



## **STATEMENT on the network's cooperation with the private sector**

FEAM is an international association with a scientific objective. Like its member Academies, it is independent from vested interests (i.e. ideological, political and commercial) and this principle is applied to its policy development process and publications.

FEAM's health policy activities (i.e. policy events and projects, Working Groups of experts and publications) are elaborated in accordance with this principle of independence and this is ensured through a robust internal review process:

- FEAM policy events, projects and reports are endorsed by its Council of Academies' appointed representatives, which is chaired by the elected President of the Federation. Scientific Committees are appointed to provide scientific leadership and advice in developing policy activities.
- In the context of its policy activities and open meetings, FEAM engages with external biomedical groups including from the private sector on issues of common interest and to gather wide evidence for consideration by its appointed Working Groups of experts. Such external evidence is included in summary reports of open meetings, approved by external experts who provided it and clearly attributed to them in the report. Summary reports are approved by the President before publication.
- FEAM reports and statements are elaborated by appointed Working groups of experts, identified by Member Academies, and approved by Council before publication. They reflect the view of the FEAM Council and Academies. Once a publication is completed, endorsement by other biomedical groups can be sought with guidance from the Office and their logos included in the document.

Operating funds comes from Academies, as annual membership fees and in-kind support, and donations.

Subject to the approval of the Office, external donations from the private sector can be obtained towards the organization of events and the implementation of policy projects. Although donors' logos may be included in programmes of events and publications to acknowledge their financial support, donors do not have any say on content or outputs at any stage in the policy development process.

FEAM does not undertake any relationship with partners who promote products or services that are unethical or against FEAM's mission of providing evidence-based health policy advice to support European citizens' health and safety.