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ESM Confidential

Update on the construction of the new ESM building  
Note for the Board of Directors

# Executive Summary

**On 11 June 2020, the Board of Governors (BoG) approved the ESM proposal to construct a new building with a size of 19,568m² gross floor area (GFA), corresponding to a project budget of up to EUR 110.20 million[[1]](#footnote-2). The ESM committed to informing the Board of Directors (BoD) annually on the project progress and additionally on key milestones.**

**In this context, the ESM wants to inform the BoD that the architectural competition was launched on 24 July 2021, representing the first major milestone of the project.**

# Launch of the architectural competition

The procedure is a single-stage anonymous project competition with preliminary preselection, in line with Luxembourgish regulations. An unlimited number of design teams composed of architects and engineers can apply for preselection, provided that they have a place of business in the European Union, Norway, the United Kingdom, or Switzerland. Six to eight candidates will then be admitted to submit a design proposal.

In terms of next steps, the application deadline for design teams is 10 September 2021. A pre-jury will then analyse whether the applications meet the eligibility criteria, and the 13-member jury will select the competition participants during the first jury meeting on 21 October 2021. The admitted candidates will then have about four months to develop and submit a design proposal. Based on a detailed examination of the competition entries by the pre-jury, the jury will then select the prize winners in the second jury meeting on 24-25 March 2022. On this basis, the ESM and the State of Luxembourg will enter into contract negotiations with the winning design team(s), aiming to sign the contract and start with the first planning stage by the end of June 2022. The BCC chairperson is one of the three ESM jury members and will closely follow the competition.

The ESM invites its Members to advertise the competition to their local design teams by making a reference to the official ESM press release on the ESM website[[2]](#footnote-3).

The ESM will continue providing regular updates to the BoD on the project progress. The next update is scheduled for the BoD meeting on 23 September 2021.

1. Including a contingency of 10% managed by the ESM, and an additional “high cost scenario” contingency of 10% that would only be released after endorsement by the Budget Review and Compensation Committee (BCC) and Board of Directors (BoD) approval. The financial criteria for the architectural competition and tendering are set to a maximum value of EUR 91.07 million [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. <https://www.esm.europa.eu/press-releases/europe-wide-competition-new-esm-building> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)