proposals by the Commission for Joint Technology Initiatives established under Article 187 TFEU Proposal for a Council regulation on the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 Joint Undertaking - General Approach

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 10 July 2013, the Commission submitted to the European Parliament and to the Council its proposal for a Council Regulation on the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 Joint Undertaking.

2. This proposal for a public-private partnership builds on the Innovative Medicines Initiative Joint Undertaking (IMI JU) established under the 7th Research Framework Programme. Its objective is to improve the drug development process by supporting more efficient research and development cooperation among academia, small and medium enterprises and the biopharmaceutical industry, in order to deliver better and safer medicines for patients.
3. The European Parliament's Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) appointed Ms Teresa RIERA MADURELL (SD) as the Rapporteur on this proposal. The ITRE Committee is expected to vote on its opinion on 9 January 2014.
4. The opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee is still pending.

II. WORK WITHIN THE COUNCIL

1. Following the work since September 2013 within the Research Working Party, resulting to some amendments to the initial proposal, the Permanent Representatives Committee on 22 November 2013 reached an agreement in principle on the Presidency compromise text included in annex to this note.
2. It should be noted that the Commission has entered a general reservation on the whole text, pending the opinion of the European Parliament. DK has a parliamentary scrutiny reservation on the whole text.

III. CONCLUSION

In the light of the above, the Council is invited to consider the compromise proposal presented by the Presidency (in Annex) with a view to reaching a General Approach at the Council (Competitiveness) meeting on 2-3 December 2013.

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION ON THE INNOVATIVE MEDICINES
INITIATIVE 2 JOINT UNDERTAKING

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 187 and the first paragraph of Article 188 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament¹,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee²,

Whereas:

- (1) Public-private partnerships in the form of Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs) were initially provided for in Decision No 1982/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Seventh Framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007-2013)³.
- (2) Council Decision No 2006/971/EC of 19 December 2006 concerning the Specific Programme 'Cooperation' implementing the Seventh Framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007-2013)⁴ identified specific public-private partnerships to be supported, including a public-private partnership on Innovative Medicines Joint Technology Initiative between the Union and the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (hereinafter "EFPIA").

¹ OJ C [...], [...], p. [...]

² OJ C [...], [...], p. [...]

³ OJ L 412 30.12.2006, p. 1

⁴ OJ L 400 30.12.2006, p. 86

- (3) Europe 2020 Strategy⁵ underscores the need to develop favourable conditions for investment in knowledge and innovation so as to achieve smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the Union. Both the European Parliament and the Council have endorsed this strategy.
- (4) Regulation (EU) No .../2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of ... 2013 establishing Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)⁶ aims to achieve a greater impact on research and innovation by combining Horizon 2020 Framework Programme and private sector funds in public-private partnerships in key areas where research and innovation can contribute to the Union's wider competitiveness goals and help tackle societal challenges. Union involvement in those partnerships could take the form of financial contributions to joint undertakings established on the basis of Article 187 of the Treaty under Decision No 1982/2006/EC.
- (5) In accordance with Decision (EU) No .../2013 of the Council of ... 2013 establishing the Specific Programme implementing Horizon 2020 (2014-2020)⁷ further support should be provided to joint undertakings established under Decision No 1982/2006/EC under the conditions specified in Decision (EU) No [...]/2013..
- (6) The Innovative Medicines Initiative (hereinafter "IMI") Joint Undertaking set up by Regulation (EC) No 73/2008 of the Council of 20 December 2007 setting up the IMI Joint Undertaking⁸ has demonstrated the effective mobilisation of resources by bringing together several partners from the pharmaceutical industry, academia, small and medium-sized enterprises (hereinafter "SMEs"), patient organisations and regulators.

⁵ COM(2010)2020 final

⁶ OJ ... [H2020 FP]

⁷ OJ ... [H2020 SP]

⁸ OJ L 30 of 4.2.2008 [FP7 JTI JU Regulation]

- (7) It has also stepped up cooperation between stakeholders in the health research and innovation field by allowing access to other partners' expertise and increasing the collaboration between the pharmaceutical industry and other stakeholders in the Union by developing comprehensive research agendas and horizontal policy coordination. No other European or national programme has enabled cross-company collaboration within the pharmaceutical sector on the scale that has been achieved by IMI. The interim evaluation of the IMI Joint Undertaking⁹ underlined that it enables mutual learning and provides the opportunity to improve the reciprocal understanding of the stakeholders, which benefits all parties and has significantly contributed to the transition towards an open innovation model in biopharmaceutical research.
- (8) Research related to the future of medicine shall be undertaken in areas where combination of societal, public health and biomedical industry competitiveness goals requires pooling of resources and fostering collaboration between the public and private sectors, with the involvement of SMEs. The scope of the initiative should be expanded to all areas of life science research and innovation. The areas would be of public health interest, as identified by the World Health Organisation report on priority medicines for Europe and the World, which is currently being updated with the new version expected to be released in 2013. The initiative should consequently seek to involve a broader range of partners, including mid-caps, from different sectors (e.g. biomedical imaging, medical information technology, diagnostic and/or animal health industries). A wider participation would help to advance the development of new approaches and technologies for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases with high impact on public health.

⁹ SEC(2011) 1072 final

- (9) The continuation of this initiative should also take into account the experience acquired from the operations of the IMI Joint Undertaking including the results of its interim evaluation and stakeholders' recommendations¹⁰ and be implemented using a more fit-for-purpose structure and rules in order to enhance efficiency and ensure simplification at operational level. To this effect, the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 (hereinafter "IMI2") Joint Undertaking should adopt financial rules specific to its needs in accordance with Article 209 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹¹.
- (10) The private Members to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking have expressed in writing their agreement to pursue the research activities in the area of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking within a structure better adapted to the nature of a public-private partnership. It is appropriate that the private-sector Members to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking accept the Statutes contained in the Annex by means of a letter of endorsement.
- (11) As a means to further develop IMI2 Joint Undertaking's objectives, membership should be open to other legal entities. Moreover, legal entities interested in supporting IMI2 Joint Undertaking's objectives in their specific areas of research should be offered the possibility to become Associated Partners in the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
- (11bis) Any eligible institution may become a participant or a coordinator in the selected projects.
- (12) In order to achieve its objectives, the IMI2 Joint Undertaking should provide financial support to participants mainly in the form of grants following open and competitive calls for proposals.

¹⁰ http://ec.europa.eu/research/consultations/life_science_h2020/consultation_en.htm

¹¹ OJ L 298 26.10.2012, p. 1.

- (12bis) The participants should be fully informed about the totality of applicable legal and procedural conditions, including on those laid down on the basis of Article 1(3) of Regulation (EU) No ... [Rules for participation and dissemination in Horizon 2020] especially regarding eligibility for funding and exploitation and dissemination of results. These conditions should be consistent, reasonable and should ensure equitable and fair treatment of participants regarding ownership of and access to the results generated within IMI2 projects.
- (13) Contributions from the private Members should relate to the administrative costs of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and, together with the Associated Partners for their specific area of research, to the co-financing required to carry out research and innovation actions supported by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
- (14) Participation in indirect actions funded by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking should comply with Regulation (EU) No ... /2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of ... 2013 laying down the rules for the participation and dissemination in "Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)"¹².
- (15) The Union financial contribution should be managed in accordance with the principle of sound financial management and with the relevant rules on indirect management set out in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Commission delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹³.
- (16) Audits of recipients of Union funds under this Regulation should be carried out in such a manner that the administrative burden is reduced, in compliance with Regulation (EU) No [...] /2013 [Horizon 2020 Framework Programme].

¹² OJ ... [H2020 RfP]

¹³ OJ L 362 31.12.2012, p. 1

- (17) The financial interests of the Union and of the other Members of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking should be protected through proportionate measures throughout the expenditure cycle, including the prevention, detection and investigation of irregularities, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate, administrative and financial penalties in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.
- (18) The Commission's internal auditor should exercise the same powers over the IMI2 Joint Undertaking as those exercised in respect of the Commission.
- (19) In accordance with Article 287(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the constituent instrument of bodies, offices or agencies set up by the Union may preclude the examination of the accounts of all revenue and expenditure of those bodies, offices or agencies by the Court of Auditors. In accordance with Article 60(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the accounts of the bodies under Article 209 Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 are to be examined by an independent audit body which is to give an opinion inter alia on the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions. Avoidance of duplication of the examination of the accounts justifies that the accounts of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking should not be subject to examination by the Court of Auditors.
- (19bis) The IMI2 Joint Undertaking should operate in a transparent way providing all relevant available information to its appropriate bodies as well as promoting its activities accordingly.
- (20) In accordance with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union, the objectives of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in strengthening industrial research and innovation across the Union cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can therefore, by reason of avoiding duplication, retaining critical mass and ensuring that public financing is used in an optimal way, be better achieved by the Union. This Regulation confines itself to the minimum required in order to achieve those objectives and does not go beyond what is necessary for that purpose.

- (21) The IMI Joint Undertaking was set up for a period up to 31 December 2017. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking should provide continued support to the Innovative Medicines research programme by enlarging the scope of the activities under a modified set of rules. The transition from the IMI Joint Undertaking to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking should be aligned and synchronized with the transition from the Seventh Framework programme to the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme to ensure optimal use of the funding available for research. In the interest of legal certainty and clarity, Council Regulation (EC) No 73/2008 should therefore be repealed and transitional provisions should be set out.
- (22) It is appropriate to ensure a smooth transition without interruption to align the duration of this Joint Undertaking with the Council Regulation laying down the multiannual framework for the years 2014-2020¹⁴. Therefore, this Joint Undertaking should apply as from 1 January 2014.

¹⁴ OJ ...

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Establishment

1. For the implementation of the Joint Technology Initiative on Innovative Medicines, a joint undertaking within the meaning of Article 187 of the Treaty (hereinafter "IMI2 Joint Undertaking"), is established for a period from 1 January 2014 until 31 December 2024.
2. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall replace and succeed the IMI Joint Undertaking as established by Regulation (EC) No 73/2008.
3. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall constitute a body entrusted with the implementation of a public-private partnership referred to in Article 209 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.
4. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall have legal personality. In each of the Member States, it shall have the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under the laws of those Member States. It may, in particular, acquire or dispose of movable and immovable property and may be party to legal proceedings.
5. The seat of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be located in Brussels, Belgium.
6. The Statutes of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking are set out in the Annex.

Article 2

Objectives

The IMI 2 Joint Undertaking shall have the following objectives:

- (a) to support, according to Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No [...] /2013/EU [the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme], the development and implementation of pre-competitive research and of innovation activities of strategic importance to the Union's competitiveness and industrial leadership or to address specific societal challenges in particular part ... of Decision (EU) No [...] /2013/EU [the Specific Programme implementing the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme], and in particular to improving European citizens' health and wellbeing.
- (b) to contribute to the objectives of the Joint Technology Initiative on Innovative Medicines, in particular to:
 - i) increase the success rate in clinical trials of priority medicines identified by the World Health Organisation;
 - ii) where possible, reduce the time to reach clinical proof of concept in medicine development, such as for cancer, immunological, respiratory, neurological and neurodegenerative diseases;
 - iii) develop new therapies for diseases for which there is a high unmet need, such as Alzheimer's disease and limited market incentives, such as antimicrobial resistance;
 - iv) develop diagnostic and treatment biomarkers for diseases clearly linked to clinical relevance and approved by regulators;
 - v) reduce the failure rate of vaccine candidates in phase III clinical trials through new biomarkers for initial efficacy and safety checks;
 - vi) improve the current drug development process by providing support for the development of tools, standards and approaches to assess efficacy, safety and quality of regulated health products.

Article 3

Union contribution

1. The maximum Union contribution, including EFTA appropriations, to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking to cover administrative costs and operational costs shall be EUR {1 638} million which shall consist of the following:
 - (a) up to EUR {1 425} million to match the contribution of EFPIA, or its constituent entities or their affiliated entities;
 - (b) up to EUR {213} million to match additional contributions from other Members, Associated Partners, or from their constituent or their affiliated entities.

The contribution of the Union shall be paid from the appropriations in the general budget of the Union allocated to the Horizon 2020 Specific Programme implementing the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme in accordance with Article 58(1)(c)(iv) and Articles 60 and 61 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 for bodies referred to in Article 209 of that Regulation.

2. The arrangements for the Union financial contribution shall be set out in a delegation agreement and annual transfer of funds agreements to be concluded between the Commission, on behalf of the Union, and the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
3. The delegation agreement referred to in paragraph 2 shall address the elements set out in Article 58(3) and Articles 60 and 61 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in Article 40 of the Commission delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 as well as inter alia the following:
 - (a) the requirements for the IMI2 Joint Undertaking's contribution regarding the relevant performance indicators referred to in Annex II to Decision (EU) No ... [the Specific Programme implementing the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme];

- (b) the requirements for the IMI2 Joint Undertaking's contribution in view of the monitoring referred to in Annex III to Decision (EU) No ... [the Specific Programme implementing the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme];
- (c) the specific performance indicators related to the functioning of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking;
- (d) the arrangements regarding the provision of data necessary to ensure that the Commission is able to meet its dissemination and reporting obligations;
- (e) the use of and changes to human resources, in particular the recruitment by function group, grade and category, the reclassification exercise and any changes to the number of staff members.

Article 4

Contributions of Members other than the Union and of Associated Partners

1. EFPIA shall make or arrange for its constituent entities or their affiliated entities to make contributions of at least EUR [1 425 million]. Other Members other than the Union or Associated Partners shall make, or arrange for their constituent entities or their affiliated entities to make, the contributions corresponding to the amounts they have committed when becoming a Member or an Associated Partner.
2. The contribution referred to in paragraph 1 shall consist of contributions to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking as laid down in Clause 13(2), Clause 13(3)(b) and Clause 13(3)(c) of the Statutes contained in the Annex. In-kind contributions consisting of costs incurred in third countries other than countries associated to Horizon 2020 shall be justified and relevant to the objectives set out in Article 2, and shall not exceed 30% at the level of the IMI2 programme of the eligible costs incurred by the Members other than the Union and the Associated Partners.

3. The Members other than the Union and Associated Partners shall report each year by 31 January to the Governing Board of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking on the value of the contributions referred to in paragraph 2 made in each of the previous financial years. The States Representatives Group shall also be informed in a timely manner.
4. For the purpose of valuing the contributions referred to in Clause 13(3)(b) of the Statutes contained in the Annex, the costs shall be determined according to the usual cost accounting practices of the entities concerned, to the applicable accounting standards of the country where each entity is established, and to the applicable International Accounting Standards/International Financial Reporting Standards. The costs shall be certified by an independent external auditor appointed by the entity concerned. The valuation of the contributions shall be verified by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking. In case of remaining uncertainties, it may be audited by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
5. The Commission may terminate, proportionally reduce or suspend the Union financial contribution to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking or trigger the winding up procedure referred to in Clause 21(2) of the Statutes contained in the Annex if those Members and Associated Partners, their constituent entities or their affiliated entities do not contribute, contribute only partially or contribute late with regard to the contributions referred to in paragraph 2.

Article 5

Financial rules

The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall adopt its specific Financial rules in accordance with Article 209 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Regulation (EU) No ... [Delegated Regulation on the model Financial Regulation for PPPs].

Article 6

Staff

1. The Staff Regulations of Officials of the Union and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union as laid down by Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 259/68¹⁵ and the rules adopted by agreement between the institutions of the Union for giving effect to those Staff Regulations and those Conditions of Employment of Other Servants shall apply to the staff employed by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
2. The Governing Board shall exercise, with respect to the staff of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking, the powers conferred by the Staff Regulations on the Appointing Authority and by the Conditions of Employment on the Authority Empowered to Conclude Contract of Employment (hereinafter "the appointing authority powers").

The Governing Board shall adopt, in accordance with Article 110 of the Staff Regulations, a decision based on its Article 2(1) and Article 6 of the Conditions of Employment delegating the relevant appointing authority powers to the Executive Director and defining the conditions under which this delegation of powers can be suspended. The Executive Director shall be authorised to sub-delegate those powers.

Where exceptional circumstances so require, the Governing Board may by way of a decision temporarily suspend the delegation of the appointing authority powers to the Executive Director and those sub-delegated by the latter and exercise them itself or delegate them to one of its members or to a staff member of the Joint Undertaking other than the Executive Director.

3. The Governing Board shall adopt appropriate implementing rules to the Staff Regulations and the Conditions of Employment in accordance with Article 110 of the Staff Regulations.
4. The staff resources shall be determined by the staff establishment plan of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking indicating the number of temporary posts by function group and by grade and the number of contract staff expressed in full-time equivalents, in line with its annual budget.

¹⁵ OJ 56, 4.3.1968, p. 1.

5. The staff of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall consist of temporary staff and contract staff.
6. All costs related to the staff shall be borne by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

Article 7

Seconded national experts and trainees

1. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking may make use of seconded national experts and trainees not employed by the Joint Undertaking. The number of seconded national experts expressed in full-time equivalents shall be added to information on staff as referred to in Article 6(4) of this Regulation in line with the annual budget.
2. The Governing Board shall adopt a decision laying down rules on the secondment of national experts to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and on the use of trainees.

Article 8

Privileges and Immunities

The Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Union shall apply to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and its staff.

Article 9

Liability of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking

1. The contractual liability of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be governed by the relevant contractual provisions and by the law applicable to the agreement, decision or contract in question.
2. In the case of non-contractual liability, the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall, in accordance with the general principles common to the laws of the Member States, make good any damage caused by its staff in the performance of their duties.

3. Any payment by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in respect of the liability referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 and the costs and expenses incurred in connection therewith shall be considered as expenditure of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and shall be covered by the resources of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
4. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be solely responsible for meeting its obligations.

Article 10

Jurisdiction of the Court of Justice and applicable law

1. The Court of Justice shall have jurisdiction:
 - (a) pursuant to any arbitration clause contained in agreements, decisions or contracts concluded by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking;
 - (b) in disputes relating to compensation for damage caused by the staff of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in the performance of their duties;
 - (c) in any dispute between the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and its servants within the limits and under the conditions laid down in the Staff Regulations of Officials and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union.
2. Regarding any matter not covered by this Regulation or by other acts of Union law, the law of the State where the seat of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking is located shall apply.

Article 11

Evaluation

1. By 31 December 2017 the Commission shall conduct an interim evaluation of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking. The Commission shall communicate the conclusions thereof, accompanied by its observations, to the European Parliament and to the Council by 30 June 2018.
2. On the basis of the conclusions of the interim evaluation referred to in paragraph 1 the Commission may act in accordance with Article 4(5) or take any other appropriate action.

3. Within six months after the winding up of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking, but no later than two years after the triggering of the winding up procedure referred to in Clause 21 of the Statutes contained in the Annex, the Commission shall conduct a final evaluation of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking. The results of that final evaluation shall be presented to the European Parliament and to the Council.

Article 12

Discharge

1. The discharge of the budget implementation with regard to the Union contribution to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be part of the discharge given by the European Parliament, upon recommendation of the Council, to the Commission in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 319 of the Treaty.
2. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall fully cooperate with the institutions involved in the discharge procedure and provide, as appropriate, any necessary additional information. In this context, it may be requested to be represented in meetings with the relevant institutions or bodies and assist the Commission authorising officer by delegation.

Article 13

Ex-post audits

1. Ex-post audits of expenditure on indirect actions shall be carried out by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in accordance with Article 23 of Regulation (EU) No ... [the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme] as part of the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme indirect actions.
2. To ensure coherence, the Commission may decide to carry out the audits referred to in paragraph 1 on those participants which have received funding from the IMI2 Joint Undertaking. The Commission shall only do so in duly justified cases.

Article 14

Protection of the financial interests of the Members

1. Without prejudice to Clause 17(4), of the Statutes contained in the Annex, the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall grant Commission staff and other persons authorised by the Joint Undertaking or the Commission, as well as the Court of Auditors, access to its sites and premises and to all the information, including information in electronic format, needed in order to conduct their audits.
2. The European Anti-fraud Office (OLAF) may carry out investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, in accordance with the provisions and procedures laid down in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁶ and Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities¹⁷ with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union in connection with an agreement or decision or a contract funded under this Regulation.
3. Without prejudice to paragraphs 1 and 2 contracts, agreements and decisions resulting from the implementation of this Regulation shall contain provisions expressly empowering:
 - (a) the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and OLAF to conduct such audits and investigations, according to their respective competences.
 - (b) the Commission and the Court of Auditors to conduct such audits on the recipients of funding from the IMI2 Joint Undertaking according to their respective competences.

¹⁶ OJ L 248, 18.9.2013, p. 1.

¹⁷ OJ L 292, 15.11.1996, p. 2-5

4. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall ensure that the financial interests of its Members are adequately protected by carrying out or commissioning appropriate internal and external controls.
5. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall accede to the Inter-institutional Agreement of 25 May 1999 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission concerning internal investigations by OLAF¹⁸. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall adopt the necessary measures needed to facilitate internal investigations conducted by OLAF.

Article 15

Confidentiality

Without prejudice to Article 16, the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall ensure the protection of sensitive information whose disclosure could damage the interests of its Members or of participants in the activities of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

Article 16

Transparency

1. Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents¹⁹, shall apply to documents held by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
2. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking Governing Board may adopt practical arrangements for implementing Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.
3. Without prejudice to Article 10, decisions taken by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking pursuant to Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 may form the subject of a complaint to the Ombudsman under the conditions laid down in Article 228 of the Treaty.

¹⁸ OJ L 136 from 31.5.1999, p. 1

¹⁹ OJ L 145 from 31.05.2001

Article 17

Rules for participation and dissemination

Regulation (EU) No ... [Rules for participation and dissemination in Horizon 2020] shall apply to the actions funded by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking. In accordance with that Regulation, the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be considered as a funding body and shall provide financial support to indirect actions as set out in Clause 1 of the Statutes contained in the Annex.

Article 18

Support from the host State

An administrative agreement may be concluded between the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and the State where its seat is located concerning privileges and immunities and other support to be provided by this State to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

Article 19

Repeal and transitional provisions

1. Regulation (EC) No 73/2008 is repealed with effect from 1 January 2014.
2. Without prejudice to paragraph 1, actions initiated under Regulation (EC) No 73/2008 and financial obligations related to those actions shall continue to be governed by that Regulation until their completion.

The actions arising from calls for proposals provided for in Annual Implementation Plans adopted under Regulation (EC) No .../2008 shall also be regarded as actions initiated under that Regulation.

The interim evaluation referred to in Article 11(1) shall include a final evaluation of the IMI Joint Undertaking operations under Regulation (EC) No 73/2008.

3. This Regulation shall not affect the rights and obligations of staff engaged under Regulation (EC) No 73/2008.

The employment contracts of staff referred to in the first subparagraph may be renewed under this Regulation in accordance with the Staff Regulations.

The Executive Director appointed on the basis of Regulation No 73/2008 shall, for the remaining period of term of office, be assigned to the functions of the Executive Director as provided for in this Regulation with effect from 1 January 2014. The other conditions of contract shall remain unchanged.

4. Unless otherwise agreed between the Members of the IMI Joint Undertaking pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 73/2008, all rights and obligations including assets, debts or liabilities of the Members of the IMI Joint Undertaking pursuant to that Regulation are transferred to the Members of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking pursuant to this Regulation.
5. Any unused appropriations under Regulation (EC) No 73/2008 shall be transferred to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

Article 20

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

It shall apply from 1 January 2014.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

STATUTES OF THE IMI2 JOINT UNDERTAKING

1 - Tasks

The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall carry out the following tasks:

- (a) to mobilise the public and private sector resources needed to achieve the objectives of IMI2 Joint Undertaking;
- (b) to regularly review and make any necessary adjustments to the Strategic Research Agenda of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in light of scientific developments occurring during its implementation;
- (c) to establish and develop close and long-term cooperation between the Union, other Members, Associated Partners, and the other stakeholders such as other industries, regulatory bodies, patient organisations, academia and clinical centres, as well as cooperation between industry and academia;
- (d) to facilitate coordination with European, national and international activities in this area, and to communicate and interact with the Member States and the countries associated with Horizon 2020 Framework Programme;
- (e) to effectively support pre-competitive research and innovation in life sciences mainly through grants; in case clinical trials are necessary, priority shall be given to phases I and II; phases III and IV shall be funded in justified cases where it is demonstrated that unmet medical needs exist, which are either non competitive or pre-competitive;
- (f) to define and carry out the IMI2 Joint Undertaking annual work plan mainly through competitive calls for proposals; competitiveness principle shall apply to all stages of the call procedure;

- (g) to initiate competitive calls for proposals and any other necessary procedure for funding, to evaluate proposals, to award funding to projects according to the applicable rules, within the limits of available funds;
- (h) information, communication, exploitation and dissemination activities by applying *mutatis mutandis* the provisions of Article 22 of the Regulation (EU) No [...] /2013 [the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme], including making the detailed information on results from calls for proposals available and accessible in a common H2020 e-database;
- (i) to organise a meeting at least annually with interest groups to ensure openness and transparency of the research activities of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking with its stakeholders;
- (j) any other task needed to achieve the objectives referred to in Article 2 of this Regulation.

2 - Members and Associated Partners

1. The Members of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be the following:
 - (a) the Union, represented by the Commission;
 - (b) upon acceptance of these Statutes by means of a letter of endorsement, the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (hereinafter "EFPIA").
- 1bis. Constituent entities are the entities that constitute each Member of the Joint Undertaking other than the Union, according to that Member's Statutes.
2. Provided that it contributes to the funding referred to in Clause 13 of these Statutes to achieve the objectives of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking set out in Article 2 of this Regulation and accepts these Statutes, any legal entity that directly or indirectly supports research and innovation in a Member State or in a country associated with the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme may apply to become a Member of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

3. Upon acceptance of these Statutes by means of a letter of endorsement, any legal entity other than a Member or a constituent entity of a Member or any affiliated entity of either, supporting the objectives of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in its specific area of research, in a Member State or in a country associated with the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme, may apply to join IMI2 as an Associated Partner. The letter of endorsement shall detail the scope of the association in terms of content, of activities and duration.
4. Associated Partners shall contribute like Members other than the Union to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking's operational costs, in accordance with Clause 13 of these Statutes.

The letter of endorsement shall detail the Associated Partners' contribution to IMI2 Joint Undertaking and that the Union will match, in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of this Regulation.

3 - Changes to membership and to association

1. Any application for becoming a Member or an Associated Partner to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be addressed to the Governing Board, accompanied in the case of application for becoming a Member by a proposal to adapt the composition of the Governing Board set out in Clause 5.
2. The Governing Board shall assess the application taking into account the relevance and the potential added value of the applicant for the achievement of the objectives of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking. It shall then decide on the application.
3. Any Member or Associated Partner may terminate its membership or association to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking. The termination shall become effective and irrevocable six months after notification to the other Members and Associated Partners. As of then, the former Member or Associated Partner shall be discharged from any obligations other than those approved or incurred by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking prior to terminating the membership or participation.

4. Membership of or association to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking may not be transferred to a third party without prior agreement of the Governing Board.
5. The Commission shall publish on its website immediately upon any change to membership or association pursuant to this Clause an updated list of Members and Associated Partners of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking together with the date when such change takes effect.

4 – Organization of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking

1. The bodies of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be:
 - (a) the Governing Board;
 - (b) the Executive Director;
 - (c) the Scientific Committee;
 - (d) the States Representatives Group;
 - (e) the Stakeholder Forum.
2. The Scientific Committee, the States Representatives Group and the Stakeholder Forum shall be advisory bodies to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

5 – Composition of the Governing Board

The Governing Board shall be composed of 5 representatives per Member.

6 – Functioning of the Governing Board

1. Without prejudice to paragraph 2, each Member shall have a percentage out of 100 voting rights corresponding to the percentage of its contribution to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

The Commission shall hold 50% of the voting rights. The vote of the Commission shall be indivisible. Each Member may allocate its voting rights among its representatives in the Governing Board. The Members shall use their best efforts to achieve consensus. Failing consensus, the Governing Board shall take its decisions by a majority of at least 75% of all votes including the votes of those who are not in attendance.

The chairperson of the Governing Board shall be appointed on a rotating annual basis by each the Union and the other Members, in turn.

2. The Governing Board shall hold its ordinary meetings at least twice a year. It may hold extraordinary meetings at the request of any Member or at the request of the chairperson. The meetings of the Governing Board shall be convened by its chairperson and shall normally take place at the seat of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

The Executive Director shall take part in the deliberations, but shall have no voting rights.

The Governing Board shall invite any Associated Partner to take part in its deliberations for those points on the agenda that concern its association. Associated Partners shall have no voting rights.

The chairperson of the States Representatives Group shall attend meetings of the Governing Board and take part in the deliberations but shall have no voting rights.

The Governing Board may invite, on a case-by-case basis, other persons to attend its meetings as observers, in particular representatives of regional authorities of the Union.

The representatives of the Members shall not be personally liable for actions they have undertaken in their capacity as representatives on the Governing Board.

The Governing Board shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

7 – Tasks of the Governing Board

1. The Governing Board shall have overall responsibility for the strategic orientation and the operations of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and shall supervise the implementation of its activities.
2. The Governing Board shall in particular carry out the following tasks:
 - (a) assess, accept or reject applications for new membership or association in accordance with Clause 3;
 - (b) decide on the termination of the membership or association in the IMI2 Joint Undertaking of any Member or Associated Partner that does not fulfil its obligations;
 - (c) adopt the Financial rules of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in accordance with Article 5 of this Regulation;
 - (d) adopt the annual budget of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking, including the staff establishment plan indicating the number of temporary posts by function group and by grade as well as the number of contract staff and seconded national experts expressed in full-time equivalents;
 - (e) exercise the appointing authority powers with respect to the staff, in accordance with Article 6(2);
 - (f) appoint, dismiss, extend the term of office of, provide guidance to and monitor the performance of the Executive Director;
 - (g) approve the organisational structure of the Programme Office referred to in Clause 9(5) upon recommendation by the Executive Director;
 - (h) adopt the annual work plan and the corresponding expenditure estimates, proposed by the Executive Director in close cooperation with advisory groups referred to in Clause 7(2)(q), after having consulted the Scientific Committee and the States Representatives Group;

- (i) approve the annual accounts;
- (j) approve the annual activity report, including the corresponding expenditure;
- (k) arrange, as appropriate, for the establishment of an internal audit capability of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking;
- (l) approve the calls for proposals as well as, where appropriate, the related rules for submission, evaluation, selection, award and evaluation review procedures, proposed by the Executive Director in close cooperation with advisory groups referred to in Clause 7(2)(q);
- (m) approve the list of proposals selected for funding;
- (n) establish the IMI2 Joint Undertaking's communications policy upon recommendation of the Executive Director;
- (o) where appropriate, establish implementing rules in line with Article 6(3);
- (p) where appropriate, establish rules on the secondment of national experts to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and on the use of trainees in line with Article 7;
- (q) where appropriate, set up advisory groups in addition to the bodies to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking;
- (r) where appropriate, submit to the Commission any request to amend this Regulation proposed by any Member of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking;
- (s) be responsible for any task which is not specifically allocated to one of the bodies of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking; it may assign such tasks to one of those bodies.

8 – Appointment, dismissal or extension of the term of office of the Executive Director

1. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Governing Board from a list of candidates proposed by the Commission, following an open and transparent selection procedure. The Commission shall associate the representation from the other members of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in the selection procedure as appropriate.

In particular, an appropriate representation from the other members of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be ensured at the pre-selection stage of the selection procedure. For that purpose, the private members shall appoint by common accord a representative as well as an observer on behalf of the Governing Board.

2. The Executive Director is a member of staff and shall be engaged as a temporary agent of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking under point (a) of Article 2 of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the Union.

For the purpose of concluding the contract of the Executive Director, the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be represented by the chairperson of the Governing Board.

3. The term of office of the Executive Director shall be three years. By the end of that period, the Commission associating the private members as appropriate shall undertake an assessment of the performance of the Executive Director and the IMI2 Joint Undertaking's future tasks and challenges.
4. The Governing Board, acting on a proposal from the Commission which takes into account the assessment referred to in paragraph 3, may extend the term of office of the Executive Director once, for no more than four years.
5. An Executive Director whose term of office has been extended may not participate in another selection procedure for the same post at the end of the overall period.
6. The Executive Director may be dismissed only upon a decision of the Governing Board acting on a proposal from the Commission associating the private members as appropriate.

9 - Tasks of the Executive Director

1. The Executive Director shall be the chief executive responsible for the day-to-day management of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in accordance with the decisions of the Governing Board.
2. The Executive Director shall be the legal representative of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking. He/she shall be accountable to the Governing Board.
3. The Executive Director shall implement the budget of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
4. The Executive Director shall in particular carry out the following tasks in an independent manner:
 - (a) prepare and submit for adoption to the Governing Board the draft annual budget, including the corresponding staff establishment plan indicating the number of temporary posts in each grade and function group and the number of contract staff and seconded national experts expressed in full-time equivalents;
 - (b) prepare in close cooperation with advisory bodies referred to in Clause 7(2)(q) and submit for adoption to the Governing Board the annual work plan and the corresponding expenditure estimates;
 - (c) submit for approval to the Governing Board the annual accounts;
 - (d) prepare and submit for approval to the Governing Board the annual activity report, including the corresponding expenditure;
 - (e) submit for approval to the Governing Board the list of proposals selected for funding;
 - (f) sign individual grant agreements or decisions;
 - (g) sign procurement contracts;
 - (h) implement the IMI2 Joint Undertaking's communications policy;

- (i) organise, direct and supervise the operations and the staff of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking within the constraints of the delegation by the Governing Board as provided for in Article 6(2) of this Regulation;
 - (j) establish and ensure the functioning of an effective and efficient internal control system and report any significant change to it to the Governing Board;
 - (k) ensure that risk assessment and risk management are performed;
 - (l) take any other measures needed for assessing the progress of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking towards achieving its objectives;
 - (m) perform any other tasks entrusted or delegated to the Executive Director by the Governing Board.
5. The Executive Director shall set up a Programme Office for the execution, under his/her responsibility, of all support tasks arising from this Regulation. The Programme Office shall be composed of the staff of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and shall in particular carry out the following tasks:
- (a) provide support in establishing and managing an appropriate accounting system in accordance with the Financial rules of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking;
 - (b) manage the calls for proposals as provided for in the annual work plan and administer the grant agreements or decisions, including their coordination;
 - (c) provide to the Members and to the other bodies of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking all relevant information and support necessary for them to perform their duties as well as responding to their specific requests;
 - (d) act as the secretariat of the bodies of the Joint Undertaking and provide support to any advisory group set up by the Governing Board.

10 - Scientific Committee

1. The Scientific Committee shall consist of no more than 11 members appointed for a renewable period of two years. It shall elect a chairperson from amongst its members for two years.

Additional experts may be appointed if necessary for specific ad-hoc tasks and limited duration and their selection will follow the same procedure as the permanent members of the Scientific Committee.

2. The members of the Scientific Committee shall reflect a balanced representation of world-wide recognized experts from academia, industry and regulatory bodies. Collectively, the Scientific Committee members shall have the necessary scientific competencies and expertise covering the technical domain needed to make strategic science-based recommendations to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
3. The Governing Board shall establish the specific criteria and selection process for the composition of the Scientific Committee and shall appoint its members. The Governing Board shall take into consideration the potential candidates proposed by the IMI2 States Representatives Group.
4. The Scientific Committee shall carry out the following tasks:
 - (a) advise on the scientific priorities to be addressed in the annual work plans;
 - (b) advise on the scientific achievements described in the annual activity report.
5. The Scientific Committee shall meet at least once a year. The meetings shall be convened by its chairperson.
6. The Scientific Committee may, with the agreement of the chairperson, invite other persons to attend its meetings.
7. The Scientific Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

11- States Representatives Group

1. The IMI2 States Representatives Group shall consist of one representative of each Member State and of each country associated to the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme. It shall elect a chairperson from amongst its members.
2. The States Representatives Group shall meet at least once a year. The meetings shall be convened by its chairperson. The chairperson of the Governing Board and the Executive Director or their representatives shall attend the meetings.

The chairperson of the States Representatives Group may invite other persons to attend its meetings as observers, in particular representatives of regional authorities of the Union and representatives of SME associations.

3. The States Representatives Group shall be consulted and, in particular, review information and provide opinions on the following matters:
 - (a) programme progress in the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and achievement of its targets, including the information on calls and proposals evaluation process;
 - (b) updating of strategic orientation;
 - (c) links to the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme;
 - (d) annual work plans;
 - (e) involvement of SMEs.
4. The States Representatives Group shall also provide information to and act as an interface with the IMI2 Joint Undertaking on the following matters:
 - (a) the status of relevant national or regional research and innovation programmes and identification of potential areas of cooperation, including deployment, to allow synergies and avoid overlaps;

(b) specific measures taken at national level or regional level with regard to dissemination events, dedicated technical workshops and communication activities.

5. The States Representatives Group may issue, on its own initiative, recommendations or proposals to the Governing Board on technical, managerial and financial matters as well as on annual plans, in particular when those matters affect national or regional interests.

The Governing Board shall inform without undue delay the States Representatives Group of the follow up it has given to such recommendations or proposals, including the reasoning if they are not followed up.

- 5bis. The States Representatives Group shall receive information on a regular basis, among others on the participation in indirect actions funded by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking, on the outcome of each call and project implementation, on justifications for activities mentioned in Article 4(2), on synergies with other relevant Union programmes, and on the execution of the IMI2 budget.
6. The States Representatives Group shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

12 - Stakeholder Forum

1. The Stakeholder Forum shall be open to all public and private stakeholders, international interest groups from Member States, associated countries as well as from other countries.
2. The Stakeholder Forum shall be informed of the activities of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and shall be invited to provide comments.
3. The meetings of the Stakeholder Forum shall be convened by the Executive Director.

13 - Sources of financing

1. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be jointly funded by the Union, the Members other than the Union and the Associated Partners, or their constituent entities or their affiliated entities, through financial contributions paid in instalments and contributions consisting of the costs incurred by them in implementing indirect actions and that are not reimbursed by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
2. The administrative costs of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall not exceed EUR {85,2} million and shall be covered through financial contributions divided equally on an annual basis between the Union and the Members other than the Union. If part of the contribution for administrative costs is not used, it may be made available to cover the operational costs of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
3. The operational costs of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be covered through the following contributions:
 - (a) a financial contribution by the Union;
 - (b) in kind contributions by the Members other than the Union and the Associated Partners, or their constituent entities or their affiliated entities, consisting of the costs incurred by them in implementing indirect actions, and in relation to advisory bodies referred to in Clause 7(2)(q) if foreseen in the annual work plan, less the contribution of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and any other Union contribution to those costs;
 - (c) a financial contribution by the Members other than the Union and the Associated Partners, or their constituent entities or their affiliated entities, which may be made in addition to, or instead of point (b).

4. The resources of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking entered to its budget shall be composed of the following contributions:
 - (a) Members' financial contributions to the administrative costs;
 - (b) Members' and Associated Partners' financial contributions to the operational costs;
 - (c) any revenue generated by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking;
 - (d) other financial contributions, resources and revenues.

Any interest yielded by the contributions paid to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking by its Members and Associated Partners shall be considered to be its revenue.

5. All resources of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and its activities shall be devoted to the objectives set out in Article 2 of this Regulation.
6. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall own all assets generated by it or transferred to it for the achievement of its objectives provided for in Article 2 of this Regulation.
7. Except when the IMI2 Joint Undertaking is wound up pursuant to Clause 21, any excess revenue over expenditure shall not be paid to the Members of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

14 – Financial commitments

Financial commitments of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall not exceed the amount of financial resources available or committed to its budget by its Members and Associated Partners.

15 - Financial year

The financial year shall run from 1 January to 31 December.

16 – Operational and financial planning

1. The Executive Director shall submit for adoption to the Governing Board a draft annual work plan, which shall include a detailed plan of the research and innovation activities, the administrative activities and the corresponding expenditure estimates for the coming year. The draft work plan shall also include the estimated value of the contributions to be made in accordance with clause 13(3)(b).
2. The annual work plan for a particular year shall be adopted by the end of the previous year. The annual work plan shall be made publicly available.
3. The Executive Director shall prepare the draft annual budget for the following year and submit it to the Governing Board for adoption.
4. The annual budget for a particular year shall be adopted by the Governing Board by the end of the previous year.
5. The annual budget shall be adapted in order to take into account the amount of the Union contribution as set out in the Union budget.

17 – Operational and financial reporting

1. The Executive Director shall report annually to the Governing Board on the performance of his duties in accordance with the Financial rules of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.

By 15 February each year the Executive Director shall submit to the Governing Board for approval an annual activity report on the progress made by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking in the previous calendar year, in particular in relation to the annual work plan for that year. That report shall include, inter alia, information on the following matters:

- (a) research, innovation and other actions carried out and the corresponding expenditure;

- (b) proposals submitted, including a breakdown by participant type, including SMEs, and by country;
 - (c) the actions selected for funding, including a breakdown by participant type, including SMEs, and by country and indicating the contribution of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking to the individual participants and actions.
2. Once approved by the Governing Board, the annual activity report shall be made publicly available.
 3. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall report annually to the Commission in accordance with Article 60(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.
 4. The accounts of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be examined by an independent audit body as laid down in Article 60(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

The accounts of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall not be subject to examination by the Court of Auditors.

18 - Internal audit

The Commission's internal auditor shall exercise the same powers over the IMI2 Joint Undertaking as those exercised in respect of the Commission.

19 - Liability of Members and insurance

1. The financial liability of the Members for the debts of the IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be limited to their contribution already made for the administrative costs.
2. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall take out and maintain appropriate insurance.

20 - Conflict of interest

1. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking, its bodies and staff shall avoid conflict of interest in the implementation of their activities.
2. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking Governing Board shall adopt rules for the prevention and management of conflicts of interest in respect of its Members, Associated Partners, bodies and staff. In those rules, provision shall be made to avoid conflict of interest for the representatives of the Members serving the Governing Board.

21 - Winding up

1. The IMI2 Joint Undertaking shall be wound up at the end of the period in Article 1 of this Regulation.
2. The winding up procedure shall be automatically triggered if the Commission or all other Members withdraw from the IMI2 Joint Undertaking.
3. For the purpose of conducting the proceedings to wind up the IMI2 Joint Undertaking, the Governing Board shall appoint one or more liquidators, who shall comply with the decisions of the Governing Board.
4. When the IMI2 Joint Undertaking is being wound up, its assets shall be used to cover its liabilities and the expenditure relating to its winding up. Any surplus shall be distributed among the Members at the time of the winding up in proportion to their financial contribution to the IMI2 Joint Undertaking. Any such surplus distributed to the Union shall be returned to the Union budget.
5. An ad hoc procedure shall be set up to ensure the appropriate management of any agreement concluded or decision adopted by the IMI2 Joint Undertaking as well as any procurement contract with a duration longer than its duration.