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Frankfurt, 22 April 2025

## **General Board of AMLA**

*Summary of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the General Board in joint SUP/FIU composition of 11 March 2025*

Held in Frankfurt am Main

The General Board held its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in joint supervisory and FIU composition, where it discussed and decided on the following issues.

## **1. Introduction by the Chair**

The Chair welcomed the voting Members to the first meeting of the General Board, which took place in joint composition. She acknowledged the importance of this meeting, which marked the actual start of AMLA, to make it gradually ready to fulfil its tasks and missions. She also stated her commitment to ensure that AMLA would be a real game changer in fighting money laundering and terrorism financing, and emphasized that cooperation of national authorities would be key for AMLA success.

Despite the strikes in Frankfurt all members were present either physically or via Webex. She thanked EIOPA for hosting the meetings until the AMLA Board meeting room at the Messeturm would be ready at the beginning of 2026.

## **2. Presentations of Executive Board candidates and approval of General Board proposal to the European Parliament**

**Issue:** The Chair recalled the steps already taken in the ongoing selection process for five Members of the Executive Board, and the need for the General Board, in accordance with Article 63(4) of the AMLA Regulation, to approve a proposal to be sent to the European Parliament.

**Discussion:** Several Members regretted that the current sequence - linked to the steps in the ongoing establishment of AMLA - did not allow for the General Board to fully play its role in the selection process; ideally the General Board should assess the Commission's shortlist, especially from the perspective of the operational value added of candidacies, so that its views could be taken into account by the European Parliament. Members agreed that the sequence followed this time should be avoided in future.

Before the vote on the draft proposal, the Chair recalled the voting procedure and the five candidates that accepted the invitation by the Chair presented themselves through a five-minute introduction, as well as answers in fifteen minutes to a series of five questions channelled through the Secretary (based on suggestions from Members provided in advance of the meeting). These questions related to (i) collaboration between AMLA and national competent authorities, (ii) priorities regarding FIU related activities, (iii) business models in the obliged entities of the financial sector which could be considered particularly vulnerable, (iv) the added value AMLA could bring to the supervision of cross-border or innovative players, and (v) the process to achieve convergence across the EU.

**Outcome:** The General Board approved through both compositions the proposal for the appointment of the Executive Board members to the European Parliament, which included the following names (in alphabetical order):

- Mr Simonas Krėpšta
- Ms Rikke-Louise Ørum Petersen
- Mr Marcus Pleyer
- Ms Derville Rowland
- Mr Juan-Manuel Vega Serrano

More specifically, the *Decision 02/2025 on the Proposal for the appointment of the Executive Board members to the European Parliament* was adopted.

### **3. Rules of Procedure of the General Board: follow-up to approval (on 6 March 2025)**

**Issue:** The Chair introduced this item by recalling that the General Board had been asked to approve its Rules of Procedure in advance of the meeting because it was essential to have them in place to be able to vote, in particular for the proposal regarding the selection of the Executive Board Members. Still, important comments had been raised by Members in the context of the approval process, an outline of which was provided by a member of the AMLA Task Force.

Concerns mentioned by Members related mainly to the deadlines for submission of documents, the length of written procedures, not least in view of the need to coordinate positions at national level, and the requirements relating to the Conflict-of-Interest framework and how they would be implemented.

**Discussion:** Members acknowledged the steps taken to improve the Rules of Procedure in the successive versions, and welcomed the clarifications given for the speed of the overall adoption process.

Several Members pointed to the challenges still raised by short deadlines; at stake was not only the speed of the decision-making process but also the need to take all member institutions on board; in trying to find the right balance, coordination efforts at national level should not be underestimated.

Some Members emphasised the importance of ensuring transparency in General Board working processes, in particular by providing access to all comments in the written procedures.

Finally the point was made that beyond the Rules of Procedure, the way they would be applied was key. Practical experience would also be critical before revisiting the recently adopted text.

In this respect, a member of the AMLA Task Force indicated that, while addressing the need for ‘rules of the game’ as from the first meeting of the General Board, it was clear to the Task Force that an adjustment of the Rules of Procedure would be necessary not only because some important issues such as the organisation of internal committees remained open, but also because new issues were likely to emerge as part of the establishment of an arguably complex decision-making body.

Against this background, the Chair concluded that the Rules of Procedure would be reviewed by the end of the year. In relation to the reference to transparency and the objective to ensure it across all working processes, she mentioned the upcoming deployment of the extranet to the General Board and the role it would play in this respect. Regarding the establishment of committees to support the work of the General Board, a proposal would be submitted in due time.

**Outcome:** the *Rules of Procedure of the General Board* will be reviewed by end-2025.

#### **4. General Board meeting schedule in 2025**

**Issue:** Article 6(4) of the draft Rules of Procedure of the General Board foresees that the dates of the meeting shall be decided by the General Board based on a proposal by the Chair; accordingly, a list of dates for eight meetings in 2025 both physical and virtual was proposed to the General Board.

**Discussion:** Several Members expressed concerns regarding the high number of meetings, in particular of physical ones, not least because they came on top of already existing commitments linked to other EU and international institutions.

On the other hand, other Members fully supported the case for meeting more often in the first year, also in presence, to build the necessary trust among Members, and discuss key strategic and policy issues linked to the establishment process.

There were also interventions in favour of remaining flexible, keeping the dates as placeholders and deciding later depending on effective needs. Still, some members requested the schedule to be finalised shortly for planning purposes.

The possibility of joint meetings of the General Board in both compositions was supported by the Chair, not least given the number of horizontal issues of relevance to both settings;

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accordingly it was suggested to have at least one more in 2025, using the slots foreseen for meetings in SUP or FIU composition, depending on the agenda.

A proposal was made to limit physical meetings to two in 2025, one before and one after the summer break and to cancel the proposed meetings for April and July.

**Outcome:** The General Board decided to drop the proposed meetings on 2 - 3 April and 15 - 16 July from the schedule, and reduce the meetings in presence in 2025; an adjusted schedule would be submitted for approval by written procedure (which was successfully concluded in the meantime), and published on AMLA's website (section on Governance).

*Participants in the meeting of the General Board*

**Supervisory Composition**

AT – Andreas SCHIRK  
BE – Jo SWYNGEDOUW  
BG – Petar CHOBANOV  
CY – Kleanthis IOANNIDES (online)  
CZ – Zuzana SILBEROVÁ (online)  
DE – Birgit RUDOLPH  
DK – Heidi RAVNHOLT  
EE – Andre NÕMM  
EL – Angelos TZERMIADIANOS  
ES – Lourdes JIMÉNES RAMOS (online)  
FI – Tero KURENMAA (online)  
FR – Evelyne MASSÉ  
HR – Vesna KRIZMANIĆ  
HU – László VASTAG (online)  
IE – Patricia DUNNE  
IT – Aldo STANZIALE  
LT – Julita VARANAUSKIENĖ (online)  
LU – Claude MARX  
LV – Kristīne ČERNAJA-MEŽMALE  
MT – Alfred ZAMMIT (online)  
NL – Gita SALDEN  
PL – Jarosław ŻÓŁTOWSKI (online)  
PT – João RAPOSO (online)  
RO – Cătălin DAVIDESCU (online)  
SE – Malin ALPEN (online)  
SI – Aleksandra ČARGO  
SK – Tatiana DUBINOVÁ (online)  
COM – Alexandra JOUR-SCHROEDER

**FIU Composition**

AT – Johannes KUNZ  
BE – Philippe DE KOSTER  
BG – Violina DIMITROVA  
CY – Maria KYRMIZI ANTONIOU (online)  
CZ – Michaela HLADKÁ (online)  
DE – Daniel THELESKLAF  
DK – Peter HØHOLT  
EE – Matis MÄKER  
EL – Efstathios TSIRMPAS  
ES – Pedro COMÍN (online)  
FI – Jaakko CHRISTENSEN (online)  
FR – Antoine MAGNANT  
HR – Ante BILUŠ  
HU – Gábor SIMONKA  
IE – Nigel MULLEADY  
IT – Enzo SERATA  
LT – Audrius VALEIKA (online)  
LU – Max BRAUN  
LV – Toms PLATACIS  
MT – Alfred ZAMMIT (online)  
NL – Hennie VERBEEK-KUSTERS  
PL – Jarosław ŻÓŁTOWSKI (online)  
PT – António OLIVEIRA (online)  
RO – Bogdan STAN  
SE – Lena PALMKLINT (online)  
SI – Leo PONGRACIC  
SK – Andrej KIS PÁL (online)  
COM – Alexandra JOUR SCHROEDER