Brussels,

Address:

Subject: Information on the possibility to submit a proposal for a grant 'Pilot project - Single European Railway Area - Prototype Corridor

Munich-Verona' - Reference Number MOVE/C4/2021-545

Dear Sir, Madam,

The COMMISSION DECISION C(2021) 4002 of 8.6.2021 as amended by COMMISSION DECISION C(2021) 8689 of 3.12.2021 on the financing of five pilot projects in the field of transport for 2021 gives the Commission the opportunity to launch a Pilot project - Single European Railway Area - Prototype Corridor Munich-Verona (budget line 02.200100.PP02 21 08).

The objective of this project is to assist regulatory bodies and rail stakeholders in finding solutions to the issues identified by the Commission as posing a risk to operations on the Brenner corridor and thus ensure seamless operations between Munich and Verona.

The action should build on the results obtained so far by the Brenner Corridor Platform, in particular the five priorities defined by the interoperability and operation working group in June 2021. Support may be sought in relation to all issues currently listed in Commission issues list of Brenner, or for other issues which are "technical operational barrier hindering seamless rail operation between Munich and Verona".

The project coordinator will support the application for funding and organise the pilot projects as appropriate. A consortium must have a geographical coverage of at least two member states out of Italy, Austria and Germany. The pilot projects can be launched in 2022.

The pilot projects should result in a structured approach to solve the current issues by finding concrete solutions that are deployable at corridor level.

The "Call for proposals" attached to this letter contains a detailed description of the activities eligible for funding under this action.

The coordinator should submit the request on behalf of the consortium using the enclosed application form (Annex 1) and Annexes 2 to 6 (Legal Entity Form, Financial identification form, General Budget Overview template, Detailed Budget Overview template, Timetable template). The Call for proposals includes the eligible activities, eligible costs, award criteria, etc. A model of the Grant Agreement and its Annexes I-V is also available in Annex 7<sup>1</sup>. All documents will also be provided in electronic form upon request at alice.polo@ec.europa.eu.

The application form for requesting the grant should be submitted by 15 March 2022 at the latest.

Please note that this letter does not prejudge the Commission's final decision on the award of the grant.

Your application will be evaluated by the Commission on the basis of the criteria established in the "Call for proposal". Should the Commission decide to offer you a grant such grant would be given on the basis of the model enclosed in Annex 7.

EFTA member states are eligible to participate in the action but they cannot receive any funding.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact <u>alice.polo@ec.europa.eu</u>

Yours sincerely,

Kristian Schmidt

- Annex 1 Application Form
- Annex 2 Legal identity forms
- Annex 3 Financial identification form
- Annex 4 General Budget Overview template
- Annex 5 Detailed Budget Overview template
- Annex 6- Timetable template
- Annex 7 Model Grant Agreement

2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please be aware that Annex 7 (i.e. the Grant Agreement and its Annexes) are only models which might be further refined by the Commission and not subject to negotiation with the beneficiaries.