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Organisational regulations of the Specialised Committee Interdisciplinary Research

of 4 May 2016

The National Research Council,

based on Article 18 paragraph 2 of the Organisational Regulations of the National Research Council issues the following Regulations:

Article 1 Scope

These Regulations define the organisation and competencies of the Specialised Committee Interdisciplinary Research (hereinafter "the Specialised Committee").

Article 2 Composition and election of the Specialised Committee

¹ The Specialised Committee consists of no less than four members of the Research Council. In general, the Specialised Committee consists of 8 members.

² Its members are elected for a period of four years by the Presiding Board of the Research Council at the recommendation of the Specialised Committee. Taking into account their period of office as Research Councillors, they may be reelected once (maximum personal period of office: eight years).

³ The Specialised Committee includes at least one member each from the funding divisions I-IV of the SNSF.

⁴ The members of the Specialised Committee are experts in the area of interdisciplinary and collaborative research.

⁵ The Specialised Committee carries out its evaluation tasks in consultation with the Sinergia Evaluation Commission (Article 3).

Article 3 Composition and election of the Sinergia Evaluation Commission

¹ The Sinergia Evaluation Commission consists of at least 7 and at the most 16 permanent external experts.

² Its members are elected for a period of 4 years by the Presiding Board of the Research Council at the recommendation of the Specialised Committee. They may not be reelected (maximum personal period of office: 4 years).

³ The members of the Sinergia Evaluation Commission are experts in the area of interdisciplinary and collaborative research.

⁴ The Specialised Committee ensures that the Sinergia Evaluation Commission has an international membership and a similar number of men and women on it.

⁵ The Specialised Committee may at any time appoint non-permanent external members of the Evaluation Commission.

Art. 4 End of period of office

¹ The period of office of Research Councillors in the Specialised Committee ends when they leave the Research Council.

² The term of office of members of the Specialised Committee and the Sinergia Evaluation Commission ends in any case if the member retires from science as his/her main source of income and/or reaches the age of 70. In both cases the member must step down by the end of the current term of office at the latest.

Article 5 Meetings, Sinergia Evaluation Commission

¹ The Specialised Committee meets as often as is necessary, but at least twice a year.

² In addition, it holds meetings for the evaluation of Sinergia proposals at least twice a year in consultation with the Sinergia Evaluation Commission. In this form, it meets as an evaluation commission.

Article 6 Tasks, role

Based on the Statutes and the Organisational Regulations of the National Research Council, the Specialised Committee is responsible for the following tasks, in particular:

- a. Evaluation of Sinergia proposals and approval requests to be submitted to the Presiding Board of the Research Council;
- b. Evaluation of applications submitted for other funding schemes of the SNSF, if a corresponding request from the relevant evaluation body is approved by the Presiding Board of the National Research Council;
- c. Evaluation of interdisciplinary proposals within the scope of evaluations conducted for third parties.
- d. Observing the dynamic of interdisciplinary, collaborative and breakthrough research at the SNSF and submitting recommendations to the Research Council (on questions of evaluation, organisation, etc.);
- e. Observing the development of interdisciplinary, collaborative and breakthrough research at national and international level;
- f. Reporting to the National Research Council, in particular with regard to science policy and funding (coherence, discontinuation, adjustment or introduction of funding lines);
- g. Guaranteeing a coherent and targeted use of financial resources earmarked for interdisciplinary, collaborative and breakthrough research;
- h. Submitting proposals for the election of members of the Specialised Committee, its president and vice president and the members of the Sinergia Evaluation Commission;
- i. Electing the non-permanent external members of the Evaluation Commission.

Article 7 **Final competencies**

The Presiding Board of the Research Council may delegate tasks to the Specialised Committee which the Committee, its president or referees, or the scientific secretariat, may make decisions on at their own discretion.

Article 8 **Chair**

¹ The president chairs the Specialised Committee. If he or she is absent, the vice president assumes the chair.

² The members of the Presiding Board of the Specialised Committee must also be members of the Research Council.

Article 9 **Compensation**

¹ The members of the Specialised Committee who are also members of the Research Council are compensated pursuant to Article 11 paragraph 1 of the Compensation Regulations¹.

² The members of the Sinergia Evaluation Commission are compensated pursuant to the Regulations on the compensation of experts². They receive daily allowances for the time spent at meetings, on preparatory and follow-up tasks, and expense allowances.

Article 10 **Secretariat**

The scientific secretariat is run by the Administrative Offices. The responsible scientific officers attend meetings in an advisory function.

Article 11 **Repeal of existing regulations**

These Regulations replace the Organisational regulations of the Specialised Committee Interdisciplinary Research of 1 July 2008.

Article 12 **Transitional provision**

¹ The former external members of the Specialised Committee are now members of the Sinergia Evaluation Commission. Their period of office is 4 years, including the period of office spent as former external member.

² The compensation they receive up to the end of their term of office is calculated on the basis of the rate applied to external members until now.

Article 13 **Entry into force**

These Regulations enter into force on 1 June 2016.

¹ Regulations on the compensation of the Foundation Council, Executive Committee of the Foundation Council, National Research Council and Research Commissions of the Swiss National Science Foundation (Compensation Regulations) of 25 September 2015

² Regulations on the compensation of experts of 20 January 2016.