

João Pereira *J. Gonçalves*

Minute 2

I- Introduction

On the 8th of July of two thousand twenty-six, at 10 hours and 30 minutes, the jury nominated by the CCMAR board of Directors on 16/06/2026, met by video conference, for the second meeting of the call Ref. CCMAR/BM/09/2026. The meeting was for the hiring of a Master's Fellowship (Bolsa de Mestrado), for applicants of any nationality, including stateless candidates, and holders of political refugee statute, in the scientific field of Biology, Ecology and Analytical Chemistry within the research project number **2024.04866.RESTART** - named as **PROCOAST**: "*Producers & Toxicity Assessment of Tetrodotoxin and analogues on the Portuguese Coast*", funded by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) under the RESTART Programme 2nd edition. The jury present at the meeting was composed by Doctor Sandra Lage, Group leader at CCMAR, Coordinator of the project, Invited Assistant Professor at University of Algarve and Auxiliary Researcher at CCMAR (President); Doctor Ana Catarina Braga, Researcher at S2AquaColab (Member) and Doctor José Paulo da Silva, Researcher at CCMAR Analytical Services Platform (Member) and had the following agenda items: admission and evaluation of the applications admitted to the position CCMAR/BM/09/2026.

II - Statement of no conflict of interests

We, the undersigned, fully understand the confidential nature of the assessment process and agree not to disclose or discuss its materials, nowhere, with no one, knowing the consequences of a misconduct.

We further declare that we have no direct or indirect financial, economic or personal interest that could compromise our impartiality and autonomy as members of this Jury.

Thus, we declare under word of honour that we will not evaluate candidates with whom we have a conflict of interest, for what we will require our immediate replacement.

III – Candidates

4 (four) applications were received:

1. Mahmoud Ahmed Sayed
2. Alessandro Rossetti
3. Zaire Ladona Maria Quante
4. Saira

IV – Admission and Exclusion of applications

The jury analysed the applications, and 1 candidate were admitted to the evaluation and ranking phase (table 1).

Order of Application	Name
3	Zaire Ladona Maria Quante

Table 1 -Admitted Applications

3 candidates were excluded (table 2) for not providing one or more documents required for the application. Namely:

Name	Reason for non admission
Mahmoud Ahmed Sayed	Applicants did not meet the obligatory conditions stated below: 3. Previous experience in EURLMB Standard Operating Procedures for Determination of Tetrodotoxin and Liquid Chromatography-High Resolution Mass Spectrometry (LC-HRMS) data analysis using Thermo Scientific Xcalibur software and R; 4. Previous experience in the isolation and purification of compounds using preparative liquid chromatography.
Alessandro Rossetti	
Saira	

Table 2 – Excluded Applications

V - Evaluation of applications

The Jury evaluated the application documents of the eligible candidates (**Table 1**) and applied the classification criteria and weighting factors set out in the vacancy announcement as shown in **Table 3** below:

Table 3. Table with the evaluation of applications.

Candidate	Criterio 1	Criterio 2	Criterio 3	Criterio 4	Criterio 5	Final Classification
Zaire Ladona Maria Quante	19	19	16	18	18	18

Evaluation criteria and respective weighting:

1. Proven experience in EURLMB Standard Operating Procedures for Determination of Tetrodotoxin and Liquid Chromatography-High Resolution Mass Spectrometry (LC-HRMS) (30%);
2. Proven experience in LC-HRMS data analysis using Thermo Scientific Xcalibur software and R (30%);
3. Proven experience in the isolation and purification of compounds using preparative liquid chromatography (30%);
4. Good knowledge of written and spoken English (5%);
5. Previous communications in conferences of the Fellowship research topic (5%).

Note: The final grades in table 3 represent the average of the individual evaluation performed by each member of the jury, presented on a scale from 0 to 20, rounded to the nearest tenth.

Table 4. Overall classification and ranking of the admitted applicants of call CCMAR/BM/09/2026, indicating the final score.

Candidates	Final Classification	Ranking
Zaire Ladona Maria Quante	18	1st

VI – Conclusion

The fellowships will be awarded to the best ranked applicant. The candidate **Zaire Ladona Maria Quante** had the highest classification (Table 4) and based on the elements presented in the application, candidate **Zaire Ladona Maria Quante** meets the conditions for the purposes of eventual selection, so the Jury proposes the ratification of this decision to the CCMAR Board.

The Jury will proceed to the right of prior hearing, setting a deadline of 10 working days and gives candidates the right of recourse of the announced decision, whether in relation to scientific or procedural matters.

Without any other item, the present meeting has terminated. The present minute with 4 pages and annexes, was read, approved, and shall be signed by the members of the jury.

Doctor Sandra Lage

Assinado por: **Sandra Marisa Ferreira Lage**
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(President)

Doctor Ana Catarina Braga

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(Member)

Doctor José Paulo da Silva

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(Member)