

Administrative Arrangement

Between

The Department of Industry of Canada and

The Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs of the European Commission on

Cluster Cooperation

The Department of Industry of Canada (“ISED”) and the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs of the European Commission (DG GROWTH), hereinafter referred to as the “Sides”.

SIDES

The Sides in this Administrative Arrangement are as follows:

DG GROWTH whose mission includes strengthening the industrial base in Europe; ensuring an open internal market for goods and services in the EU; encouraging the growth of SMEs and promoting an entrepreneurial culture; promoting industrial innovation to generate new sources of growth; and supporting the internationalisation of EU SMEs,

ISED whose mission includes helping Canadian businesses grow, innovate and expand so they can create good-quality jobs and wealth for Canadians; improving conditions for investment; supporting science; helping small and medium-sized businesses grow; building capacity for clean and sustainable technologies and processes; increasing Canada's share of global trade; promoting tourism; and building an efficient and competitive marketplace.

The Sides recognise that Canada and the European Union (EU) are important international trade, investment, and research and development partners and that innovation and technological development has played a significant role in boosting economic growth, creating jobs and improving societal welfare in Canada and the EU,

The Sides emphasise that clusters, as geographic concentrations of groups of firms, related industries, and other economic and innovation actors that cooperate with each other and have developed specialised expertise and common needs for talent, technology, services, resources and infrastructure, are key drivers of growth and innovation in local, regional and national economies and are effective springboards for accelerating the internationalisation of SMEs,

The Sides wish to carry out activities for the mutual benefit of organisations including, but not limited to, entrepreneurs, companies, start-ups, government institutes and agencies, research institutes, universities and other educational institutions, trade and industry associations, that are involved in clusters in Canada and the EU,

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Administrative Arrangement (AA) is to establish collaboration between the Sides in order to:

- (i) facilitate linkages between cluster representatives and policy-makers in Canada and the EU;
- (ii) exchange best practices in fields of mutual interest to promote growth and job creation through increased trade, investment, research and innovation partnerships.

2. COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

The Sides intend to carry out the following cooperative activities:

- (i) promote the potential for cluster cooperation in Canada and the EU at conferences, local events and meetings with local authorities, cluster organisations and cluster firms as an instrument for initiating contacts and identifying opportunities for cooperation between industrial and innovation partners in Canada and the EU;
- (ii) seek opportunities to disseminate information on Canadian and European Union cluster organizations, activities and developments on relevant communication platforms, and to share this information directly with cluster organizations as appropriate;
- (iii) encourage and facilitate the partnering of cluster organisations and cluster firms, in particular SMEs, from Canada and the EU, through the provision of information, and in liaison with the EU Member States;
- (iv) facilitate contacts between cluster organisations through the organisation of international cluster missions (outgoing and incoming missions) offering matchmaking opportunities in the strategic areas of mutual interest;
- (v) disseminate information on their funding programmes that support international cluster cooperation activities for the benefit of clusters in Canada and the EU; and
- (vi) exchange best practices on mutually beneficial topics on clusters of mutual interest, such as cluster mapping, cluster collaboration, cluster performance measurements and strategies, cluster internationalisation, and SMEs' access to global markets through clusters, drawing upon best practices developed in other related bilateral fora and initiatives.

3. WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

The Sides intend to appoint a number of contact persons to:

- (i) coordinate matters relating to this AA;
- (ii) consult on a regular basis on the practical details of facilitating cooperation;



- (iii) consult and engage with stakeholders as needed and appropriate;
- (iv) report in the framework of other related fora and initiatives when appropriate.

4. OTHER PROVISIONS

- (i) Each Side intends to pay for its own costs incurred carrying out cooperative activities under this AA.
- (ii) The Sides understand that their cooperative activities are subject to the availability of their respective resources, and to their respective applicable laws, regulations, and internal policies.
- (iii) The Sides, to the extent of their respective applicable laws and regulations, will protect confidential personal, proprietary and business confidential information from disclosure.
- (iv) This AA is not legally binding nor creating any legal rights or financial or other obligations under international or national law.
- (v) This AA will take effect on the date of its last signature by the Sides.

5. SIGNED in duplicate in the English language.



<p>For the Department of Industry of Canada</p> <p>Name, Position  Andrea Johnston, Assistant Deputy Minister,</p> <p>Date, Signature June 6, 2019</p>	<p>For the Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs of the European Commission</p> <p>Name, Position Timo PESONEN, Director - General</p> <p>Date, Signature 29. 05. 2019 </p>
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