TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE 2026 BILATERAL CALL FOR MOBILITY PROJECTS COLLABORATION WITH TAIWAN

(« The National Science and Technology Council - NSTC »)

1. PRESENTATION

The "Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS)" has signed a bilateral agreement with **The National Science and Technology Council - NSTC (TAIWAN)** to encourage the mobility of researchers on short-term missions and the emergence of joint projects between teams from the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (WBF) and Taiwanese teams.

Each institution has its own general regulations that must be respected by its researchers:

- *for the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (WBF), scientific stays within the proposed project are open to researchers at doctoral level;*
- *to ensure the eligibility of all applications, it is imperative that partner researchers have also submitted a proposal to the "NSTC" (Taiwan), respecting its own eligibility criteria.*

This Call follows the principles set out in the PINT-BILAT-M regulations:

- *if awarded, each Institution will finance the full cost of mobility for its own researchers (➔ for eligible costs for F.R.S.-FNRS, Cf. see PINT-BILAT-M regulations, Chapter III).*

1.1. Scientific areas of research concerned

The Call for projects is open to all areas of research.

1.2. Maximum amount of funding under this Call for Proposals

The maximum amount of funding under this Call is 15.000€ over the duration of the project. The activities that can be funded as part of this collaboration are detailed in the PINT-BILAT-M regulations.

1.3. Project duration

Projects have a maximum duration of two years.

1.4. Mission duration

There are no restrictions on the frequency and duration of the missions envisaged, within the limits of available budgets and in accordance with PINT-BILAT-M regulations.

2. SUBMISSION, EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF PROPOSALS

2.1. Submission of proposals

Proposals must be submitted via « e-space » before the closing date of the Call: https://e-space.frs-fnrs.be/.

Any proposal that has not been validated by the deadline specified in the Call schedule (Cf. see below) will not be considered.

The foreign coordinator must also submit an application to the "NSTC" (Taiwan), which defines its own submission procedures.

In addition to the duly completed form, the Belgian (WBF) coordinator must provide:

- *Curricula vitae of all Belgian (WBF) and foreign researchers mentioned in the application form;*
- *a letter of acceptance of the collaboration from the foreign coordinator.*

2.2. Evaluation criteria

The criteria taken into account in the scientific evaluation by independent experts at F.R.S.-FNRS level are as follows:

2.1.1. Scientific quality of the project

- *Originality of themes,*
- *Clarity of objectives,*
- *Methodology.*

2.1.2. Benefits of cooperation

- *Complementarity of teams on both sides,*
- *Transfer of skills from partner country teams to Belgian (WBF) teams,*
- *Transfer of skills from Belgian (WBF) teams to partner country teams.*

2.1.3. Team quality

- *Competence of the Belgian (FWB) team,*
- *Quality of the scientific environment for the Belgian (FWB) team,*
- *Competence of the partner country team ("NSTC"),*
- *Quality of the scientific environment for the partner country team ("NSTC").*

2.3. Organisation of scientific evaluation and selection of proposals

Following receipt of the proposals and an administrative eligibility check by F.R.S.-FNRS, each proposal will be sent to independent external experts, depending on the research field, for scientific evaluation.

Projects will be selected jointly by the two Institutions (F.R.S.-FNRS & "NSTC"), on the basis of their respective scientific assessments.

3. BILATERAL CALL SCHEDULE

- **January 28, 2026:** opening of the Call,
- **April 30, 2026 (➔ 2:00 p.m. at the latest via « e-space »):** deadline of the Call,
- **April - June 2026:** eligibility check and scientific evaluations,
- **October - December 2026:** joint selection and results,
- **January 1st, 2027:** start of the selected projects.