



BiR&D

Board meeting

Brussels, 04/12/2019

Agenda

- Antitrust declaration
- Approval minutes board dd 6 November 2019
- Changes in representation of the members
- 2019 at a glance
- Work plan 2020
- Seminar & event agenda 2020
- Annual event 2020
- Budget 2020
- Follow-up on R&D tax credit audits
- GRD research project
- UBO status
- Any other business

Antitrust declaration



Adobe Acrobat
Document

Minutes Board meeting dd November 6th 2019



Microsoft Word
Document

Changes in representation of the members

- Changes since GA in May 2019:
 - Janssen pharma: Werner Verbiest
 - ETEX: Eric Bertrand
 - 3M: Steven Corveleyn
 - Umicore: Yves Van Rompaey
- Atlas Copco announced to resign from BiR&D in 2020 (due to lack of time to participate)
- Bekaert suspended membership in 2019 due to budget restrictions

Seminars & events

- 16/1 Seminar on European Innovation Scoreboard (Nokia)
- 25/3 Industry meets University event - « Connect the dots »
(120 pitches, 83 potential contacts)
- 4/3 Carmeuse: Seminar on talent scouting (Carmeuse)
- 8/5 Annual event – “R&D of the future” (preceded by GA and board meeting)
- 5/6 Seminar on Circular Economy (3M)
- 11/9 Seminar on Artificial Intelligence (Solvay)
- 9/10 Seminar on Ahead of Digital (DEME)
- 6/11 Seminar on Funding in R&D (Baxter)
- 4/12 Board meeting and lunch

Workgroups

- Subgroups Energy (2 meetings), HR (2 meetings), health (different phone calls)
- Strategy (monthly call)

Positioning BiR&D

- Article in “Focus” of Standaard: major R&D challenges in Belgium
- Support to VLIR letter on immigration rules affecting foreign people working in Belgium
- R&D tax credit audit: input to Agoria & VBO/FBE on challenges / issues

Workplan for 2020

1. Internal seminars – see separate slide
2. Public events:
 - Annual event (see also separate slide)
 - PhD poster session (tbd)
3. Continue implementation of the charter (with universities) on the 3 axes:
 - Stimulate and enrich research talent
 - Facilitate collaboration with universities (eg cross regional)
 - Expand the potential for valorization (eg. PhD poster session, post doc event)
4. Working groups activity:
 - Guide talent / HR related WG
 - Continue WG energy
 - Continue strat WG
 - Create WG on climate (tbc)
5. Provide position papers on R&D relevant topics
6. Stimulate cross-company cooperation for societal challenges (where appropriate and relevant)
7. Acquire new members

Workplan 2020 - Proposed topics for 2020

- CO2 reduction (Jan. 2020)
- Actions for Climate (Feb. 2020)
- Financial aspects of R&D
- R&D processes and evolution (agile, devops, ...)
- Industry 4.0 – dreams / reality
- Digital in R&D - security
- Digital in R&D - update on AI after 1 year
- Project mngt in R&D
- Finance in R&D
- New innovation models
- Internal / external venturing
- Partnering with technology providers
- Brexit
-

 ***Any other suggestions ?***

Annual event:

- Theme: How is technology & industry providing an answer to the climate change challenge ?
- Date: May 13th, 2020
- Objective: ensure message is getting across that industry / technology is rather a part of the solution than part of the problem
- Format: brainstorm ongoing with Vademecom
- Call for ideas / presentations / testimonials by the members

PhD poster session with postdocs:

- Idea brought during brainstorm with FNRS / FWO
- Agenda: organize session with postdocs where they present there PhD work to BiR&D members
- Scope: across all Belgian universities, for selected topics by BiR&D members
- Half- to full day event
- Initial check with postdoc coordinator for Flanders was positive
- Timing: Sept – Oct 2020

Workplan 2020 – proposed agenda 2020

Current proposal:

Date	Theme	Location / host	Combined with GRD event
15/01/2020	CO2 reduction	Lhoist	yes
19/02/2020	Technology as solution to climate change	Janssen Pharma	no
25/03/2020	Cross-regional collaboration & regional priorities after local governments had been voted	tbd	no
13/05/2020	Annual Event	Bluepoint Brussels	no
3/06/2020	Presentation PhD's awards to BiR&D members	Bluepoint Brussels	no
17/06/2020	Visit Vito in Mol	Vito Mol	no
9/09/2020	Update on AI / cyber security	Sirris	yes
14/10/2020	TBD (from list of potential topics)	Coca-Cola	yes
25/11/2020	TBD (from list of potential topics)	John Cockerill, Liège	no
16/12/2020	Xmas lunch and last board meeting of the year	Bluepoint Brussels	no

Need to include eventually PhD poster / postdoc session

Workplan 2020 – workgroups

Work group Talent

- Will meet on regular basis in 2020, strong dynamics in the team
- Baxter proposed a next meeting and agenda
- Karin will help facilitating the WG meetings
- Plenty of topics: Competence mapping, Executives classification and management of specialists, rewarding and recognition, onboarding, trainings, compensation and premiums for travellers.

Work Group Energy

- Will continue to meet in 2020, topics are being proposed
- In each meeting, 1 member introduces their activities

Work group Strategy

- Will continue to prepare input for the board meetings on strategic and operational topics
- Call for 2 extra members to replace members that left their company

Working Group health

- 3 domains of common interest aligned
- Proposed university meets industry currently on hold till 2020 (need to ensure that all involved members have the resources to take part)

Workplan 2020 – targeted new members

- IBA
- Siemens
- Eastman
- Sonaca
- Asco
- Barco
- Safran
- Cronos
- ...

Actuals 2019 / budget 2020

BiR&D Budget review WITHOUT VAT	2019				2020
	Budget 2019	Actuals 30/09/2019	Outlook 2019	Delta outlook - budget	Budget 2020
CASH BASIS EURO					
INCOME					
Memberships	168 000	150 000	150 000	-18 000	168 000
Bank interest					
Total income in year = Membership	168 000	150 000	150 000	-18 000	168 000
WEB host & maint	-2 000	-900	-1 200	800	-2 000
Awards Event / Annual event (Rooms rental, moderator ,...)	-6 000	-9 793	-9 793	-3 793	-10 000
Industry meets University (2 events foreseen)	-37 500	-38 817	-38 817	-1 317	
Event 2020 (poster session, or bigger annual event)				0	-20 000
Meetings and seminars	-4 000	-2 886	-4 486	-486	-5 000
Speakers for seminars				0	
Documents for awards & seminars	-1 500	0	0	1 500	-1 500
Secretary General costs	-55 000	-38 121	-50 979	4 021	-55 000
Payment to GRD	-28 000	-26 000	-26 000	2 000	-30 000
pwc payment for study on R&D incentives	0	0	0	0	0
BiR&D award PhD program (award + jury cost)	-20 000	-20 000	-20 000	0	-20 000
Restaurants & travels	-2 500	-360	-460	2 040	-1 500
Moniteur belge	-110	0	0	110	-110
Lawyer fees	-1 000	0	-2 000	-1 000	-1 000
Accounting fees (DBM)	-4 000	-1 861	-2 561	1 439	-3 000
Sponsoring	-2 000	0	0	2 000	0
10th anniversary	0	0	0	0	0
Various	-2 000	-8	-13	1 987	-2 000
Total expenses in year	-165 610	-138 745	-156 309	9 301	-151 110
Current result of the year	2 390	11 255	-6 309	-8 699	16 890

Other costs					
Depreciation		-4167,50	-4167,50		
Other exploitation costs		-105,80	-105,80		-120,00
Financial costs / benefits		-130,67	-130,67		-150,00
Net result		6 851	-10 713		16620

CASH POSITION					
Current account (at YE)		127513	127513		133 420
Saving Account (at YE)		52 057	52 057		52 057
TOTAL CASH		179 570	179 570		185 477

2 major topics discussed on meeting with authorities and Agoria & VBO/FBE:

• Announcement of R&D projects in Belspo

- The administration agrees that the vision of some tax controllers is too rigid by stating that announcement using the Belspo e-tool is the only acceptable way
- The administration agrees that tax controllers have to accept also other ways of R&D project / program announcement – eg a presentation of the company (as debtor of the withholding tax) and the R&D project/program in Belspo offices. It is requested that following essential elements have been discussed and provided:
 - identity of the debtor of the withholding tax
 - Description of the project / program, indicating the objective: fundamental, industrial onderzoek or experimental research and/or development
 - Expected start and end date of the project / program
- This can be proven through all evidence of common law (except
- Promise has been made that instruction will be forwarded within tax authorities departments

• Acceptance of binding Belspo advice

- Companies and tax authorities can ask a judgment to Belspo to check if R&D activities are compliant to the definition. This Belspo advice is binding for the company and the tax authorities.
- However, some tax controllers treat this advice as of zero and no value. This can be due to the fact that the tax controllers don't know how Belspo handles the requests and to the fact that Belspo provides a poor and short written return on the requests
- Agoria & VBO/FBE will check if there is a modus operandi that is acceptable for all involved parties.



- Update by Benoît

- 17 members approved the resolutions in the written procedure, so resolutions are accepted by majority
- Next steps:
 - Office of Anne De Moor will send out request for the mandatory information needed from the natural person to allow proper registration of BiR&D (2nd week of December)
 - Office of Anne De Moor will do the registration of BiR&D in line with UBO regulations



Round table



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