

Changes to the Working Rules Advisory Council & External Advisory Panel

Background:

The Advisory Council has had a relevant role in Solar Heat Europe-ESTIF, as a strategic body, being one of its statutory bodies. It is responsible for advising the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the President on the strategy to be followed by Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF and about other issues it considers important.

It is stipulated to meet at least once a year and any member of Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF may also be member of the Advisory Council, provided it has paid the special fee as set by the General Assembly.

In order to infuse new dynamism into this body, it is proposed to establish a “External Advisory Panel”. Members of this “External Advisory Panel” shall be invited to take part of the Advisory Council meetings and shall be composed of a group of external experts, coming from different sectors in order to provide different insights into the strategic discussions foreseen within this body. It may also include experts from the solar thermal sector that have played a relevant role within Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF, such as former members of the Board of Directors or that had an outstanding contribution to the association.

Still, considering that the Advisory Council Chairperson has a seat at the Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF Board of Directors, it is proposed that the composition of the Advisory Council itself does not change and keeps on being reserved to Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF members. This means that members of the “External Advisory Panel” are not as such members of the Advisory Council, cannot be selected as Chairperson thereof or even vote for the election of such Chairperson.

On a related note, regarding the composition of the Advisory Council, it is also proposed to include as members of the Advisory Council the members under the membership category B4.

Proposal:

The Board of Directors and the President recommend a vote to modify the Working Rules regarding the participation in the Advisory Council and the establishment of an External Advisory Panel.

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Proposed changes in English
(original version of the statutes and working rules are in French)

Changes to the Working Rules marked:

- **Deleted or replaced**
- **Inserted**

Advisory Council

The Advisory Council consists of Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF members. Any member wishing to join the Advisory Council will pay a fee of 2 550 Euros/per annum, in addition to their regular membership fee. With regard to members from categories B4, B5 and B6 this amount is already included in the membership fee, making them automatically eligible to participate in the Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council, its Chairman or the President of Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF may decide to invite outside speakers, representatives of other European trade associations or experts to attend the Advisory Council meeting as guests. Additionally, the members of the External Advisory Panel shall be invited to the Advisory Council meetings.

[insert new section]

External Advisory Panel

The External Advisory Panel shall complement the role of the Advisory Council, providing a strategic insight. It shall include non-member experts from different sectors that can contribute to strategic discussions about the energy sector at large and the solar heating and cooling sector in particular. It may also include experts from the solar thermal sector that have provided an outstanding contribution to Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF.

The Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF Board of Directors shall decide about the composition of the External Advisory Panel on an annual basis. There is not a predefined number of members of the External Advisory Panel. Members of the External Advisory Panel shall be invited to all Advisory Council meetings. The General Assembly shall be informed of the composition of the External Advisory Panel