

DiSSCo Belgium: a possible governance model

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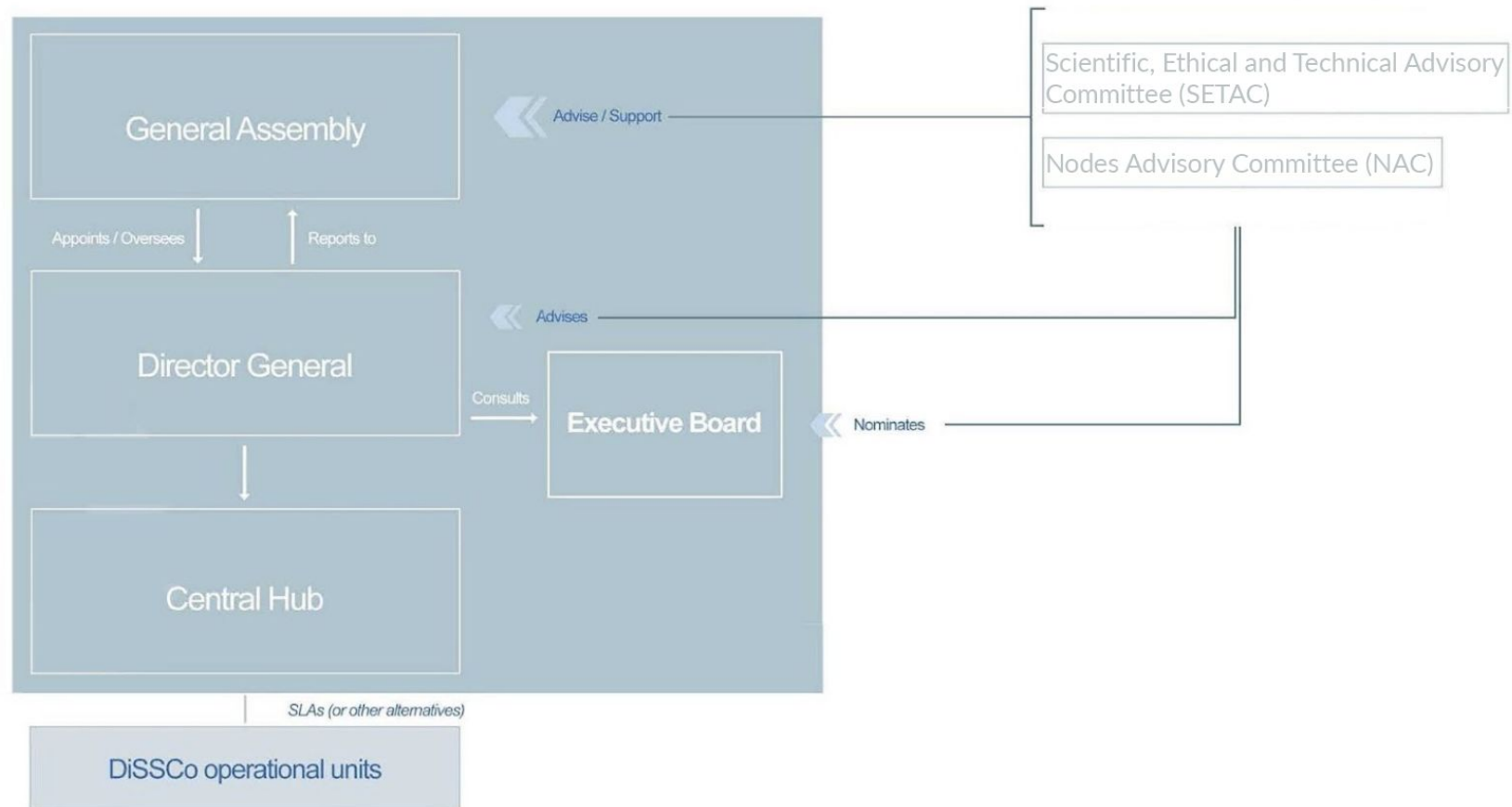
RBINS

DiSSCo is expected to become a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) by the end of 2026. (Step 2 of the ERIC constitution process to be launched in July.)

Governance of the ERIC:

- General Assembly (Representative of the funding agencies of the participating countries)
- Node Advisory Committee (One representative per national community, from the countries supporting DiSSCo ERIC)

Governance of the ERIC (cont'd):



Possible organization of the Belgian node

Principles

- Memorandum of understanding signed by each organization willing to participate;
- Not a legal entity
- No financial commitment;
- Rotating chairmanship and representation in the Node Advisory Committee
- Decisions are consensus-based, with clear documentation and reporting;



Possible organization of the Belgian node

Principles

- Support Belgian participation in DiSSCo ERIC and ensure alignment with its policies and strategic priorities.
- Promote collaboration and interoperability among Belgian institutions holding natural science collections or providing services related to them.
- Facilitate the implementation of DiSSCo's principles, policies, and services at the Belgian level, including data sharing, access to data, digitisation processes and techniques, joint funding opportunities and capacity building.
- Ensure smooth two-way communication and information flow between DiSSCo ERIC and the Belgian community.
- Strengthen Belgium's visibility within the DiSSCo network and the European Research Infrastructure landscape.



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Possible organization of the Belgian node

Timeline

- Belspo and WEVIS have mandated RBINS and BGM to finalize a proposal, hopefully by July 15th
- Fine tuning with Belspo and WEVIS after the summer.
- This MoU will come into effect as of [January 1st 2027] or as soon as all the institutions who signed the European DiSSCo MoU have signed it. It comes into effect for each additional Signatory at the date of signature.

Possible organization of the Belgian node

Practicalities

- One of the Signatories chairs the Belgian National DiSSCo Committee for a two-year term, on a rotating basis among the [*TBD with CIS-INFRA*]
- The Secretariat supports the day-to-day activities within DiSSCo Belgium. The rotating leading institution hosts the Secretariat during its term.
- The BNDC shall meet at least annually and anyway in due time to discuss and prepare the Belgian position for items brought up at the Nodes Advisory Committee meetings.
- Positions in view of the NAC agenda are taken by consensus. Should no consensus be reached, the consortium's position shall be determined by a vote. The expression of the minority shall be conveyed together with the result of the vote.

THANK YOU



____ Be.DiSSCo-FED Final Event - 10/06/26 - RBINS