

Third meeting of the international selection tender panel

Position of Assistant Researcher at LIP

Minutes – July 9, 2026

Present: Patrícia Gonçalves (PG, chair), Mário Pimenta (MP), Katharina Lorenz (KL), David Rousseau (DR), Giovanni de Lellis (GL), Vladimir Solovov (VS)

The member of the jury, Werner Riegler (WR) was absent.

These are the minutes of the third meeting of the International Selection Committee appointed for the recruitment procedure for one position of **Assistant Researcher** in the scientific areas of Instrumentation for particle/nuclear physics and technology applications to healthcare and space, and/or computing and information technologies, under the Programme Agreement *Procedimento Concursal de Apoio Institucional – Laboratórios Associados*, pursuant to Articles 17, 19 and 28 of the *Regulamento do Emprego Científico (REC)*, concluded between Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) and the Laboratory of Instrumentation and Experimental Particle Physics (LIP).

The meeting was convened to analyse the submissions presented by candidate **Luís Manuel Silva Margato** during the Prior Hearing Procedure, namely the submission dated **31 March 2026** and the subsequent Addendum dated **9 April 2026**, and to determine whether the arguments presented justified any amendment to the provisional ranking approved by the Committee during its second meeting.

The Committee considered the observations submitted by the candidate and discussed the matters falling within its remit. The conclusions of this consideration, and the position of the individual evaluating members regarding their scientific assessments, are set out below.

1. Scientific Merit and Curriculum

(Reply to Sections 5–10 of the Prior Hearing submission dated 31 March 2026 and Sections 3.1–3.5 of the Addendum dated 9 April 2026.)

The applicant argues that the award of the maximum score (100/100) by the majority of the evaluating members under the criterion **Scientific Merit and Curriculum** demonstrates a failure to differentiate between candidates and effectively neutralised a criterion carrying 60% of the overall evaluation.

The Committee considered these observations.

The fact that the majority of the evaluating members awarded the maximum score under the criterion **Scientific Merit and Curriculum** does not, in itself, imply that those evaluating members considered all candidates to be scientifically identical or of equal merit in every respect. Rather, it reflects the individual scientific judgement of those evaluating members that the candidates concerned had demonstrated a level of scientific excellence fully consistent with the standard required for appointment as an Assistant Researcher.

The award of identical scores under this criterion does not preclude differences in the overall assessment of the candidates. In accordance with the evaluation methodology established in the Call, the evaluating members assessed all evaluation components provided for therein, including the candidates' research presentations and interviews. The individual scores awarded reflect each evaluating member's assessment of all evaluation components in accordance with the criteria and weighting established in the Call.

The Committee notes that many of the observations presented by the applicant concern the relative scientific merits of the candidates and, in substance, invite a different scientific appraisal of the evidence submitted. The Committee considered these observations in the context of the Prior Hearing procedure.

The Committee also rejects the suggestion that the evaluation lacked scientific rigour or technical foundation. The evaluating members are internationally recognised scientists with extensive expertise covering the scientific fields relevant to this recruitment procedure and possess the scientific and technical qualifications required to evaluate candidates for appointment at this career stage.

Following consideration of the applicant's submissions, each evaluating member maintained the individual scores previously awarded under the criterion **Scientific Merit and Curriculum**. Consequently, the individual rankings established by each evaluating member remained unchanged, and the resulting provisional ranking was likewise unchanged.

2. Composition of the Selection Committee

(Reply to Section 4 of the Prior Hearing submission dated 31 March 2026.)

The applicant raises concerns regarding the composition of the Selection Committee and alleges a breach of the principles of impartiality arising from the participation of the Chair.

The Committee considered these observations and concluded that they do not disclose any circumstance affecting the validity or impartiality of the scientific evaluation.

As recorded in the minutes of the previous meetings, **the Chair did not participate in the scientific evaluation or scoring of any candidate**. The scientific assessment was conducted independently by the remaining members of the Committee, who individually evaluated all candidates in accordance with the evaluation criteria established in the Call.

The Chair's role was limited to coordinating the proceedings of the Committee and ensuring the proper conduct of the recruitment procedure. The final deliberations reflect the independent scientific judgement of the evaluating members of the Committee.

Accordingly, the Committee finds no grounds to reconsider its previous deliberations or to modify the scientific assessment on this basis.

3. Other Allegations

(Reply to Sections 1, 2, 3 and 10 of the Prior Hearing submission dated 31 March 2026 and Sections 1, 2 and 4 of the Addendum dated 9 April 2026.)

The applicant raises a number of additional arguments concerning matters including:

- access to procedural documentation during the Prior Hearing procedure;
- the admissibility of applications and the completeness of the documentation submitted by other candidates;
- the interpretation and application of the legal framework governing the recruitment procedure;
- the methodology and weighting established in the Call for the evaluation process;
- the legal consequences that, according to the applicant, should arise from the above matters.

The Committee carefully considered these observations insofar as they relate to the conduct of its scientific evaluation.

However, the Committee notes that these issues concern matters of legal interpretation, administrative procedure, the admissibility of applications, and the validity of the provisions established in the Call. These matters fall outside the Committee's scientific mandate and are therefore not issues on which the Committee is called upon to make a determination in the context of its scientific assessment of the candidates.

The Committee confirms that it conducted the scientific evaluation independently and in accordance with the evaluation criteria and methodology established in the Call governing the present recruitment procedure.

Accordingly, the Committee makes no further determination regarding the legal or administrative matters raised by the applicant in the present deliberation.

4. Final Decision

Having carefully considered the Prior Hearing submission dated 31 March 2026 and the subsequent Addendum dated 9 April 2026, the Committee concluded that none of the matters falling within its remit justified any revision of the scientific assessments previously carried out.

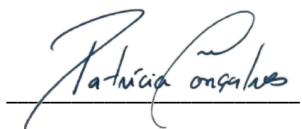
Following this review, each evaluating member maintained the individual scores previously awarded to the candidates. Consequently, each evaluating member also maintained the corresponding individual ranking.

The final ranking therefore remains unchanged, resulting directly from the individual evaluations maintained by all evaluating members of the Committee.

Accordingly, the provisional ranking approved at the second meeting remains unchanged.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

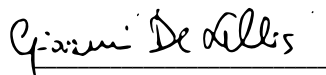
5. Signatures



Patricia Gonçalves (Chair)



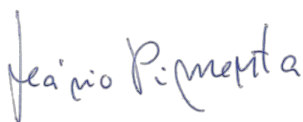
David Rousseau



Giovanni de Lellis



Katharina Lorenz



Mario Pimenta



Vladimir Solovov



Final Ranking List of Candidates

Order	Name	PG	DR	GL	KL	MP	VS	WR	FC
1	Marco Pinto	--	95	100	100	100	96	98	98
2	Paulo Braz	--	93	96	95	98	95	95	95
3	Luís Margato	--	91	90	95.5	95	98	88	93
4	Ricardo Peres	--	92	93	93.5	94	90	92	92
5	Mário Sousa	--	80	80	91.5	80	80	82	82