

Brussels, 24th April 2018

Tibor Navracsics
Commissioner of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels

Carlos Moedas
Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
Rue de la Loi 200
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Cc: Commissioners of the KICs' global challenges

Ref: EIT/KICs positioning and ambitions in FP9

Dear Commissioners, dear Tibor, dear Carlos

Innovation and entrepreneurship, as well as education are key ingredients when it comes to successfully addressing the **global challenges** our society faces such as **climate, digital, energy, food, health, raw materials**, etc. We at the **EIT** and its Knowledge and Innovation Communities (**KICs**) have worked hard over the last eight years to drive innovation and entrepreneurship on these global challenges in Europe. And with **success!** We have been able to build an unprecedented pan-European **ecosystem of research, education and business actors** that has grown from around 90 in 2010 to over **1000** today with a presence in **all EU Member States**. This ecosystem has **delivered** an impressive number of **talents and innovations** and plays a pivotal role in addressing **Europe's key global challenges**.

As a result, the **EIT/KICs need to be firmly positioned in the global challenges pillar**, exactly where it belongs as the builder of the **largest** pan-European innovation and entrepreneurship **ecosystem** addressing Europe's competitiveness with respect to these global challenges.

The integrated EIT approach of Innovation, entrepreneurship and education **requires a different** approach compared to Research & Development (R&D). Innovation and education ecosystems have different dynamics than R&D projects and require a regulatory framework that supports the agility needed. The **EIT** should through a concrete and targeted **set of derogations be released** from the bureaucratic hindrances that limit its effectiveness.

In order to continuously deliver increased **impact** and to build on its strong basis the EIT/KICs need to be equipped with the appropriate financial means, which will require a financial budget allocation in the range of **4.6 to 5.9 billion euro in FP9**. This will allow to strongly continue contributing to the solution of **global challenges, and support EU priorities** through the delivery of the innovation, entrepreneurship and talent that Europe needs to be globally competitive.

Yours sincerely,



Margaret Bath
EIT Food



Willem Jonker
EIT Digital



Jan-Phillip Beck
EIT Health



Kirsten Dunlop
Climate KIC



Karen Hanghoj
EIT RawMaterials



Diego Pavía
EIT InnoEnergy

Cc: KICs and EIT Chairmen