**Non- Paper**

**Governance Issues to be addressed following EUSAIR’s Revision**

1.Rank of EUSAIR (and possibly AII) Chairmanship

The main idea is that the EU MS will alternate with the candidates, so that there will not be a trio Presidency consisted exclusively by EU MS or Candidates. However, any accession that is completed in the next 10 years period will not affect the ranking of the Presidencies.

The EU MS or the Candidates can exchange between them the periods/ years of their presidencies, given that the rotation between EU MS and Candidates will not be affected (for example: Montenegro 2025-26, North Macedonia 2027-28).

We expect that at the end of the 10 years period all of the EUSAIR Participants will be EU MS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2023- 24 | Croatia |
| 2024- 25 | Greece |
| 2025- 26 | North Macedonia |
| 2026-27 | Italy |
| 2027-28 | Montenegro |
| 2028- 29 | Slovenia |
| 2029-30 | Albania |
| 2030- 31 | San Marino |
| 2031- 32 | Serbia |
| 2032-33 | Croatia |
| 2033- 34 | Bosnia & Herzegovina |

Consultations with AII should take place in order that it follows the same scheme.

2. Pillars’ Leadership: The accession of North Macedonia and San Marino and the creation of a fifth Pillar (Social Pillar), as well as cross-cutting issues that are to be strengthened (Youth, Enlargement etc), have to be taken into account for the governance of the Strategy. Without prejudice to the initial scheme of the TSG’s Leaderships, the new pillar could also be leaded by a MS and a Candidate Country, most likely on a volunteer basis.

Important role should be delegated to EUSAIR Participants regarding the horizontal priorities. Proper Working Groups or Task Forces could be founded with concrete tasks, i.e.monitoring the level that the horizontal priorities are embodied in the Pillars and reporting. To this end, dialogue between the horizontal working groups and the TSGs should be formalized.

3. Common Rules of Procedure for all TSGs: The rules of Pocedure should be aligned. Some possible particularities, depending on the nature of a Pillar, can be respected, however, there are issues where common practice has to be implemented, regarding i.e the Quorum, unanimity, majority needed for a decision etc. These rules should also apply to the GB.

4. Clear Definition of the role of the Governing Board: The role of the GB should be strengthened in order that it will have more Strategic role on the policy issues of the Strategy and more decisive role in its implementation. As a first step it is proposed the articulation of the agenda and its division in three parts as follows:

*Governing Board Agenda*

1. Political Overview of the Region. The Commission will be invited to inform about recent developments in the region, focusing on the Enlargement Process. Candidates will be invited to inform regarding the progress of accession, focusing on the pillars of the Strategy. The GB Members, including the Commission, shall exchange ideas on how to accelerate the process. Exchange of views regarding the cross- cutting issues and the embedding will also be welcomed. Report of the working groups on the embodiment of the cross-cutting issues to the pillars could be addressed in this part of the agenda or alternatively under B
2. Review/ Assessment of the progress of the Strategy. Issues to addressed to the Ministerial Meeting and feed-in in the Declaration.
3. Technical Part**. 1)** Information from the Pillars and approval of projects. The information from the pillars, already existing in the GB Agendas, will be accompanied with the project proposals that have already been agreed in the respective TSGs and seek for approval by the GB. In cases of urgency, approval could be given through written procedure. **2)** Presentation of project proposals to be examined by the TSGs: Pillar Coordinators present briefly to the GB project proposals or project ideas to be discussed by their respective TSGs. This should be treated as a point for information.

Additionally, the participation of representatives of cross-cutting issues Working Groups should be foreseen. These representatives shall be appointed by the relevant working groups. Their participation might be optimal, without harming the voting rights.

5. Cross-Cutting Issues Working Groups (or Task Forces) Leadership/ Coordination: It is proposed that the EUSAIR Country that holds the Presidency will also undertake the Chairmanship of the Horizontal Groups. Delegation to another EUSAIR Country is permitted. Alternative proposals have to be examined.