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Dear ERRIN Members,

The Government of Catalonia welcomes this opportunity to submit our candidacy to the ERRIN Management Board 2018 election. It brings an excellent opportunity to strengthen our commitment for a stronger EU through cooperation and innovation.

As Representative of the Catalan Government to the EU, I put myself forward for the position to the Management Board. I would be glad to contribute with my expertise and knowledge to organization management in several fields related to ERRIN activity, such as bioeconomy, blue growth, energy, climate, and innovation, among others... I would be pleased to contribute ideas and expertise from my previous positions as Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food in the Catalan government and as manager in different organisations.

Catalonia has been a full member of the network since 2007 and our involvement has always been strong. During this time, we have actively, participated mainly through ACCiÓ, in numerous working groups concerning climate, energy, smart cities, bio-economy, innovation and investment. Our participation in the network has been and added value for the creation of alliances with other regions and to improve the quality of common projects and initiatives.

Catalonia is notable for the high standards it has achieved in all areas of public health, education, research, management and innovation. We are a geographically and culturally diverse region with world-class facilities in higher education, health and tourism. Our region embraces and promulgates the circular economy and the bio-economy. We are pioneer in taking action to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Our healthcare system is a leader in the field of primary care and in managing big data within the health system. In short Catalonia is progressive in its attitudes and effective in its responses. Catalonia, was also the first European region to raise funds for research in SMEs from 2014 to 2017. Catalan companies received 61.9 million from the European Commission, 4.8% of the total, although the territory represents 1.5% of the population.

Our aim is to bring added value to both the board and the network. The combination of our track record in European policies and our membership to ERRIN will allow us to deepen our collaboration and achieve common goals.

Whatever the outcome of these elections, the Delegation of the Government of Catalonia looks forward to further cooperation with ERRIN in the fields of innovation and development policies.

Best regards,

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