EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Call for expressions of interest for the selection of a member of the European Fiscal Board

(2020/C 13/08)

1. Background

On 21 October 2015, the Commission decided to establish an independent European Fiscal Board (‘the Board’) (1). The decision was taken in response to the recommendations of the ‘Five Presidents’ Report — Completing Europe’s Economic and Monetary Union. The Board is composed of a Chair and four Members. Its mission is to contribute in an advisory capacity to the exercise of the Commission’s functions in the multilateral fiscal surveillance of the euro area as set out in Articles 121, 126 and 136 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

One position of Member of the Board is vacant.

2. The Board’s tasks

The Board is mandated to carry out the following tasks:

(a) It provides to the Commission an evaluation of the implementation of the Union fiscal framework, in particular regarding the horizontal consistency of the decisions and implementation of budgetary surveillance, cases of particularly serious non-compliance with the rules, and the appropriateness of the actual fiscal stance at euro area and national level. In this evaluation, the Board also makes suggestions for the future evolution of the Union fiscal framework.

(b) It advises the Commission on the prospective fiscal stance appropriate for the euro area as a whole based on an economic judgment. It advises the Commission on the appropriate national fiscal stances that are consistent with its advice on the aggregate fiscal stance of the euro area within the rules of the Stability and Growth Pact. Where it identifies risks jeopardising the proper functioning of the Economic and Monetary Union, the Board accompanies its advice with a specific consideration of the policy options available under the Stability and Growth Pact.

(c) It cooperates with the national fiscal councils as referred to in Article 6(1)(b) of Council Directive 2011/85/EU (2). The cooperation between the Board and the national fiscal councils aims particularly at exchanging best practices and facilitating common understanding on matters related to the Union fiscal framework.

(d) On the request of the President of the Commission, the Board provides ad hoc advice.

3. Independence

The members of the Board are acting independently and shall neither seek nor take instructions from the Union’s institutions or bodies, from any government of a Member State or from any other public or private body.

The Board has its own Secretariat for analytical, statistical, administrative and logistical support. The Secretariat consist of the Head of Secretariat and other members that are attached, for administrative purposes, to the Secretariat-General of the Commission. The members of the secretariat take instructions only from the Board.

The members of the Board shall disclose any potential conflict of interest with respect to a particular assessment or opinion to the Chair, who shall take any appropriate measure, and may decide that the Member concerned shall not participate in the preparation and adoption of that assessment or opinion.

4. **Job description**

Board Members contribute actively to the Board's work and participate in its executive sessions. A Member will report to the Chair regarding her/his individual contribution. In particular, Board Members will:

— ensure the achievement of objectives and tasks for the successful delivery of the mandate entrusted to the Board while adhering to the highest qualitative and ethical standards,

— contribute to determining the priorities for the Board's strategic planning,

— contribute to the development and improvement of analytical tools necessary to deliver the Board's mandate.

Board Members are appointed for a period of three years, renewable once. The successful candidate will be appointed as Special Adviser (1) and remunerated on a per diem basis based at an AD 14 basic salary for the Members. It is expected that the Member dedicates around 40 full days per year to her/his respective responsibilities.

Travel and accommodation expenses incurred by the Member shall be reimbursed by the Commission upon claim with supporting documents in accordance with the provisions in force within the Commission. In addition, a daily allowance will be provided to cover other costs such as meals.

Expenses shall be reimbursed within the limits of the available appropriations allocated under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

5. **Eligibility criteria**

To be considered for the selection phase, candidates must fulfil the following formal criteria by the closing date for applications:

— **Professional experience** (2): have at least 15 years' post-graduate experience acquired after the qualification referred to below was obtained.

— **Relevant professional experience**: of the 15 years of professional experience, to have acquired at least 10 years' experience in domains relevant to area of macroeconomic policies, especially in the domain of fiscal policy and budgetary management.

— **University degree or diploma**:

— a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies, attested by a diploma, where the normal period of university education is four years or more, or

— a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies, attested by a diploma, and appropriate professional experience of at least one year, where the normal period of university education is at least three years (this one year's professional experience cannot be included in the post-graduate professional experience required above).

— **Languages**: have a thorough knowledge of one of the official languages of the European Union and an adequate knowledge of at least another of these languages (3).

— **Nationality**: be a citizen of a Member State of the European Union.

6. **Selection criteria**

The following criteria will be taken into account when assessing applications:

— Proven and relevant competence and experience of the applicants demonstrating that they are respected international experts as regards macroeconomics, public finances, fiscal policy and budgetary management,

— Deep understanding of the EU fiscal framework and its role for the functioning of the EU and EMU,

— Proven and relevant competence and experience with economic policy making; preferably gained from work in policymaking institutions, policy-advising institutions or academia,

— Knowledge of the EU institutions and EU decision-making processes and the role of the European Commission,

(1) Article 3(5) of Commission Decision C(2015) 8000 provides that ‘the Chair and the Members of the Board shall be appointed as Special Advisers, whose status and remuneration are defined pursuant to Articles 5, 123 and 124 of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants’.

(2) Professional experience will be counted from the date on which the applicant acquired the minimum qualification for access to the profile in question.

Experience in carrying out economic analysis from a horizontal, cross-country perspective would be an asset,
— Ability to develop and implement a strategic vision,
— Outstanding sense of responsibility, resolve, initiative and integrity, and
— Excellent oral and written communication skills in order to liaise, communicate and cooperate efficiently with internal and external stakeholders. Good knowledge of English will be essential.

In the selection process the Commission will also endeavour to strike a balance in terms of representativeness of applicants, gender and geographical origin, taking account of the specific tasks of the European Fiscal Board and the type of expertise required.

7. Application procedure

Each application must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union, must clearly indicate the applicant's nationality and include the necessary documentation.

Interested applicants are required to submit their applications in electronic format to the European Commission at the following address: EFB-Secretariat@ec.europa.eu

An application will be deemed admissible only if it is sent by the deadline and includes the documents referred to below. Supporting documents may be requested at a later stage.

Deadline for applications
Deadline for applications: 14 February 2020, midnight.

The Commission reserves the right to extend the closing date of this call for expression of interest by publication in the Official Journal of the European Union only.

Supporting documents
Each application shall include the following supporting documents:
— A cover letter explaining the motivation for answering this call,
— A curriculum vitae,
— A statement listing possible conflicts of interest resulting from membership in the EFB with regard to other occupations held by the candidate.

8. Selection procedure

The selection procedure will consist of an assessment of the applications against the criteria set out above, followed by the establishment of a list of most fitting applicants. Applicants considered most suitable may be invited for an interview before appointment decisions are made.

9. Equal opportunities

The EFB will apply the policy of equal opportunities policy and will take care to avoid any form of discrimination in its recruitment procedures.

10. Tentative timeline

It is envisaged to hold selection interviews in February 2020 and the estimated starting date is in May 2020.

For additional information please send an email to EFB-Secretariat@ec.europa.eu or call the Secretariat at the following number: +32 22962851.