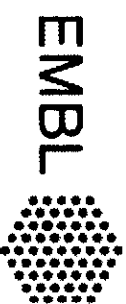




GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC
OF LITHUANIA



Statement of Intent
between
the Government of the Republic of Lithuania
and
the European Molecular Biology Laboratory
on prospect membership

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), jointly hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”, wish to encourage and facilitate interactions between the Republic of Lithuania molecular biology community and EMBL and thus further integrate the Republic of Lithuania and European research in life sciences. This Statement of Intent sets out the Parties’ shared understandings in relation to the Republic of Lithuania prospect membership of EMBL.

This Statement of Intent does not create legally binding rights and obligations however both Parties shall act in mutual interest and in good faith towards implementation of this Statement.

The elaboration of understandings in this Statement is in accordance with the *EMBL Policy on Prospect Member States* (EMBL/Fin.Com/2012/18 Rev.2).

Article 1. Prospect membership

The Republic of Lithuania hereby becomes an EMBL prospect member with the intent to accede to the Agreement establishing EMBL after expiration of its prospect membership.

Article 2. Duration

The status of the EMBL prospect member begins on the day of the last signature of this Statement by both Parties for a period of three (3) years.

Article 3. Prospect member's access to EMBL

3.1. Structural biology services:

The prospect member has access to structural biology infrastructure and services under the same conditions as a member state.

3.2. Core Facilities at EMBL Heidelberg:

The prospect member has access to the EMBL Core Facilities under the same conditions as a member state.

3.3. Opportunities for PhD students and postdoctoral researchers

Subject to successful recruitment PhD students from the prospect member are eligible for funding from the EMBL budget as are students from member states. EMBL offers possibilities for short-term internships for PhD students as it does for its member states.

Subject to successful recruitment postdoctoral fellows from the prospect member are eligible for funding from the EMBL budget as are fellows from the member states.

Article 4. Awareness-raising activities and collaborations

The Parties shall organise various events in the prospect member state aiming at raising visibility of EMBL in the national scientific community. Examples of such events are:

- visits to leading universities to inform students about the EMBL International PhD Programme and Postdoctoral Programme;
- visits to leading institutes to explore the potential for future cooperation or an advisory role for EMBL;
- exchange of expertise at workshops/conferences.

Article 5. Representation in the EMBL Council

The prospect member is granted observer status in the EMBL Council and its subcommittees, with the right to speak, through the presence of up to two delegates, one representing the scientific community, the other representing the Ministry of Education and Science.

Article 6. Accession to EMBL or termination of prospect membership

6.1. Nine (9) months before the expiry of prospect membership, the prospect member shall inform EMBL whether it intends to accede to the Agreement establishing EMBL.

6.2. Should the prospect member decide to accede to EMBL, it shall request from EMBL Council approval to become an EMBL member state.

6.3. The prospect member, which is not a member of the European Molecular Biology Conference (EMBC), shall accede to EMBC during their prospect membership or at the latest when acceding to EMBL.

6.4. Should the prospect member decide not to accede to the Agreement establishing EMBL the prospect membership shall be terminated after three (3) years following the date of the last signature of the Statement.

6.5. The prospect membership is not extendable.

Article 7. Financial implications

A reduced membership contribution shall be paid only once the prospect member becomes a member state. The special contribution towards capital expenditure may be distributed over five years (Table 1).

Table 1: Prospect membership contribution and reduction of membership contribution over the first five years of full membership (% of full contribution)

Year	Prospect Member					Full Member			
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Membership contribution	0%	0%	0%	30%	40%	50%	80%	80%	100%
Special contribution towards capital expenditure (contribution to the investments in scientific equipment that have been made by EMBL before the country joins as the country will become a user of the existing equipment)	/	/	/	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	/
Total (The sums are an approximation made in order to simplify the presentation of the payments. The approximate sum is made on the estimation that 100% of special contribution towards capital expenditure corresponds roughly to one year membership contribution. Exact calculations shall be delivered on a yearly basis at the same time as to member states)	0%	0%	0%	50%	60%	70%	100%	100%	100%

Article 8. Amicable resolution of disputes

The Parties shall seek to amicable resolve any differences in understanding which may arise in relation to the prospect membership by the process of negotiation.

Article 9. Copies of the Statement of Intent

Two identical copies of this Statement, in both Lithuanian and English languages, shall be signed by both Parties. In case of discrepancy between the linguistic versions, the English version shall prevail. Each Party shall retain one copy of the Statement.

Signed in Vilnius, Lithuania
On 16 September, 2015

Audronė Pitrėnienė
Minister of Education and Science of the
Republic of Lithuania



Signed in Heidelberg, Germany
On 28 September 2015

Professor Iain Matraj
EMBL Director General

