

4. The term of office of the members of the advisory forum shall be two years, which may be extended by up to no more than four years.
5. The Fundamental Rights Agency, ENISA, the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC), and the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) shall be permanent members of the advisory forum.
6. The advisory forum shall draw up its rules of procedure. It shall elect two co-chairs from among its members, in accordance with criteria set out in paragraph 2. The term of office of the co-chairs shall be two years, renewable once.
7. The advisory forum shall hold meetings at least twice a year. The advisory forum may invite experts and other stakeholders to its meetings.
8. The advisory forum may prepare opinions, recommendations and written contributions at the request of the Board or the Commission.
9. The advisory forum may establish standing or temporary sub-groups as appropriate for the purpose of examining specific questions related to the objectives of this Regulation.
10. The advisory forum shall prepare an annual report on its activities. That report shall be made publicly available.

Article 68

Scientific panel of independent experts

1. The Commission shall, by means of an implementing act, make provisions on the establishment of a scientific panel of independent experts (the 'scientific panel') intended to support the enforcement activities under this Regulation. That implementing act shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 98(2).
2. The scientific panel shall consist of experts selected by the Commission on the basis of up-to-date scientific or technical expertise in the field of AI necessary for the tasks set out in paragraph 3, and shall be able to demonstrate meeting all of the following conditions:
 - (a) having particular expertise and competence and scientific or technical expertise in the field of AI;
 - (b) independence from any provider of AI systems or general-purpose AI models;
 - (c) an ability to carry out activities diligently, accurately and objectively.

The Commission, in consultation with the Board, shall determine the number of experts on the panel in accordance with the required needs and shall ensure fair gender and geographical representation.

3. The scientific panel shall advise and support the AI Office, in particular with regard to the following tasks:
 - (a) supporting the implementation and enforcement of this Regulation as regards general-purpose AI models and systems, in particular by:
 - (i) alerting the AI Office of possible systemic risks at Union level of general-purpose AI models, in accordance with Article 90;
 - (ii) contributing to the development of tools and methodologies for evaluating capabilities of general-purpose AI models and systems, including through benchmarks;
 - (iii) providing advice on the classification of general-purpose AI models with systemic risk;
 - (iv) providing advice on the classification of various general-purpose AI models and systems;

- (v) contributing to the development of tools and templates;
 - (b) supporting the work of market surveillance authorities, at their request;
 - (c) supporting cross-border market surveillance activities as referred to in Article 74(11), without prejudice to the powers of market surveillance authorities;
 - (d) supporting the AI Office in carrying out its duties in the context of the Union safeguard procedure pursuant to Article 81.
4. The experts on the scientific panel shall perform their tasks with impartiality and objectivity, and shall ensure the confidentiality of information and data obtained in carrying out their tasks and activities. They shall neither seek nor take instructions from anyone when exercising their tasks under paragraph 3. Each expert shall draw up a declaration of interests, which shall be made publicly available. The AI Office shall establish systems and procedures to actively manage and prevent potential conflicts of interest.
5. The implementing act referred to in paragraph 1 shall include provisions on the conditions, procedures and detailed arrangements for the scientific panel and its members to issue alerts, and to request the assistance of the AI Office for the performance of the tasks of the scientific panel.

Article 69

Access to the pool of experts by the Member States

1. Member States may call upon experts of the scientific panel to support their enforcement activities under this Regulation.
2. The Member States may be required to pay fees for the advice and support provided by the experts. The structure and the level of fees as well as the scale and structure of recoverable costs shall be set out in the implementing act referred to in Article 68(1), taking into account the objectives of the adequate implementation of this Regulation, cost-effectiveness and the necessity of ensuring effective access to experts for all Member States.
3. The Commission shall facilitate timely access to the experts by the Member States, as needed, and ensure that the combination of support activities carried out by Union AI testing support pursuant to Article 84 and experts pursuant to this Article is efficiently organised and provides the best possible added value.

SECTION 2

National competent authorities

Article 70

Designation of national competent authorities and single points of contact

1. Each Member State shall establish or designate as national competent authorities at least one notifying authority and at least one market surveillance authority for the purposes of this Regulation. Those national competent authorities shall exercise their powers independently, impartially and without bias so as to safeguard the objectivity of their activities and tasks, and to ensure the application and implementation of this Regulation. The members of those authorities shall refrain from any action incompatible with their duties. Provided that those principles are observed, such activities and tasks may be performed by one or more designated authorities, in accordance with the organisational needs of the Member State.
2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the identity of the notifying authorities and the market surveillance authorities and the tasks of those authorities, as well as any subsequent changes thereto. Member States shall make publicly available information on how competent authorities and single points of contact can be contacted, through electronic communication means by 2 August 2025. Member States shall designate a market surveillance authority to act as the single point of contact for this Regulation, and shall notify the Commission of the identity of the single point of contact. The Commission shall make a list of the single points of contact publicly available.