



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Directorate F – Health and Food
Unit F1 Disease Prevention

**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
INITIATIVE ON BREAST CANCER (EC-BC)
WORKING GROUP**

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1. BACKGROUND

1.1. The European Commission initiative on Breast Cancer

In 2008, the European Parliament Resolution ⁽¹⁾ called on the European Commission (EC) to develop European accreditation/certification programmes for cancer screening, diagnosis, and follow-up care based on European evidence-based guidelines. In response, the European Commission initiative on Breast Cancer (EC-BC) was launched by the EC and started its activities in 2015.

The key pillars of the EC-BC are the development of the *European guidelines* on breast cancer screening and diagnosis and of the *European quality assurance (QA) scheme* covering the entire care pathway. For each pillar, a working group (WG) was originally set-up: the guidelines development group (GDG) and the quality assurance scheme development group (QASDG).

The developed guidelines and requirements for breast cancer services are publicly accessible on the EC website on cancer screening and care ⁽²⁾. The guidelines are already undergoing regular updates and the QA scheme is being updated based on the feedback received during the testing phase, carried out with 20 entities from 9 European countries, to enhance future applicability across Europe.

1.2. Rationale for this call

During 2024-2025, the breast cancer initiative will transition to a new methodological framework, involving an integrated development of guidelines and QA scheme ⁽³⁾, ⁽⁴⁾ by a single WG of experts. In preparation, the EC is reshaping the EC-BC board of chairs. Through an open call advertised from 22 December 2022 to 12 March 2023, a new chair was appointed.

In collaboration with the Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), the EC's Joint Research Centre (JRC) is now calling for expressions of interest from potential candidates to be appointed as **members of one common WG**. As an outcome of this call, a **new vice-chair** will be appointed from the candidates as well.

⁽¹⁾ European Parliament Resolution on combating cancer in the enlarged European Union
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0121+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>

⁽²⁾ EC website on cancer screening and diagnosis
<https://cancer-screening-and-care.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en>

⁽³⁾ Guideline-based quality assurance: a conceptual framework for the definition of key elements
<https://bmchealthservres.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12913-021-06148-2>

⁽⁴⁾ Bringing two worlds closer together: a critical analysis of an integrated approach to guideline development and quality assurance schemes
<https://bmchealthservres.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12913-020-05819-w>

The WG will:

1. Critically evaluate and summarise the existing evidence to update patient-centred, evidence-based guidelines on breast cancer screening, and diagnosis;
2. Update of the quality and safety indicators and performance measures for the *EC-BC QA scheme* for breast cancer services, covering all processes of breast cancer care from screening to end-of-life care;
3. Assist the JRC in obtaining and/or processing feedback on the *EC-BC guidelines* and the *EC-BC QA scheme* collected from key stakeholders (e.g. individuals, professional organisations, hospitals etc.) through public consultations/surveys or other means;
4. Promote the use of the *EC-BC guidelines* and the *EC-BC QA scheme*;
5. Support the JRC in the dissemination of outputs (via, for instance, scientific papers, at conference presentations, and interactions with related working groups) and support the implementation of the *EC-BC guidelines* and the *EC-BC QA scheme* as referred to in points 3-4;
6. Participate in the activities of the topic-specific groups. The WG will principally rely on the work performed by the members of the topic-specific groups, established to work on specific healthcare questions.
7. Support the JRC in conducting studies or surveys (e.g. scientific, methodological, or technical support) underpinning the EC-BC's main tasks, as defined in points 1-7;
8. Provide input to scientific publications.

The members of the WG shall cover the areas of expertise listed in Annex I.

The WG will work in close collaboration with *experts* appointed to topic-specific groups chosen primarily from the *EC-BC expert pool*. The candidates who will not be appointed to the WG, depending on their agreement, will be appointed as members of that *EC-BC expert pool*. The JRC will seek the applicants' consent before adding their names to the expert pool.

A topic-specific group will be formed for each healthcare question/cluster of healthcare questions under discussion and dissolved once the respective work is completed. A topic-specific group will comprise approximately five to eight members, consisting of one or two working group members, two to four members from the *EC-BC expert pool*, (or if no adequate expert is found in the *EC-BC expert pool*, hired on demand through expert contracts or procurements), one or two JRC staff members and the expert(s) in charge of the systematic reviews to provide the underpinning evidence on each subject matter. The number of involved topic-specific group members is dependent on the expertise needed to discuss the specific question(s).

The WG, subject to this call, won't be constituted of organisations' representatives, but individuals acting in their personal capacity. The JRC will form a second smaller group with

representatives of relevant communities, organisations or entities after the establishment of this renewed EC-BC WG. The EC-BC WG outputs will be subject to stakeholders' comments.

2. FEATURES OF THE WORKING GROUP

2.1. Composition

The WG will consist of 15-20 members, depending on the distribution of the necessary expertise.

Members of the WG will be individuals appointed in their personal capacities (Type A members⁵) who will act independently and in the public interest, not representing any private, commercial, or national interests.

The selection procedure will take into account the criteria outlined in the section 4.2 of this call for which evidence shall be provided by the applicant *via* the application form.

The members must not have interests (in particular, relevant professional and financial interests) in relation to the EC-BC that could affect their impartiality. Applicants must therefore submit a duly completed declaration of interests (DoI) form (via the application procedure, indicating any interest that may compromise or reasonably be perceived to compromise their independence, including any relevant circumstances relating to their close family members). Procedural guidance on compiling the DoI is also annexed to this call (Annex II). Please note that a declared interest does not necessarily lead to a conflict of interests (CoI).

If appointed to the WG, the members will be asked to sign a declaration of confidentiality and commitment (Annex III) as well as annual written updates of their DoI and written and/or oral updates of their DoI before meetings. The annual declarations will be made public on the EC's website on cancer screening and care.

2.2. Appointment

The members will be appointed by the JRC from the pool of applicants complying with the requirements referred to in section 4.1 (eligibility requirements) and 4.2 (selection criteria) of this call.

The members will be appointed for four years. Their term of office may be renewed, provided they continue to satisfy the eligibility requirements and the selection criteria, and the needed commitment to the work of the group. They will remain in office until their appointments are terminated or they are replaced.

^[5] Type A group members

<https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=faq.faq&aide=2>

The members who are no longer capable of contributing effectively to the group's deliberations or who, in the opinion of the JRC, do not comply with the confidentiality condition set out in Article 339 of the Treaty ⁽⁶⁾ on the Functioning of the European Union, will no longer be invited to participate in any meetings of the group and may be replaced for the remainder of their term of office. In order to ensure continuity and smooth functioning of the WG, the JRC maintains an *expert pool* during the entire time period of the initiative; from this pool, experts could be appointed to the topic-specific groups, replace WG members or be added as new members to the WG.

2.3. Operation of the working group

Independence will be ensured by means of regular DoI and a CoI management policy. The members will actively contribute to the work of the group. They will sign a declaration of commitment to this effect (Annex III).

Depending on demand and subject to fluctuations, the members are expected to be available for tasks completed remotely and to attend meetings by video-/teleconferencing, with the average frequency not exceeding 2-3 days per month. In addition, they may be required to attend in person meetings, on average 4 days/year.

The members are expected to actively contribute to discussions of the WG and examine and comment on documents under preparation, respecting due deadlines. The members must have a sufficient level of IT literacy to be able work remotely, including electronic methods for the management and exchange of documents, as well as to join virtual meetings by means of web-based tools. Working documents will be made available and drafted in English. Meetings will also be held in English.

The WG's opinions will be adopted by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, the position will be adopted by simple majority of the members. The members that have voted against or have abstained from voting will have the right to document their minority opinion and the underlying reasoning.

In agreement with the JRC, the WG may, by simple majority of its members, decide that deliberations be made publicly available.

The JRC may set up topic-specific groups for the purpose of examining specific questions on the basis of rules of procedure adopted by the WG. The topic-specific groups will report back to the WG. They will be dissolved when their mandate has been fulfilled. Candidates from the expert pool may be appointed to the topic-specific groups. The JRC will always ask the experts for their availability beforehand.

⁽⁶⁾Article 339 of the Treaty

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A12016E339>

2.4. Remuneration

In case of on-site meetings, travel and subsistence expenses of the members participating in the activities will be reimbursed by the EC. Reimbursement will be made in accordance with the provisions in force within the EC.

Experts will in principle not be remunerated for the services they offer. However, the Commission may decide to pay for extraordinary activities, in terms of the amount of the work and compliance to tight deadlines, to achieve specific goals of the activities. This would amount to a maximum of 12 days per year, per expert (€450 per day, as of May 2020). If the Commission decides to pay for such extraordinary activities, the JRC will sign a contract with the experts.

2.5. Transparency

The WG will carry out activities by observing principles of transparency. All relevant documents will be published on the EC's website on cancer screening and care under EC-BC ⁽⁷⁾. In particular, the following data will be made available to the public, without undue delay:

- (a) name of individuals appointed as working group members and their brief CVs;
- (b) rules of procedure;
- (c) the members' declarations of interests, confidentiality, and commitment;
- (d) name of individuals from the expert pool participating in topic-specific groups.

Exceptions to publication will be considered where it is deemed that disclosure of a document would undermine the protection of a public or private interest as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 ⁽⁸⁾.

2.6. Confidentiality

The members and experts are subject to the obligation of professional secrecy, which by virtue of the Treaties and the rules implementing them applies to all members of the institutions and their staff.

In line with the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1396 ⁽⁹⁾, the members will not divulge information, including commercially sensitive or personal data, acquired as a result of the group's work, even after they have ceased to be members. They will sign a declaration of confidentiality to this effect. In line with the Commission Implementing

⁽⁷⁾ For reference, please visit

<https://cancer-screening-and-care.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/ecibc/discover-ecibc/working-groups#documents>

⁽⁸⁾ Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43–48

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32001R1049>

⁽⁹⁾ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1396. OJ L 234, 11.9.2019, p. 23–30

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/PL/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2019.234.01.0023.01.ENG

Decision (EU) 2019/1396, the members will comply with the Commission's security rules on the protection of EU classified and sensitive non-classified information, as set out in the Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 ⁽¹⁰⁾ and 2015/444 ⁽¹¹⁾.

Should the members fail to respect these obligations, the Commission may take all appropriate measures.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Interested individuals are invited to submit their application using the online application form available on the EC's website on cancer screening and care under EC-BC, calls for expression of interest ⁽¹²⁾. The application form must be completed in English.

Individuals applying in their professional capacity are required to fill in the online application form for professionals. Individuals applying as patients and/or caregivers are required to fill in the online application form for patients and/or caregivers.

Supporting documents:

An application will be deemed valid only if it is sent by the deadline and includes all the documents listed below:

- Completed on-line application form;
 - application form for professionals;
 - application form for patients and/or caregivers;
- *Curriculum vitae* in electronic Europass format ⁽¹³⁾, not exceeding 4 pages in length;
- List of publication list - ten best scientific publications in a relevant field published in the last ten years. The applicant may also additionally provide a list of ten publications of other types, e.g. book chapters.

This is not required for applications from patients and/or caregivers;

- Filled in and signed DoI form (the DoI form is embedded to the application form);
- Read, understood and accepted privacy statement (the statement is embedded to the application form)

⁽¹⁰⁾ Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443. OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 41–52

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32015D0443>

⁽¹¹⁾ Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/444. OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53–88

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/GA/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32015D0444>

⁽¹²⁾ EC website on cancer screening and care

<https://cancer-screening-and-care.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/ecibc/open-calls/call-for-expression-of-interest>

⁽¹³⁾ CV Europass format

<https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions>

NOTE: Applicants must disclose any circumstances that could give rise to a CoI by submitting a DoI. Submission of a duly completed DoI form is necessary in order to be eligible for appointment in a personal capacity. Additional supporting documents may be requested at a later stage. All documents submitted by applicants must be duly completed, legible, signed (bearing a wet signature when relevant) and numbered sequentially.

Deadline for application:

The deadline for applications is 4 weeks from the moment the call will be published on the website. Applications received after the above deadline will only be evaluated for inclusion in the expert pool.

4. SELECTION PROCEDURE

All valid applications will be subjected to a selection procedure consisting of four main steps:

1. Checking of the applications against *eligibility requirements*;
2. Evaluation of eligible applications against *selection criteria*;
3. *Appointment* of the working group members;
4. Inclusion to the expert pool of those candidates who have not been appointed as working group members, upon their agreement.

4.1. Eligibility requirements

4.1.1. Applying as professionals

To be considered eligible for the member or Vice-Chair position, the applicants must satisfy the following criteria:

1. Must have a university degree at postgraduate level (bachelor's + 2 years), in an area relevant to the subject of this call (see Annex 1);
2. Must have a minimum of 10 years of relevant professional experience⁽¹⁴⁾ in at least one of the relevant competence fields listed in the call to be eligible for the WG (see Annex I);

NOTE: If the number of relevant professional experience is more than 5 years of relevant professional experience but less than 10 years, we invite the candidates to apply to the EC-BC expert pool call accessible on the EC's website on cancer screening and care as well⁽¹⁵⁾. Must have active employment or involvement in at least one of the competence fields applied for;

⁽¹⁴⁾ To confirm the eligibility requirement of 10 years of professional experience (years are counted only if they are in a relevant field): years of study included in eligibility criterion 2 (post-graduate education) are NOT counted as professional experience; each additional post-graduate course of study can be counted as working experience up to a maximum of ONE year; doctoral studies can be counted as working experience up to a maximum of THREE years; a medical specialisation can be counted as working experience up to a maximum of FIVE years.

⁽¹⁵⁾ Please refer to the EC-BC call for expert pool

<https://cancer-screening-and-care.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/ecibc/open-calls/call-for-expression-of-interest>

3. Must all have good knowledge of the English language, allowing professional functioning in English⁽¹⁶⁾ (including active participation in deliberations and writing reports in English);
4. Must not be an EC-BC National Contact.

Only the applicants who meet all these requirements will be included in the subsequent selection steps.

4.1.2. Applying as patients and/or caregivers

To be considered as eligible, the applicants must satisfy the following criteria:

1. Must have an understanding of issues and needs of individuals attending breast cancer services and their caregivers;
2. Must have an understanding of the views of a wide network of individuals attending breast cancer services and their caregivers;
3. Must have good knowledge of the English language, allowing professional functioning in English⁽¹⁷⁾ (including active participation in deliberations and writing reports in English);
4. Must not be an EC-BC National Contact.

Only the applicants who meet all requirements will be included in the subsequent selection steps.

4.2. Selection criteria

Applications that meet all eligibility requirements will be evaluated on the basis of the following aspects:

1. Postgraduate education;
2. Work experience;
3. Relevant professional, scientific, and technical expertise.

For patients and/or caregivers:

1. Experience in working groups and patients' organisations;
2. Knowledge of evidence-based health care and related European context and policies.

Evaluation will be based on the evidence provided by the applicant.

4.3. Appointment of members

For the appointment of the members to the WG, the EC will ensure that the composition of the WG includes all the necessary specialities with a high level of expertise, with a balanced geographical and gender distribution, as well as, manageable CoIs, in particular the intellectual aspects. The evaluation of any possible CoI of the candidate will be based on the information provided by the candidate by duly filling in the DoI form.

⁽¹⁶⁾ As a guide, 'Ability to work in English' corresponds to level B2 or above, as set out in the Council of Europe reference document for the European Language Portfolio ('Common European Framework of Reference: Learning, Teaching, and Assessment'). For more information, please refer to: <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/resources/european-language-levels-cefr>

⁽¹⁷⁾ Please see note 3, page 1

5. ANNEXES

Annex I

Expertise required ⁽¹⁸⁾

- Anaesthesiology/intensive care/pain management specialist
- Breast care nurse
- Cancer rehabilitation specialist
- Cancer registry and databases expert
- Communication in cancer care expert
- Cancer care pathway or nurse navigator
- Data manager with experience in cancer
- Decision aids expert
- Epidemiologist with expertise in modelling
- Epidemiologist/public health/preventive medicine specialist with expertise in prevention and/or screening for breast cancer
- General practitioner
- Geneticist
- Guidelines methods expert (development, implementation, integration of patient values, conflict of interest prevention and management)
- Health equity expert
- Health economist
- Interventional radiologist
- Immunologist
- Systematic review expert including of diagnostic tests, public health interventions, and qualitative evidence
- Screening program manager
- Medical oncologist
- Molecular pathologist
- Nuclear medicine specialist
- Nurse with experience in community, hospital and/or oncology care
- Nutrition specialist
- Oncology pharmacist
- Palliative care specialist

⁽¹⁸⁾All experts will be appointed in their personal capacities acting independently and in the public interest, not representing any private, commercial or national interests.

- Patient safety specialist
- Pathologist
- Psycho-oncologist and/or psychosocial care specialist
- Quality indicators development
- Quality assurance in healthcare expert
- Radiologist specialised in breast cancer screening and/or diagnostic imaging
- Radiation oncologist
- Reconstructive breast surgeon
- Surgeon specialised in breast cancer surgery
- Other professions relevant to breast cancer care

Guidance for completing the Annual Declaration of Interests ⁽¹⁹⁾ (DoI) form

I. INTRODUCTION

This guidance relates to the implementation of the provisions on independence and transparency of Commission Decision C(2016) 3301.

It aims to give clear indications on how to declare any interest that could affect the ability of the EC-BC members to act in the public interest.

According to Decision C(2016) 3301, the responsibility for declaring all relevant interests is placed on the individuals completing their declaration. A false or incomplete declaration may have consequences on the acts adopted by the Commission on the basis of the experts' advice, since this could be challenged before the Court of Justice/General Court under the conditions of Article 263 TFUE ⁽²⁰⁾.

Interests are declared as an indication if conflicts of interest (CoIs) could arise. The expert shall not assess whether a CoI is present. The assessment of whether a CoI exists will be performed by the CoI evaluation panel from the JRC.

To be noted that a declared "interest" is not automatically considered to lead to a CoI. It is well understood that, in general, individuals who are involved in a particular process have an inherent professional interest in the subject area and in being involved in the process as such.

The following information covers the Declaration of Interests (DoI) form to be filled in by EC-BC members.

II. WHAT TO DECLARE?

The European Commission recognises that high quality and up-to-date scientific expertise is by nature, based on prior experience, connection to the scientific world and involvement in current research. Therefore, and as previously indicated, having an interest does not necessarily mean having a CoI.

EC-BC members shall declare:

⁽¹⁹⁾According to European Commission's Decision C(2016) 3301 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups, Articles 2(4) and 11 each member of an expert group has to complete a DoI form.

[https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/detail?ref=C\(2016\)3301&lang=en](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/detail?ref=C(2016)3301&lang=en)

⁽²⁰⁾ TFUE, Article 263

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:12008E263:EN:HTML>

1. Investments

Stocks, bonds, stock options, other securities as well as to commercial business interests (e.g., proprietorships, partnerships, joint ventures, board memberships, controlling interests) in a legal entity. Holding any form of equity, bonds, and partnership interests in the capital of a company is included.

The holding of financial interests connected with a pension scheme or other complex investment funds would not be considered a financial interest, provided that the individual has no influence on its financial management.

2. Employment and consulting

All forms of employment and consulting, part-time or full-time, either remunerated or non-remunerated, in any legal entity.

3. Research

Any activity as an investigator in research studies related to breast cancer, including the drafting of research programmes or the selection of research projects and current funding of research in relation to matter or work financed by a private or public entity, including grants, rents, sponsorships and fellowships. Non-monetary support (equipment, facilities) and other type of support (i.e. honoraria for being a speaker, holding a training) are included.

4. Memberships

For example,

- Any participation in the internal decision-making body of a company, trade association or other private entity such as a non-profit organisation dealing with issues related to breast cancer (e.g. board membership, directorship).
- Any paid or unpaid, past, present or envisaged activity in which the expert or his depended collaborators provided technical or scientific advice or services in domains of relevance for breast cancer.

5. Intellectual property rights (IPR)

Rights granted to creators and owners of works that are the result of human intellectual creativity that bring personal financial benefit to the expert.

Only the IPR falling within the remit of the work of breast cancer need be declared. These can be copyrights, patents, trademarks as well as proprietary know-how in a substance, technology or process.

6. Public statements and positions

Expert opinion or testimony for a legal entity or other body as part of a regulatory, legislative or judicial process; holding an office or other position, paid or unpaid, where interests were represented or opinions defended in domains of relevance for breast cancer.

7. Interests of immediate family members

Known interests related to breast cancer held by family members and relatives (spouse, parents, children, brothers and sisters, irrespective of whether they live at the same address or not) or other persons under the care of the members of the household of the expert.

8. Other activities

Any interests other than those mentioned before which can be perceived as a potential source of conflict. It should be intended as any membership or affiliation other than those mentioned before which can be perceived as an interest.

III. PUBLICATION

The DoI of the EC-BC members will be made public in accordance with the provisions on transparency foreseen by Decision C(2016) 3301. These will be posted on the European Commission website on cancer screening and diagnosis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PROVISIONS ON PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

The European Commission processes personal data pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725⁽²¹⁾ of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies on the free movement of such data.

The specific processing of data included in the EC-BC DoI form by the JRC's Directorate F, Health and Food, F1 Disease Prevention Unit, Healthcare Quality Group is covered by the notification DPR-EC-00656.1⁽²²⁾, Data Protection Office public register.

⁽²¹⁾ Protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32018R1725>

⁽²²⁾ Personal data processing including the DoIs
<https://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register/detail/DPR-EC-00656>

EC-BC Declarations of confidentiality and commitment

NOTE:

The version included hereafter is a draft version for future declarations of confidentiality and commitment that members are expected to submit before being appointed as a WG member.

This version is made available for information only and is not required to be included as supporting documentation when applying to serve as a member of the WG.

**European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer
Declaration of confidentiality**

For information only – not part of the application process

Name:

I hereby declare that:

1. I am aware of my obligation to respect confidentiality and not to divulge any information acquired as a result of my work for the European Commission initiative on Breast Cancer (EC-BC), unless it is made publicly accessible by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC). I will respect the confidential nature of the scientific opinions expressed by the members of the EC-BC during meetings and discussions. I will not disclose such information even after my participation in the EC-BC activities has ceased.
2. I am aware of the Commission's security rules for protecting European Union classified information and sensitive non-classified information, as laid down in Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 and 2015/444. Should I receive confidential information or restricted information in the course and context of my duties for the group, I will treat it as strictly confidential and use it exclusively for the purpose for which it was made available. I will handle the information in accordance with the provided handling instructions and not divulge them to any third party.

The above implies that the undersigned:

- Will not divulge, publish, or otherwise make available to any third party, information received from the group without prior written consent of the JRC, even after completion of a specific event or assignment. The duty of confidentiality exists vis-à-vis any third party, including employees, employers, affiliates or the general public;
- Will not use information received from the EC-BC for personal benefit or the benefit of any third party;
- Will ensure safe storage of the confidential or restricted information (in accordance with the corresponding handling instructions), by applying appropriate security measures if the information is managed electronically, and will not retain the information for longer than needed for the completion of an assignment within the EC-BC;

Date:

Signature:

European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer Declaration of commitment

For information only – not part of the application process

Name:

1. Commitment

While contributing to the activities of the European Commission initiative on Breast Cancer (EC-BC), I will:

- Act independently in the public interest and make complete declarations of any direct or indirect interests that might be considered prejudicial to my independence;
- Inform the JRC Scientific Secretariat if I take part in another group/activity with interest in the field of breast cancer and/or in relation to the activities of the EC-BC.
- Comply with the group's rules on the handling of conflict of interest;
- Contribute actively to the work of the group through working remotely and, when necessary, by attending meetings;
- Conduct myself in exemplary manner in all activities linked to the group;
- Comply with the rules on reimbursement of travel expenses and payment of allowances and indemnities in place in the Commission;
- Ensure appropriate use of scientific publications provided by the JRC scientific secretariat and respect copyrights as outlined below;
- Always contact the JRC Scientific Secretariat beforehand when communicating with the media, stakeholders, or the general public on a matter that falls within the group's remit.

2. Copyrights and library working tools

In case the undersigned is involved in the preparation of scientific publications, she/he may receive them from the JRC scientific secretariat, protected by copyrights, as hand-outs or via e-mail.

The undersigned will be allowed to make limited use of the scientific publications but shall not, even after the termination of the activities within the group:

- Distribute copies to third parties;
- Use them for commercial purposes;
- Use the materials for other purposes than the assignment with the group.

Duration: The validity of the present declaration is limited to the mandate of the group (at least five years) from the date of signature, unless the undersigned informs the JRC scientific secretariat on the termination of her/his activities within the group.

Date:

Signature: