



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Space Policy, Copernicus and Defence  
Defence, Aeronautic and Maritime Industries

Brussels, **31 MAI 2016**

GROW/I.4/CG/pb-Ares(2016) 3152477

Mr Denis Roger  
ESI Director  
European Defence Agency  
Rue des Drapiers, 17-23  
BE - 1050 Brussels

**Subject: Work Plan of the Pilot Project on Defence Research**

Dear Denis,

Thank you for your letter of 4 May, regarding the list of experts for the evaluation of the Pilot Project.

DG Grow, after having examined the list, has the following observations:

- 31 experts evaluators are proposed with reasonably good geographical coverage with the exception of FR and UK that are not covered
- 4 CVs are missing so the expertise cannot be judged
- For topic 1 (swarms): there are probably sufficient good experts (at least 6); for topic 2 (urban warfare): there are insufficient good experts (about 3); for topic 3 (standardisation RPAS/DAA): in principle there are enough technological experts (at least 5) but it is not clear that they have experience with standardisation procedures.

On the basis of this evidence we recommend you to:

- Provide to the Commission the 4 missing CVs and information on additional experts you may have received through the process defined in Annex II, article 4 of the Delegation Agreement. Missing information on the competence and qualifications of experts may be considered sufficient reason to exclude them from the list.
- Appoint an independent observer to monitor and report on the overall evaluation process. This expert should not be part of the evaluation but has in principle access to all documentation that the evaluators receive and the assessment reports they produce, participates in the meetings as an observer. Contact the Research Executive Agency dealing with the implementation of Secure Societies societal challenge for suitable candidates.

- On average over 50% of the contacted experts reject the invitation because of bad timing, other appointment or conflict of interests. Be prepared for this, in particular for topic 2.

- Appoint 1 or 2 experts with relevant experience on standardisation, preferentially from UK and/or FR. Contact the SESAR JU for suitable candidates.

Furthermore, after the extension of the deadline for the submission of proposals, the Commission would ask to be informed on the updated planning of the evaluation of the proposals.

Yours sincerely,

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