

IMI2 JU responses to the Independent Observers' Report

Call ID: H2020-JTI-IMI2-2017-13-two-stage

IMI2 13th Call for Proposals

Stage 1 evaluation

Date of evaluation: 19-22 March 2018

Name of the observers: Dr Martin Reddington and Professor William Robertson

Summary of Recommendations

1. We recommend that the IMI management work with the moderators to encourage discussion of the best practice for moderating/chairing panel sessions and establish consistent guidelines across all the panels. Clearly there must be room for flexibility, bearing in mind that the number and type of proposals in each panel varies so much, but the general principles concerning the management of the panel should be agreed.
2. The Agenda for each meeting seems entirely sensible to us and clearly sets out the order of business. For the reasons outlined earlier, we feel that the drafting of the consensus documents should be left until after all the proposals have been adequately discussed, scored, ranked, and following any 'hearings' The final report should be formally led by the rapporteur and moderator, perhaps supported by another panel member. We feel it may help if the rapporteur is given an hour after lunch on Day 2, to re-write the consensus document in the light of the panel deliberations, and then bring it back to the panel for final agreement on the content. The rapporteur and moderator could finalise formulation of the consensus report together at the end of the meeting, and if necessary in the following days off-line.

IMI2 JU responses to the recommendations

IMI2 JU is pleased that the independent observers consider IMI2 JU scheme novel, imaginative and timely and both IMI staff and the experts involved in the process supportive of the public private partnership concept. IMI2 JU is happy to have the confirmation of the independent observers that the IMI staff were highly committed and professional and the infrastructure and the IT facilities were excellent.

IMI2 JU takes note of the observations and recommendations made by the independent observers regarding the monitoring of a panel and writing of consensus reports. IMI2 JU is constantly trying to improve the practice for panel moderation. As part of this, IMI2 JU organises meetings to share best practice between moderators to ensure consistency between the different panels. A certain level of flexibility is needed in order to efficiently run panels when different numbers of proposals have been submitted, different type of topics are under discussion and taking into account the different expertise of the panel members.

IMI2 JU thanks the independent observers for the recommendations regarding the agenda of the panel meetings and will investigate how best to implement them.

Regarding drafting the consensus documents, IMI2 JU has strengthened the support provided to rapporteurs via redrafting of their guidance. IMI2 JU has also sought to make the drafting of the reports more efficient, and, where possible, to provide additional time for the rapporteurs to write the consensus reports based upon the panel deliberations.