

Elections to the EMN aisbl Board of Directors October 2018

Description of the candidate organisation (max ½ page)

PerMicro, founded in 2007 in Torino (Italy), is the first Italian institution in terms of number of granted microcredits and disbursed amount; the company is specialised in microloans for the startup and development of small enterprises as well as for primary needs of families (housing, health, education). Since its origin, it has disbursed **19,832 microcredits**, for a total amount of over **142 million EUR**. Today PerMicro is present in **11 Italian regions** with **15 branches** and it counts **62 employees**.

PerMicro is one of the microfinance's pioneers in Western Europe. The company won the first edition of "Giordano dell'Amore Microfinance Best Practices AWARD" ('Italy Award' 2009) and received a Special Mention for the "Microfinance Good Practices Europe Award" (2010).

The institution is very active in the national and international scene: it is one of the founders of Rete Italiana degli operatori di Microfinanza (**RITMI**), the Italian association of microfinance institutions; moreover, it is an active member of European Microfinance Network (EMN). In 2015, PerMicro was chosen among the six best microcredit institutes in Europe to be part of the guarantee fund from **European Investment Fund (FEI)** financed by the European Community (Employment and Social Innovation Programme); moreover, in 2018 PerMicro obtained a second Guarantee Fund from EIF.

The company was also beneficiary of a 6 million loan from the **Council of Europe Development bank** in 2014-2015 and is currently in the process of obtaining a second loan of 7 million euro.

In 2016, PerMicro obtained the B Corp certification and in 2018, for the third time, the Rating from **Microfinanza Rating (BB+)**. In April 2017 PerMicro obtained the **European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision** and in 2018 it underwent the **Social Performance Audit SPI4** (global result of 81%).

PerMicro collaborates with the Association MicroLab Onlus to offer to its microentrepreneurs important auxiliary services, such as mentoring and monitoring to businesses. MicroLab is a non-profit association operating with the purpose of pursuing social solidarity aims and giving support to socially and economically disadvantaged people. The Association now counts a total of 60 volunteer mentors.

Bio-description of the organisation's representative (max. ½ page)

Andrea Limone is father of Lucia, Giovanni, Egle, Margherita and Elisabetta... raised together with Sara, with whom is married since 2006. Before launching PerMicro in 2007 (of which he is CEO), he worked for Banca Etica, Mag2 Finance, and he was a researcher for Fondazione Giordano Dell'Amore. He has published two volumes on microcredit and the banking system: "Banche e Microfinanza" and "Otto modi di dire microcredito". He has graduated in Economics at the University of Turin and he has attended the Master in Microfinance in Bergamo.

Candidature Motivation (max. ½ page)

I believe Microfinance is similar to a game: as every game it has to be played fairly, creatively, under certain rules and with a discreet amount of fun. EMN Board is the courtyard where this game is played by terribly different players, extremely passionate about the game, under the eyes of people looking at us from their balconies: Customers, Investors, Institutions. The more we shout, have fun and score... the more they will watch our game to see how it ends.

The biggest asset I can bring to EMN members and its Board is my 10-year-long experience as a player (practitioner), my enthusiasm and competence to start new projects, as well as my empathy towards people.

I believe both our network and Microfinance in Europe need to be noticed for carrying out projects which can prove that Europe is alive, collaborating and united. On the other hand, I think our network needs new opportunities of aggregation and discussion throughout the yearly calendar in order to deliver a better support to our core mission.

Moreover I would be honored to bring the Italian voice of RITMI, the Italian microfinance network, of which PerMicro is cofounder and member, within the EMN Board.

Signed and stamped

Date: 14th September 2018

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