The Challenge Based Innovation Program (CBI) is an up to six months, end-user (design) driven course aimed at university students in industrial design, business management, engineering and architecture. The students typically spend roughly one-third of the course at CERN interacting with teams of scientists, engineers and technicians from institutes and universities participating in CERN’s scientific programme. It is foreseen that the students’ participation will be i) in the form of a project assignment aimed at building a concept prototype with an end user focus, inspired by the CERN environment, or ii) through their assignment to an EU-funded detector R&D project.

In the case of the specific case related to this document under the title “CBI” the students participation is in the form of a project assignment aimed at building a concept prototype with an end user focus, inspired by the CERN environment

CBI is one of the corner stone activities of IdeaSquare@CERN, which is a facility located at CERN in the context of a pilot project aimed at demonstrating the impact of fundamental research on our daily lives.

This document sets out the legal framework applicable to the students’ participation in CBI. Reference below to students includes any accompanying teachers and tutors. The universities and tutors’ organizations shall ensure that their students are familiar with and comply with such framework.

- The students shall remain enrolled at their university throughout their participation in CBI. Termination of enrolment shall constitute termination of their participation.

- Authority over the CERN site is vested in CERN’s Director-General. The students shall comply with CERN’s rules and regulations and with any instructions issued by or on behalf of the Director-General, including in particular in matters of safety and conduct. Particular attention is drawn to the CERN Code of Conduct and the Organization’s Social Media Guidelines. CERN will take care that all the information regarding those rules and particulars is transmitted to the counter-parts signatories of this agreement.

- Where the student participates in a project assignment aimed at building a concept prototype (see (i) above), title in intellectual property developed by the student (“foreground IP”) shall be vested in the student, and his or her university shall cause, directly or through third parties, the student to grant CERN a perpetual royalty-free, non-exclusive license to the foreground IP for its scientific programme. Where intellectual property is jointly developed by
the student and other parties, title in such foreground IP shall be jointly owned and each party shall be entitled to use such intellectual property for its scientific programme. Without prejudice to the above mechanisms, the parties shall together strive to obtain the widest possible dissemination of all foreground IP. Any use of foreground or joint foreground IP shall be for non-military purposes only.

- Where the student is assigned to an EU-funded detector R&D project, title in foreground IP developed by the student or, in joint foreground IP contributed to by the student, shall be vested in CERN for use under the relevant agreement.

- It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that any background IP contributed by the student to a CBI activity belongs to the student. The university shall cause the owner of such background IP to grant CERN, either directly or through a third party, a perpetual royalty-free, non-exclusive license to such background IP solely to the extent needed for CERN to develop and/or make use of the foreground IP, including any joint foreground IP, related to the activity concerned.

- Each of CERN and the university using intellectual property obtained under these conditions shall hold the other free and harmless from any liability related to its use of such intellectual property.

- CERN may decide to grant to the students the status of associated member of the personnel pursuant to CERN’s Staff Rules and Regulations, from which it follows that the universities shall ensure that their students maintain medical insurance¹ cover at levels adequate in CERN’s Host States (Switzerland and France) and that they have adequate financial resources to support themselves.

Without prejudice to the above licensing mechanisms, the students are encouraged to disseminate their work as widely as possible. For this purpose, the student shall be entitled to publish articles describing his or her participation in CBI, acknowledging CBI and crediting the other parties involved in the activity concerned. Where the article describes work performed by others or is in the context of the student’s assignment to an EU-funded detector R&D project, the article shall be submitted in draft form for written approval to the CBI Coordinator at CERN and not be published without the latter’s written permission. The students are encouraged as much as possible to seek joint publication of their work. Confidential information shall not be published.

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¹ CERN may decide to grant to the students the status of associated member of the personnel pursuant to CERN’s Staff Rules and Regulations, from which it follows that the universities shall ensure that their students maintain accident cover at levels adequate in CERN’s Host States (Switzerland and France) and that they have adequate financial resources to support themselves. For the avoidance of doubt, the term “accident cover” denotes insurance against the financial consequences of illness as well as accidents.