

Commission assessment of Latvia's application to host AMLA (Riga)

'When selecting the location, the co-legislators have agreed that they will ensure that, given the nature of AMLA, the location enables the Authority to fully execute its tasks and powers, to recruit highly qualified and specialised staff, to offer adequate training opportunities for AML/CFT activities, where relevant, to allow for close cooperation with Union institutions bodies and agencies, and in order to avoid reputational risks, to consider how ML/TF risks are adequately addressed in the Member State based on publicly available, relevant and comparable information such as FATF reports.'

Member State application	Commission assessment
<p>Description</p> <p>Highly qualified and specialised staff</p> <p>Historically the share of services in the overall economic activity is relatively high.</p> <p>There is a high rate of employed individuals in the financial sector – 2 % of the population. The workforce has evolved in step with Latvia's financial sector, growing knowledgeable about and sensitive to AML processes and their importance. Having matured in the internet age, the workforce is not just tech-savvy, but also proactive in implementing various innovations to drive the sector forward. It has been trained in a period of intense financial reform, and thus to the latest international standards, and with this unique experience, is able to recognize risky dealings. The workforce is unique – it is young, experienced, innovative, certified, and available.</p> <p>Half of all ACAMS certified specialists in Baltics are located in Latvia (389 out of 800). 1 in 3 financial sector employees are ACAMS or ICA certified.</p> <p>Training opportunities</p> <p>Recognition of AML/CFT importance an increasing demand from public and private sector stakeholders has led to significant allocation of EU Recovery and resilience funds to strengthen the knowledge capacity regarding anti-money laundering and financial technologies in Latvia.</p> <p>It implies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. creation of specialized study modules within the framework of accredited bachelor's and master's study programmes in the field of AML and financial technologies; 2. increase the number of students who have mastered the specialized study modules in the field of AML and financial technologies; 3. increase the number of trained academic staff in the field of AML and financial technologies. <p>The project is implemented by Riga Business school (RBS). RBS in cooperation with globally recognized university network provides AML/CFT training in Latvia that meets international quality standards. RBS implements ACAMS (Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering) accredited training and is the only ACAMS licensed training centre in the Baltics. Therefore, RBS has experience and capacity in preparing specialists in the field of AML/CFT. In addition, RBS implements internationally recognised management and technology programmes, the graduates of which have the opportunity to obtain double diplomas with US, Canadian and European universities.</p> <p>The aim of the project is to strengthen financial regulation, anti-money laundering and Fintech knowledge capacity in Latvia. The courses are currently being co-developed with the ecosystem</p>	<p><i>[the location enables the Authority to fully execute its tasks and powers]</i></p> <p>The application provides information on the features of the location of Riga. It in particular addresses elements related to the premises and their accessibility in terms of transport, elements which are covered in more detail under the respective criteria below.</p> <p><i>[to recruit highly qualified and specialised staff]</i></p> <p>The application indicates the importance of the financial sector in the Latvian economy and its knowledge about AML processes. It indicates the availability of a local workforce in the financial domain, which is young, certified and experienced in implementing various innovations to drive the sector forward. The application indicates that half of all ACAMS (Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering) certified specialists in Baltics are located in Latvia (389 out of 800) and that 1 in 3 financial sector employees are ACAMS or ICA certified.</p> <p><i>[to offer adequate training opportunities for AML/CFT activities, where relevant]</i></p> <p>The application mentions the efforts at national level to strengthen the knowledge capacity in AML and financial technologies, and the role played in this ongoing project by Riga Business school (RBS), which proposes ACAMS (Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering) accredited trainings, including as part of non-academic courses for professionals. Reference is also made to the programme on 'Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism' offered (to professionals) outside the regular academic curriculum by the University of Latvia.</p> <p><i>[to avoid reputational risks, to consider how ML/TF are adequately addressed in the Member State based on publicly available, relevant and comparable information such as FATF reports]</i></p> <p>The application mentions that since the Mutual Evaluation Report (MER) of Latvia, approved by Moneyval in 2018, the country has implemented fundamental reforms of its AML/CFT system, which resulted in upgrades in the technical compliance with the 40 FATF recommendations; in the follow-up report of 2019, Latvia was considered 'compliant' with 7 of them, 'largely compliant' with the other 33. Reference is made to Latvia's subsequent National ML/TF Risk Assessments and the Government approved AML/CFT Action Plan which address the ML/TF risks and mitigation measures.</p> <p>Regarding specifically FIU Latvia, the application mentions the international <i>Best Egmont Anti-Money Laundering Case Award</i> (BECA) received in 2022, as well as the establishment of an AML Innovation Hub (AMLIH) to support innovation in the financial intelligence process, with a recent focus on knowledge building and transfer.</p> <p>Reference is also made to Latvia's Cooperation Coordination Group (CCG), a public - private partnership launched in 2018 in the framework of preventing and fighting ML/TF.</p>

(industry, regulatory bodies). There will be three courses at the undergraduate level and three courses at the graduate level on:

- Foundations of Fintech & Fintech business models;
- Foundations of Regulation & compliance for sustainable Fintech development;
- Capstone project - developing a sustainable Fintech.

In addition, RBS offers three non-academic courses to industry:

- Two ACAMS certification preparation courses for professionals: Certified Global Sanctions Specialist (CGSS) and Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS);
- An Executive Education course for middle and senior management: Art of Compliance: Strategies for Success in a World of Regulations.

All modules and courses developed at RBS are delivered in English.

Other Latvian universities currently also offer competitive study programmes and courses in the field of financial and economic security, for example Riga Technical University offers a professional bachelor's study programme "Financial Engineering", Riga Technical University, Vidzeme University and BA School of Business and Finance (BASBF) offer master's study programmes in the field of cyber security management and engineering. BASBF offers course "Money laundering risks" in professional bachelor's study programme "Finance" and professional master's study programme "Finance". University of Latvia offers bachelor's and master's study programmes in the field of law, which include the topic of AML. The University of Latvia has also developed a non-formal education programme "Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism", and topics on AML/CFT are included in on-demand education programmes for investigators, lawyers, and other professionals.

Adequately addressed ML/TF risks

Latvia's Fifth Round Mutual Evaluation Report (MER) was adopted by Council of Europe Committee of experts on the evaluation of anti-money laundering measures and the financing of terrorism (Moneyval) in July 2018. It covered the assessment of Latvia's AML/CFT system's compliance with FATF standards and its effectiveness from 2013 to 2017.

Latvia's MER acknowledged its national risk assessment of money laundering (ML) and terrorist financing (FT) risks as a key document that comprehensively articulates the understanding of ML/FT threats, vulnerabilities and residual risks in the country.

Since the report Latvia has implemented fundamental reforms of its AML/CFT system in order to eliminate the strategic deficiencies identified by Moneyval experts. The overhaul of Latvia's financial sector supervision has been a resounding success which allowed Latvia to re-established its reputation and to create a strong and robust AML/CFT system.

In December 2019 Moneyval adopted Latvia's 1st Follow up Report and upgraded Latvia's compliance to FATF recommendations, thus it has largely complied with the requirements of all 40 FATF recommendations, of which seven recommendations are fully compliant with the FATF international standard, but 33 — mostly met.

<p>The positive progress in eliminating strategic deficiencies related to Latvia’s AML/CFT system’s effectiveness was acknowledged by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in 2020 when reviewing Latvia’s Post Observation Progress Report and taking decision that Latvia will not be subject to ‘enhanced surveillance’ or included in the so-called ‘grey list’.</p> <p>Latvia has continuously and significantly enhanced its AML/CFT system both in terms of adopting technical improvements and applying them effectively in line with the risks identified. This has allowed to achieve substantial results in mitigating ML/TF risks and preventing possible ML/FT.</p> <p>Since Latvia’s MER in 2018 Latvia has conducted two comprehensive national risk assessments in elaboration of which a wide range of stakeholders took part. After adoption of each NRA the respective risk mitigating measures have been included in the AML/CFT Action Plan – the Government approved key nation-wide strategic document outlining the activities of the authorities in the field of AML/CFT – a strong basis for building a comprehensive, coordinated and targeted approach to address the ML and FT risks identified in the NRA, as well as recommendations by Moneyval.</p> <p>Comprehensive outreach activities aimed at increasing understanding of ML/TF risk by the obliged entities, supervisory and control institutions, as well as law enforcement and other relevant institutions have been continuously provided and substantially contributed to the overall understanding of ML/TF risks in the country.</p> <p>In July 2022 FIU Latvia received the best case award from the Egmont Group.</p> <p>Part of these outreach activities are provided by FIU Latvia and its virtual training platform at https://training.fid.gov.lv/ which is frequently updated in order to ensure the necessary information and training for relevant stakeholders. It contains various video lectures for obliged entities, supervisory and control institutions, as well as law enforcement and other relevant institutions on various AML/CFT related topics, inter alia, the findings of NRA; training on the use of the goAML reporting system; explained sector-specific ML/FT risk, etc. Recordings of all the workshops organised by FIU Latvia have been published on the aforementioned virtual training platform.</p> <p>The AML Innovation Hub (AMLIH) which is a permanent FIU Latvia initiative aimed at fostering the development of innovative solutions for more effective prevention, detection, and combating of ML both domestically and internationally. Currently the FIU Latvia is implementing a project within AMLIH aimed at creating training rooms to ensure an accessible and effective setting for knowledge transfer and building. The training room is equipped with state-of-the-art information communications hardware and software enabling seamless on-site and online training, with a range of interactivity enabling trainings with various levels of participation. Modern security solutions allow the participation and interconnection of different institutions, including from the private sector. Modularity in the set-up of the training room allows for rapid and flexible adaptation to the needs of groups of various sizes. The training room is part of the on-going continuous effort to stay ahead of threats through engaging new ideas, skillsets, and tools. By setting up the dedicated training room, FIU Latvia ensures that the development of expertise can be integrated into the activities of the FIU without requiring case-by-case setting adaptation.</p> <p>Public-private partnership practices</p>	
--	--

<p>Latvia has introduced a successful public – private partnership mechanism – Cooperation Coordination</p> <p>Group (CCG), which enables coordinated actions between private and public sector institutions involved, both on operational and strategic level. The purpose of the CCG is to promote the efficient execution of the tasks specified in the laws and regulations for the involved institutions in the area of AML/CFT. The CCG has proved itself as an extremely flexible, fast, and efficient mechanism of domestic interagency cooperation between the private and public sector, namely, obliged entities, FIU Latvia, law enforcement agencies, and other involved institutions in the area of prevention and combating money laundering and associated criminal offence. This successful example of cooperation can be extended to international cooperation and serve as a good basis for further work of joint investigation teams on ML/FT cases.</p> <p>Location and ability to fully execute its tasks</p> <p>The Riga International Airport (RIX) is the largest in the Baltics, with the most destinations and highest passenger turnover. With over 100 direct flight destinations to over 35 countries, the Riga International Airport serves all three of the Baltic countries as a key junction and processes over 8M travelers annually. Frankfurt, Paris, and Brussels, as well as most other major EU cities and capitals, can be reached in less than three hours making Riga easily accessible from all of Europe’s cities.</p> <p>Latvia has identified 3 office options that would make the AMLA’s stay in Latvia productive, allowing AMLA to fully execute its tasks from the very first day of establishment. The office spaces were selected for location, availability, logistics, modernity, safety and security, with flexible expansion opportunities at short notice – “Jaunā Teika” business center office building “Valters”, Preses Nama Kvartāls and Talejas street 1.</p>	
---	--

PREMISES 1, see below for premises 2 and 3

Criterion 1 - 'The date on which AMLA can become operational on site after the entry into force of the Regulation'

Building

Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
<p>1) Description of the proposed premises 1 (address and general description)</p>	<p>AMLA’s headquarters will be located in one of the largest business centers in Latvia – “Jaunā Teika”. More than 70,000 m2 of well-designed and comfortable infrastructure, with broad variety of dining places, grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies, medical center, cafeterias, conference center with meeting rooms of different sizes, co-working spaces, SPA facilities and a private nursery. It has been chosen by more than 15 internationally recognized companies as their place for growth and successful business. Business center “Jaunā Teika” is acknowledged as one the most sustainable projects in the real estate sector. Number of top-tier apartment buildings are located in "Jaunā Teika" and the business center is constantly expanding.</p> <p>The proposed building for AMLA premises “Valters” has received the “Best Building in Latvia” award. Total leasable area of Office building is approximately 15,400 m2 and the area intended for parking – 10,000 m2. Total available surface of the office premises is 7 740 m2 within 5 floors. If there is a necessity for a larger area during the initial lease period, the lessor may offer additional premises in the same office building “Valters”, as well as “Henrihs”, “Teodors” and “Ausma”, offering additional area of up to 3 500 m2.</p> <p>The business center address is Gustava Zemgala gatve 74, Riga, Latvia, LV-1039.</p>	<p>The application indicates the availability of ‘Valters’ located in the business centre ‘Jaunā Teika’ of 70,000 m² in Riga (Gustava Zemgala gatve 74, Riga, Latvia, LV-1039) as proposed premises 1. The premises are located in an area in which 15 international companies are already situated, and which provides a variety of services (dining places, stores, pharmacies, medical centre, cafeterias, conference centre with meeting rooms of different sizes, co-working spaces, SPA facilities and a private nursery). The application indicates that the total available surface of the office premises is 7,740 m² within 5 floors with possible extension of 3,500 m² in the same building. The application indicates that the total leasable area of office building is approximately 15,400 m² and that additional premises in the same office building or others could be envisaged up to 3,500 m² and that the area intended for parking covers 10,000 m².</p>

Availability of the premises

1) Timeline of the availability of the premises (before fit-out and necessary adaptation works) as soon as possible after the entry into force of the Regulation	The premises in the building “Valters” of “Jaunā Teika” are available from June 2024.	The application indicates that the premises are available from June 2024.
2) Estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works (expressed in months)	4	The application indicates that 4 months is the estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works.
Organisation of the premises		
<i>Indicatively, and depending on the final number of staff (between 250 and 400 staff members), the size of the AMLA’s premises should be between 6.000 to 10.000 square meters gross floor area above ground.</i>		
1) Total surface of the premises (expressed in m ²)	7740	The application indicates that the total surface of the premises is 7,740 m ² .
2) Staff capacity (expressed in maximum number of staff)	750	The application indicates that the hosting capacity of the premises is 750 staff members.
3) Availability of one large conference room (including for the meetings of the General Board) (approx. 300 m ²)	Yes	The application indicates that there is a large conference room of approx. 300 m ² .
4) Number of meeting rooms for more than 40 persons	6	The application indicates that there are 6 meeting rooms for more than 40 persons.
5) Number of meeting rooms for 13-15 persons	10	The application indicates that there are 10 meeting rooms for 13-15 persons.
6) Number of meeting rooms for 25-35 persons	6	The application indicates that there are 6 meeting rooms for 25-35 persons.
7) Availability of a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering	Yes	The application indicates that there is a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering.
8) Availability of a dedicated area for FIU (around 30 individual offices)	Yes	The application indicates that there is a dedicated area for FIU.
9) Internal archives capacity of the premises	Yes	The application indicates that there is internal archives capacity on the premises of 600 m ³ .
9.1) Archives volume (expressed in m ³)	600	
10) Number of parking spaces (inside and outside) - Available for AMLA	193	The application indicates that there are 193 parking spaces (inside and outside) available for AMLA
11) Possibilities for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area	Yes	The application indicates that there is the possibility for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area by 3,500 m ² .
11.1) Surface for possible extensions (expressed in m ²)	3500	
12) Are the premises EMAS verified?	Yes	The application indicates that the premises are EMAS verified.
13) Description of the general compliance with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications of the premises including for environment performance standard	<p>All “Jaunā Teika” office buildings are BREEAM certified and meets all standards of class B1 building. Detailed specification to be evaluated during next phase of building selection.</p> <p>HVAC system integrated with combination of fanclois, open/suspended ceilings, straight regips partitions colored and sungle glass fulglass partitions in accordance with individual layout, carpet tiles, LED stripe lamps. Furniture, built in furniture such as kitchens and wardrobes, kitchen equipment and server room equipment is not included into the standard.</p> <p>Clear ceiling heigh is 3.3 m, with suspended ceiling – up to 2.6.</p> <p>Lighting in offices – Mixed LED/ Fluorescent.</p> <p>Max. floor load capacity – 200 kg/m2.</p> <p>Card-key admittance – yes.</p> <p>Building management system includes HVAC, lightening, fire security systems.</p> <p>Automatic ventilation control through BMS will be organized, controlling air flow amount, temperature in the premises. Air conditioning system in each room with a</p>	The application does not provide information on the general compliance with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications but indicates that the premises are BREEAM certified and meet all standards of class B1 building. The application indicates that the premises are equipped with Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning system combined with a series of technicalities relating to ceilings, windows, kitchen, wardrobes, lighting in the offices, access control, building management, fire security, cybersecurity, network security, interior designs. The application also indicates the presence of 4 lifts.

	<p>possibility of heating. Temperature in each premise can be adjusted by an automatic regulator through BMS. Room temperature provided +22 0C +/- 2 0C; Air humidifiers and other equipment, if needed, and communications to them are installed on Lessee cost.</p> <p>Building has 4 lifts.</p> <p>Openable windows.</p> <p>Suspended ceilings.</p> <p>Security system in common premises, in office – for extra charge.</p> <p>The office building will provide a high cybersecurity, including Network Security, Secured Wi-Fi connections, Access Control and others.</p> <p>HVAC system - A block: AHU GEA ATPicco, Plate recuperator, Maximum capacity 3800m3/h@300pa; B block: AHU GEA ATPLUS, Plate recuperator, Maximum capacity 7800m3/h@300pa.</p>	
14) Description of the digital security and connectivity with regard to physical and IT infrastructure	<p>Digital security and communication in relation to physical and IT infrastructure compliant to standard of B1 class office building.</p> <p>Business center “Jaunā Teika” provides:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access Control system: access control systems is a part of standard of Office building, providing advanced access control systems, such as electronic keycards to regulate entry and exit. This digital security measure ensures that only authorized personnel can access the offices. 2. Surveillance and security: business center “Jaunā Teika” provides surveillance cameras and regular security. These devices provide continuous monitoring of public spaces, entrances, and sensitive areas to deter unauthorized access and monitor activities. 3. Connectivity for Building Management: connectivity enables the remote management and monitoring of critical building systems such as HVAC, lighting, elevators, and security. This connectivity ensures efficient building operations, reduces energy consumption, and allows for timely maintenance. 4. Wi-Fi and Connectivity: business center “Jaunā Teika” provide high-speed, reliable Wi-Fi and wired network connections throughout the building to support the connectivity needs of tenants and their IT infrastructure. <p>Latvia in the 1st place in the EU for fiber-optic internet coverage at 87.8% and ensures all alternative connectivity options. 5G is available publicly throughout Riga and a growing number of other cities in Latvia. Starlink satellite connection was launched in 2023.</p>	<p>The application indicates that the premises are equipped with digital security and communication in relation to physical and IT infrastructure, compliant with standard of B1 class office building. The application indicates that the premises provide technicalities that permit remote monitoring, access control, surveillance and security, control of energy consumption, maintenance, wifi and network connections. In addition, the application provides information on the Latvia policy on fiber optic, publicly throughout Riga and a growing number of other cities in Latvia, and on satellite connections.</p>
Financial terms		
1) Description of the financial terms	<p>Monthly rent for the premises is 14.00 euro/m2 excluding VAT (including the office premises and part of the common use premises).</p> <p>In addition to the rent, the lessee covers utility costs according to the readings of metering devices properly installed in the office premises.</p> <p>Within 10 calendar days after the signing of agreement lessee has to cover security deposit of 3 month rent plus VAT.</p> <p>Rent and maintenance costs are covered by the State for the first 2 years of operation.</p>	<p>The application indicates that the monthly rent for the premises is 14.00 EUR/m². In addition to the rent, the lessee covers utility costs according to the readings of metering devices properly installed in the office premises and must cover security deposit of 3 month rent plus VAT.</p>
2) Monthly rental cost (expressed in EUR/m ²)	14	The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is 14 EUR/m ² .
3) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the rent?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the rent for 2 years.
3.1) Will the applicant Member State cover the rent	For a given period of time	
3.2) If yes, for how many years?	2	
4) Monthly maintenance costs (expressed in EUR/m ²)	2.5	The application indicates that the monthly maintenance costs are 2.5 EUR/m ² .

5) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the maintenance costs?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the maintenance costs for the first two years of operations of AMLA.
6) Fit-out costs (expressed in EUR/m ²)	400	The application indicates that the fit-out costs are: 400 EUR/m ² .
7) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the fit-out costs?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the fit-out costs.
8) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the future upgrade and extension?	No	The application indicates that Latvia does not intend to cover the future upgrade and extension.
9) Financial conditions of future upgrades and extensions	According with the lease agreement.	The application indicates that the financial conditions will depend on the terms of the lease agreement.
10) Duration of the lease (expressed in years)	7	The application indicates that the duration of the lease is of 7 years.
11) Financial conditions of termination before the end of the lease	Parties can agree on 7 year unbreakable lease term. The tenant will have the right to terminate the agreement upon completion of 7 years of the lease. The parties may also agree that after 7 years or more, the tenant can terminate the agreement by notifying the lessor in advance. If the tenant wants to terminate the agreement before 7 year term, the tenant has to cover the unamortized part of the lessor's investments into the fit-out works.	The application indicates that parties can agree on a 7-year unbreakable lease term. It indicates that the tenant can terminate the agreement by notifying the lessor in advance, but he has tenant must cover the unamortized part of the lessor's investments into the fit-out works.
12) Description of any special conditions with regard to the costs and dedicated infrastructure	Business center "Jaunā Teika" provides developed infrastructure. On the 1st floor of 4 office buildings are available: different dining places, grocery store, convenience store, pharmacy, medical center, cafeterias, conference center with different sizes meeting rooms, co-working space.	The application provides information on the different services hosted by the building where the premises are situated (restaurants, stores, pharmacy, medical centre, cafeterias, conference centre with different sizes meeting rooms, co-working space).
Summary Criterion 1		<p>The application indicates the availability of 'Valters', located in the business centre 'Jaunā Teika' of 70,000 m² in Riga (Gustava Zemgala gatve 74, Riga, Latvia, LV-1039) as premises 1, which offers 7,740 m² within 5 floors with possible extension in the same building that can host 750 people. The application indicates that the total leasable area of office building is approximately 15,400 m², that additional premises in the same office building or others could be envisaged up to 3,500 m² and that the area intended for parking covers 10,000 m². The application indicates that the premises are available from June 2024 with an estimated time of 4 months for fit-out and adaptation works. The application indicates the availability of a large conference room of approx. 300 m², meeting rooms (6 for more than 40 persons, 10 for 13-15 persons and 6 for 25-35 persons), a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering, a dedicated area for FIU, 600 m³ of internal archives capacity, 193 parking spaces. It indicates that the premises are EMAS verified and are certified and meet all standards of class B1 building, are equipped with 4 lifts, a Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning system combined with a series of technicalities. The application indicates that the premises are equipped with digital security and communication in relation to physical and IT infrastructure, compliant with standard of B1 class office building. The application indicates that the premises provide remote monitoring, access control, surveillance and security, control of energy consumption, maintenance, wifi and network connections.</p> <p>The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is 14 EUR/m² and the monthly maintenance costs are 2.5 EUR/m² and the fit-out costs are 400 EUR/m², that Latvia intends to cover the fit-out costs and the rent and the maintenance costs for 2 years, but not the future upgrade and extension. The application indicates that the financial conditions will depend on the terms of the lease</p>

agreement whose duration is of 7 years. The application indicates that the tenant can terminate the agreement by notifying the lessor in advance, but he has to cover the unamortised part of the lessor's investments into the fit-out works.

Criterion 2 – ‘Accessibility of the location’		
Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
Public transportation		
1) Description of the access to air and rail transport linking the location with European capitals	<p>By air:</p> <p>Located just 15 minutes from the city centre Riga Airport is the largest international airport in the Baltics and connects Riga to 100+ destinations. It accommodates nine major airline companies and serves more than 8 million passengers a year. It is located approximately 10 kilometers southwest of the city center. The airport has modern terminal facilities with various amenities such as shops, restaurants, car rental services, and lounges for travelers. Several major airlines operate at Riga International Airport, including Latvia’s national carrier, Air Baltic. Other international airlines like Ryanair, Lufthansa, Turkish Airlines, British airways and Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) also provide services to and from Riga. Riga International Airport offers over 100 direct flights to all 26 EU capitals (over 35 countries in total) and their cities, making it a convenient gateway to Europe. Major European cities like Paris, Brussels, Berlin, Vienna, Amsterdam, Stockholm, Rome, Dublin, London and many others have regular flight connections to Riga and most of them can be reached within 3 hours.</p> <p>By rail:</p> <p>Connected throughout Europe, the 870 km long Rail Baltica rail line, which is currently being developed, will link Tallinn–Riga–Kaunas–Warsaw–Berlin, ensuring the full integration of Latvia into a single European railway system. Sections of it will start operating gradually from 2026. The implementation of the new high-speed railway network will result in a surge of rail freight and passenger commute volumes, presenting new opportunities for businesses to optimize their supply chain logistics.</p> <p>By sea:</p> <p>Riga port offers regular passenger ferry connections with the Nordics and Germany. Riga’s special economic zone has an ice-free international port, which is one of Europe’s leading sea hubs in terms of cargo turnover. Connections to all other transport infrastructure elements, along with attractive tax-free zone incentives, have resulted in the port becoming a regional centre of industrial activity.</p>	<p>The application indicates that the city center of Riga is located 15 minutes from the airport, which provides over 100 direct flights to all EU Capitals (most of them being reached within 3 hours) and 35 countries. The application indicates that Latvia will be integrated in the single European railway system by 2026 and that Riga port, with tax-free zones, offer regular ferry connections with the Nordic countries and Germany.</p>
2) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest airport to the premises	Tram; Bus	The application indicates the availability of tram and bus connections from the premises to the closest airport.
Frequency of tram connections (expressed in minutes)	7	The application indicates that the frequency of the tram connection is of 7 minutes and the duration 50 minutes.
Duration of tram connections (expressed in minutes)	50	
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	10	The application indicates that the frequency of the bus connection is 10 minutes and the duration 45 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	45	

3) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest international/national train station to the premises	Local train; Tram; Bus	The application indicates that local train, tram and bus connections are available from the closest international/national train station to the premises.
Frequency of local train connections (expressed in minutes)	60	The application indicates that the frequency of the local train connections is of 60 minutes and the duration 15 minutes.
Duration of local train connections from the premises (expressed in minutes)	15	
Frequency of tram connections (expressed in minutes)	10	The application indicates that the frequency of the tram connections is of 10 minutes and the duration 15 minutes.
Duration of tram connections (expressed in minutes)	15	
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	15	The application indicates that the frequency of the bus connections is of 15 minutes and the duration 20 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	20	
4) Other	From Riga Central Station to the premises, it is possible to take a trolleybus. Frequency of connections – 4 to 16 minutes depending on rush hours. Duration – 16 minutes. Developed micromobility ensures safe cycling routes. Wide variety of ride-to-rent solutions are available (cars, bicycles, electric mobility solutions).	The application provides information on other transport means from Riga Central Station to the premises, via trolleybus (frequency of connections: 4 to 16 minutes; duration: 16 minutes), cycling routes, cars, or electric mobility solutions.
Accommodation facilities in the vicinity of the premises		
1) Number of 3 star hotels at walking distance from the premises	6	The application indicates the presence of 6 three star hotels at a walking distance from the premises.
2) Number of 4 star hotels at walking distance from the premises	0	The application indicates that there are no four star hotels at a walking distance from the premises.
3) Number of 5 star hotels at walking distance from the premises	0	The application indicates that there are no five star hotels at a walking distance from the premises.
4) Number of 3 star hotels beyond walking distance in the vicinity of the premises	19	The application indicates the presence of 19 three star hotels beyond a distance of one km from the premises.
5) Number of 4 star hotels beyond walking distance in the vicinity of the premises	30	The application indicates the presence of 30 four star hotels beyond a distance of one km from the premises.
6) Number of 5 star hotels beyond walking distance in the vicinity of the premises	10	The application indicates the presence of 10 five star hotels beyond a distance of one km from the premises.
7) Description of available facilities for events and conferences outside AMLA premises	<p>Riga offers a range of diverse conference facilities to cater to various needs and preferences. List of notable venues and facilities for conferences and events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arena Riga: is able to host high-class events and is also able to provide technical solutions (1 hall with maximum capacity: 13 486). Location: city centre. Website: www.arenariga.com 2. ATTA CENTRE is the largest convention centre in the Baltics. The total area of the centre is 15 000 m2 (32 halls with maximum capacity: 3551, catering services available). Location: city centre. Website: www.attacentre.com 3. FANTADROMS offers multifunctional and customisable premises on 2 floors (7 halls with maximum capacity: 700). Location: city centre. Website: eventspaces.teikums.lv 4. Several buildings around the H2O6 territory is available for organizing events (conference facilities: 4 halls with maximum capacity: 1200). Location: city centre. Website: www.h2o6.lv 5. Hanzas Perons: a modern, multifunctional cultural and artistic space for organizing events (1-3 halls with maximum capacity: 2100). Location: city centre. Website: 	The application provides information on 16 locations and various hotels of different destination, categories, styles, capacities, equipment, surfaces, configurations and facilities, where conferences and events can be organised.

	<p>www.hanzasperons.lv</p> <p>6. Splendid Palace is a unique neo baroque styled cultural centre with luxurious halls (6 halls with maximum capacity: 557). Location: city centre. Website: www.splendidpalace.lv</p> <p>7. The Culture Palace ZIEMEĻBLĀZMA is a multifunctional culture centre and it offers facilities for various activities (6 halls with maximum capacity: 450). Location: out of city centre. Website: ziemelblazma.riga.lv</p> <p>8. National Library of Latvia known for its striking architecture offers a unique and prestigious setting for conferences and cultural events. It has modern conference facilities with stunning views of the city. It offers well-equipped conference and events premises for different types of events (9-15 halls with maximum capacity: 462). Location: city centre. Website: www.lnb.lv</p> <p>9. The Great Guild is one of the oldest public buildings in the Baltic States (3 halls with maximum capacity: 669). Location: old town. Website: en.lnso.lv</p> <p>10. The Small Guild House offers venue rental for business meetings, courses, seminars, conferences, etc. (3 halls (330 m2, 137 m2 and 95 m2)). Location: old town. Website: mazagilde.lv</p> <p>11. The Riga Latvian Society House a Neoclassical style building - the very first of its kind in Riga (6 halls with maximum capacity: 700). Location: city centre. Website: www.rlb.lv</p> <p>12. Ķīpsala International Exposition Centre is the largest specialized exhibition venue in the Baltics. The hall can be easily transformed into any necessary number of rooms, equipped with movable podiums (7 halls with maximum capacity: 5100). Location: city centre. Website: www.rigaexpo.lv</p> <p>13. Zuzeum Art Centre is a new space for art in Riga and the home of the Zuzāns Collection – the largest private collection of Latvian art in the world (5 halls with maximum capacity: 1000). Location: city centre. Website: www.zuzeum.com</p> <p>14. The House of the Black Heads is a unique place for organizing representative events (6 halls with maximum capacity: 715). Location: old town. Website: www.melngalvjunams.lv</p> <p>15. The University of Latvia or Riga Technical University as the knowledge HUBs: The university has multiple facilities available for conferences, seminars, and workshops. These spaces often combine historical and modern elements, creating a unique atmosphere for events.</p> <p>16. Radisson Blu Latvija Conference & Spa Hotel: This upscale largest hotel in the Baltic region offers a modern conference centre with multiple meeting rooms and can accommodate events of various sizes for up to 1100 delegates. The hotel also has a SPA and wellness centre.</p> <p>17. Various hotels: Many of Riga's hotels offer excellent conference facilities, including the MC Hotel Riga by Marriott, Wellton Riverside Spa, Radisson Blu Daugava, Grand Hotel Kempinski Riga, Grand Poet by SemeraH Hotel, Pullman Riga Old Town Hotel, Mercure Riga City Centre Hotel, Tallink Riga Hotel and the Bellevue Park Hotel Riga, among others.</p> <p>Riga's diverse conference facilities are well-equipped with modern technology, catering services, and professional staff to ensure the success of your event. The city's central location in the Baltic region, rich cultural heritage, and historic charm makes it an attractive destination for conferences and events. Detailed info displayed at www.MeetRiga.com.</p>	
Summary Criterion 2		<p>The application indicates that the city center of Riga is located 15 minutes from the airport, which provides over 100 direct flights to all EU Capitals and 35 countries. The application indicates that Latvia will be integrated in the single European Railway Area by 2026 and that Riga port offers regular ferry connections with the Nordic countries and Germany.</p>

		<p>The application indicates the availability of tram (7 minutes frequency, 50 minutes duration) and bus (10 minutes frequency, 45 minutes duration) connections from the airport to the premises. The application indicates the availability of local train (60 minutes frequency, 12 minutes duration), tram (10 minutes frequency, 15 minutes duration) and bus (15 minutes frequency, 20 minutes duration) connections from the closest international/national train station to the premises. The application provides information on other means of transport from Riga Central Station to the premises, via trolleybus, cycling routes, cars, or electric mobility solutions.</p> <p>The application indicates the presence of 6 three star hotels at a walking distance from the premises and 19 three star hotels, 30 four star hotels and 10 five star hotels in the vicinity of the premises. The application provides information on 16 locations and various hotels of different destinations, categories, styles, capacities, equipment, surfaces, configurations and facilities, where conferences and events can be organised.</p>
--	--	---

Criterion 3 – ‘Existence of adequate education facilities for the children of AMLA’s staff’		
Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
1) Number of nurseries	247	The application indicates the presence of 247 nurseries.
2) Language options offered by nurseries	French; Latvian; German; English	The application indicates that English, French, German and Latvian are the languages offered by the nurseries.
3) Additional information concerning nurseries (names, location, language regimes offered, etc.)	<p>In Latvia, all children from the age of 18 months until the start of primary education are legally entitled to a place in a preschool institution. Local governments (municipalities) are responsible for ensuring places for children in preschool educational institutions. Education is free of charge in these educational institutions, but parents have to cover the catering costs. If a local government does not ensure a place in a pre-school education programme implemented by the local government educational institution and the child is acquiring the pre-school education programme in a private educational institution, the local government shall cover the costs for such private service provider. Preschool educational institutions in Latvia are usually open from 7.00 until 19.00. Children may also acquire preschool education in international schools operating in Latvia:</p> <p>King’s College Latvia is offering preschool education for children from the age of 2. The learning language is English. The school is located near the Riga - Turaidas Street 1, Pinki, Babites, District, LV-2107, Latvia.</p> <p>International School of Riga is offering preschool education for children from the age of 2. The learning language is English. The school is located in Riga, Kalnciema Street 118, LV-1046, Latvia.</p> <p>German International School of Riga is offering preschool education for children from the age of 15 months. The learning language is German. The school is located in Riga, Dzirnava Street 16, LV-1010, Latvia.</p> <p>Exupery International School is offering preschool education for children from the age of 18 months. The curriculum framework combines PYP inquiry-based learning model with a heavy emphasis on English language development while supporting the native language. The school is located near the Riga – Jauna Street 8, Pinki Babites District, LV-2107, Latvia.</p> <p>International School of Latvia is offering preschool education for children from the age of 2. The learning language is English. The school is located near the Riga in Meistaru Street 2 Pinki, Babites District, LV-2107, Latvia.</p>	<p>The application indicates that 6 institutions offer preschool education for children from 18 months in English, French and German. The application indicates that preschool education is free of charge (except for catering costs) in public institutions and that the local government covers the costs of the private ones, should it be not capable of ensuring a place in a public institution.</p> <p>The application provides further information on 6 schools offering preschool education, including languages offered and addresses.</p>

	Jules Verne Riga French School is offering preschool education for children from the age of 2. The learning language is French. The school is located in Riga, Patversmes Street 20, LV- 1005, Latvia	
4) Availability of European Schools or accredited European Schools	No	The application indicates that there are no European Schools or accredited European Schools.
5) Number of international schools providing primary and secondary education	8	The application indicates the presence of 8 international schools providing primary and secondary education.
6) Language options offered by the international schools	French; Latvian; German; English	The application indicates that English, French, German and Latvian are the languages offered by the international schools.
7) Additional information concerning international schools (names, location, language regimes offered, etc.)	<p>8 international schools are operating in Latvia. All schools are located in or near Riga. All schools located outside Riga are providing school buses.</p> <p>King's College Latvia forms part of King's Group and provides British International education. The learning language is English. The school is located in the municipality of Babites (Rigas Region) - Turaidas Street 1, Pinki, Babites, District, LV-2107, Latvia. More information on school please find here https://www.latvia.kingscollegeschools.org/.</p> <p>International School of Riga implements the IB Primary Years Programme (IBPYP) throughout Primary, including Early Years (for students between the ages of 3 to 12 years old), the International Middle Years Curriculum (IMYC) for students aged 11-14. In Grades 9 and 10, students follow the IGCSE and in Grades 11 and 12, ISR implements the IBDP. School's primary campus is located on Kalnciema iela 118, while the secondary campus is located on Vesetas iela 9. The learning language is English. More information on school please find here https://isriga.lv/learning/high-school/welcome/.</p> <p>German International School of Riga is providing its students with a German international education. School's learning system is based on the curricula guidelines of the federal state of Thuringia in accordance with the mandates of the federal agency regulating German schools abroad ("Zentralstelle fürs Auslandsschulwesen"). The learning language is German. The school is located in Riga, Dzirnau Street 16, LV-1010, Latvia. More information on school please find here https://www.deutscheschuleriga.lv/.</p> <p>Exupery International School is a fully authorised International Baccalaureate (IB) school currently offering the Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) for preschool and primary students and also International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB DP) in senior school, while the middle school focuses on preparing for the UK IGCSEs which take place in the 10th grade. The learning language is English. The school is located near the Riga – Jauna Street 8, Pinki Babites District, LV-2107, Latvia. More information on school please find here https://exupery.lv/.</p> <p>International School of Latvia is a fully accredited international school. It is accredited by both the Council of International Schools (CIS) based in the Netherlands and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) based in the United States. ISL's Elementary School offers the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme. The Secondary School implements the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) and IB Diploma Programme (DP). The learning language is English. The school is located near the Riga in Meistaru Street 2 Pinki, Babites District, LV-2107, Latvia. More information on school please find here https://isl.edu.lv/.</p> <p>Jules Verne Riga French school is the only school in Latvia operating within the French education system and recognized by both Latvian and French governments. The school is a part of the worldwide network of accredited</p>	The application indicates that the 8 international schools are located in or near Riga and that all schools located outside of Riga provide school buses. The application indicates that these schools offer different pedagogical schemes, study levels and programmes delivered in English, French and German and provide education at elementary, primary and secondary levels. The application indicates that the French and the German schools are accredited by France and Germany.

	French schools AEFÉ. The elementary school (�cole �l�mentaire) welcomes students from 6 years old to 11 years old in two cycles (cycle 2 and beginning of cycle 3) and 5 classes: cours pr�paratoire (preparatory class or CP), cours �l�mentaire 1re ann�e (elementary class 1st year or CE1), cours �l�mentaire 2e ann�e (elementary class 2nd year or CE2), cours moyen 1re ann�e (middle class 1st year or CM1), cours moyen 2e ann�e (middle class 2nd year or CM2). Cycle 3 carries on in middle school. High school consists of three grades: seconde (second grade), premi�re (first grade) and terminale leading to the baccalaur�at exam. The learning language is French. The Elementary school is located in Riga, Patversmes Street 30, the secondary School is located on Stabu 22, Riga, Latvia. More information on school please find here https://ecolejulesverne.lv/en/homepage/ .	
8) Number of higher education facilities (university level or equal)	50	The application indicates the presence of 50 higher education facilities (university level or equal).
9) Language options offered by higher education facilities	French; Latvian; German; English	The application indicates that English, French, German and Latvian are the languages offered by the higher education facilities.
10) Description of higher education facilities (Universities and academic disciplines)	Higher education is provided by autonomous public and private higher education institutions: these are universities of science, universities of arts and culture, universities of applied sciences. The degree structure follows the three-cycle structure: bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral level studies. Academic higher education study programs prepare graduates for independent research, as well as theoretical background for professional activities. Academic study program is regulated by national education standard and after graduation a bachelor’s degree or master’s degree is awarded. Each type of study programs is regulated by national education standard. In total there are 984 study programs in Latvia. The admission procedure is not centralized: each university has its own admission committee and criteria. Admission to the study program is regulated admission rules. Higher education in Latvia is financed both by public and private funding. The funding of higher education varies within the system, but mainly institutions receive state funded study places, whereas private institutions can receive state funded study places in specific case only and are primarily financed through student fees. Data about Higher Education Institutions, Study Fields and Study Programs are provided in https://eplatforma.aika.lv/index.php?r=site%2Fstudy-direction%2Flist	The application indicates that higher education is delivered by universities of science, arts and culture and applied sciences, which provide bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral level studies regulated by national education standards. The application indicates that each university applies its own admission rules and that 984 study programmes can be delivered. The application indicates that private institutions can receive state funded study places in specific cases and are primarily financed through student fees.
11) Other	The Eurydice network, whose task is to explain how education systems are organized in Europe: https://eurydice.eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-education-systems/latvia/overview General information about study opportunities in Latvia: https://www.studyinlatvia.lv/studies International database of all universities accredited in the country: https://www.eqar.eu/qa-results/search/by-institution/?limit=20&ordering=name_sort&country=Latvia&offset=0	The application provides information on webpages explaining education systems in Latvia.
Summary Criterion 3		The application indicates the presence of 247 nurseries and 6 institutions that offer preschool education in English, French, German and Latvian and 8 international schools providing primary and secondary education in the same languages. The application indicates that there are no European Schools or accredited European Schools. The application indicates that the French and the German schools are accredited by France and Germany. The application indicates the presence of 50 higher education facilities (university level or equal) which provide education in English, French, German, Latvian and propose 984 study programmes.

Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
1) Number of hospitals available in the vicinity of the premises	55	The application indicates the presence of 55 hospitals in the vicinity of the premises.
2) Description of access to medical care (access to hospitals and other medical facilities, doctors, spoken languages, etc.)	<p>Latvia's healthcare system is a mix of private and publicly funded services. Permanent residence permit holders will have access to publicly funded services, though you may encounter a waiting line. Most paid services, however, are available to everyone, with little-to-no waiting time and at an affordable price. Latvia's clinics typically offer patients a sensible pricing policy with no hidden charges. Service prices are competitive within the Baltic Sea Region and lower than in Western European and Scandinavian countries, enabling patients to make cost savings of 50-70%.</p> <p>With state-of-the-art facilities and newly renovated regular and children's hospitals, healthcare is easily accessible and of high quality.</p> <p>Every person is registered with a general practitioner (a family doctor). This is the first point of contact for everything health-related, and the GPs will then direct their patient to specialists as necessary. These visits are state-subsidized, with patients paying €1-2 per visit.</p> <p>The State budget in Latvia covers all health services, including healthcare provided by a family doctor or his team, most of the screening and examinations, medical assistance in the points for emergency, healthcare services provided in a day and night hospital, healthcare at home, assistance provided by the emergency medical care team, medical rehabilitation, reimbursement of medicine and medical equipment.</p> <p>Healthcare professionals mostly speak Latvian, English, German and Russian. An interpreter is available if needed.</p>	The application indicates that permanent residents have access to publicly funded services. The application indicates that most paid services are available to everyone at an affordable price. The application indicates that patients are registered with a general practitioner who may direct to specialists as necessary. The application indicates that all health services are covered by the State budget and that healthcare professionals mostly speak English, German, Latvian, and in addition, Russian.
3) Description of access to medical care and social security for AMLA children and spouses not covered by the EU Staff Regulations (benefits, conditions, assistance, etc.)	<p>State-funded healthcare services are provided in Latvia to citizens of the EU Member States, Island, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, who have entered into labour relationships or reside as self-employed persons in Latvia (including their family members); foreigners, having a permanent residence permit in Latvia; children of the above-mentioned inhabitants in the age up to 18 years.</p> <p>Spouses of the citizens and non-citizens of Latvia, having temporary residence permit in Latvia, may obtain state-funded pregnant women care and child-birth assistance free of charge.</p> <p>Other inhabitants may obtain paid medical services in Latvia in accordance with the price list of the respective medical institution for paid services.</p> <p>If a person has an insurance policy, the level of payment for a particular service depends on whether and to what extent the service is covered by the insurance policy.</p> <p>If a person pays for a healthcare service entirely by himself, he does so in accordance with the fee schedule of the medical institution concerned.</p>	The application indicates that Latvia's healthcare services are provided to EU citizens' children up to the age of 18 years as well as their spouses who have entered into labour relationships or reside as self-employed persons in Latvia. The application indicates that spouses having temporary residence permit, may obtain state-funded pregnant women care and child-birth assistance free of charge. The application indicates that children and spouses can benefit from paid medical services and insurance policy.
4) Situation of the national labour market and its capacity to offer international job opportunities (number and capacity of international companies acting in the region) for children and spouses of AMLA staff	<p>Latvia is a multilingual country, and the average person speaks at least 3 languages with English being the third most spoken language. English proficiency has significantly increased, especially among the younger generations – Latvia has the highest level of youth English language fluency in the Baltics with 42% of 15-34 year-olds completely fluent.</p> <p>Latvia has a diverse economy with over 2 million companies operating in 1,500 industries. Open economy and dynamic labour market provide opportunities for foreigners to access labor market. Some particularly in-demand fields with highest count of vacancies are IT, sales,</p>	The application indicates that Latvia is a multilingual country with English being the third most spoken language and that the average person speaks at least 3 languages. The application indicates that Latvia's labour market counts 2 million companies operating in 1,500 industries, offers opportunities in IT, sales, finance, banking, insurance, accounting, logistics and engineering. In addition, the application indicates that Latvia's FinTech ecosystem attract many talents and companies.

	<p>finance and accounting, logistics and engineering. The roles can be found in a range of companies, from multinational corporations down to the local startups that are growing at a head spinning pace. As a reaction to labour market demands, gross wage remains the highest in financial, insurance and IT sectors (almost twice the national average).</p> <p>Available infrastructure and talent pool, ease of doing business, as well as the infrastructure availability and opportunities for innovation are among the most critical factors for the FinTech enterprises to choose Latvia to set up their main operations. Talent is mentioned as one of the most important factors for why FinTech companies choose Latvia for their HQ location. Latvia's FinTech ecosystem has an especially high growth potential taking into account the strong banking and financial industry roots & talent density in Riga. An additional positive tendency of FinTech enterprises is to plan to either hire and relocate to Latvia or hire specialists and work remotely.</p>	
5) Availability of services assisting expatriates and foreign nationals in seeking jobs	<p>Opportunities to search for work using the following resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.cv.lv - the biggest local vacancies portal in Latvia covering all industries; • LinkedIn; • MeetFrank Career app (https://meetfrank.com/) specializing in IT, software engineering, data and marketing vacancies; • ABSL Latvia (https://www.absl-latvia.lv/). A list of career pages of Business Service centres located in Latvia; • EURES network consultants in Latvia that specialize in supporting international job seekers; • State Employment Agency (www.nva.gov.lv) and its vacancy website; • Internations.org. • Live Riga (https://www.liveriga.com/en/work-in-riga/available-jobs) 	The application provides information on 8 public/private bodies available for assisting expatriates and foreign nationals in seeking jobs.
Summary Criterion 4		<p>The application indicates the presence of 55 hospitals in the vicinity of the premises, that permanent residents have access to publicly funded services, that most paid services are available to everyone at an affordable price and that patients are registered with a general practitioner who may direct to specialists as necessary and that healthcare professionals mostly speak English, German, Latvian, and, in addition, Russian. The application indicates that Latvia's healthcare services are provided to EU citizens' children up to 18 years as well as their spouses who have entered into labour relationships or reside as self-employed persons in Latvia. The application indicates that spouses having temporary residence permit may obtain state-funded pregnant women care and child-birth assistance free of charge.</p> <p>The application indicates that Latvia is a multilingual country with English being the third most spoken language. The application indicates that Latvia's labour market counts 2 million companies operating in 1,500 industries and offers opportunities in IT, sales, finance, banking, insurance, accounting, logistics and engineering sector. In addition, the application indicates that Latvia's FinTech ecosystem attract many talents and companies. The application provides information on 8 public/private bodies available for assisting expatriates in seeking jobs.</p>

Criterion 5 – 'Geographical balance'		
Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment

Description	<p>AMLA placement in Riga would provide for a strong European Union presence in a region where such a message has deep and meaningful significance. It is more important than ever to demonstrate that the region is an integral part of the EU.</p> <p>The establishment of the AMLA in Latvia can significantly contribute to the geographical balance and unity of the European Union and its agencies and positively contribute to the balance of EU financial supervision system.</p> <p>While currently main financial agencies and bodies are concentrated around cities - big financial centers, placing an agency in Latvia (Riga) would equalize the South/North and facilitate East/West integration. It would greatly contribute to geographical balance and unity of the EU and its agencies and ensure even higher AMLA autonomy, reduce the risk of concentration of power and supervisory fracture</p>	The application indicates that the location of AMLA in Riga would reinforce the EU presence in Latvia, contribute to the geographical balance of the European Union, its agencies and the EU financial supervision system.
Summary Criterion 5		The application indicates that the location of AMLA in Riga would reinforce the EU presence in Latvia and would contribute to the geographical balance of the European Union and its agencies and to the balance of the EU financial supervision system.

Any benefits in addition to Protocol 7		
Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
1) Does the applicant Member State offer additional privileges?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia offers additional privileges to those in Protocol 7.
1.1) If yes, which ones?	The rent of the chosen location will be covered for a period of 2 years. VAT refund (standard rate is 21%) option will be granted for officials and staff of AMLA.	The application indicates that a VAT refund (standard rate is 21%) option will be granted for officials and staff of AMLA. It also indicates that the rent of the building will be covered for 2 years (see above point 1 of criterion 1 on financial terms).

Headquarters Agreement		
Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
Applicant Member State's commitment to confirming the conditions included in the application in a headquarters agreement with AMLA	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia commits to confirm the conditions included in the application in a headquarters agreement with AMLA.

PREMISES 2		
Criterion 1 - Office premises		
Building		
Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
1) Description of the proposed premises 2 (address and general description)	<p>The Talejas iela 1 building is situated in the North district of Riga. Talejas iela 1 Building is modern, user friendly, efficient, and sustainable government office. Originally designed to host state administrative entities, it provides for additional office space. The flexibility of building's layout and its open-plan design makes it a good environment for activity-based office needs.</p> <p>Talejas Street 1 Building stands out as one of Latvia's most valuable properties due to its enduring sustainability solutions, which have operated smoothly for over 8 years. Office environment can be easily adapted to meet the various needs of its users.</p>	The application indicates the availability of Talejas iela 1 Building as premises 2 which is situated in the North district of Riga in an originally designed to host state administrative entities. The application indicates that the office space can be adapted.
Availability of the premises		
1) Timeline of the availability of the premises (before fit-out and necessary adaptation works) as soon as possible after the entry into force of the Regulation	Available now.	The application indicates the immediate availability of premises 2.
2) Estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works (expressed in months)	6	The application indicates that 6 months is the estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works.
Organisation of the premises		
<i>Indicatively, and depending on the final number of staff (between 250 and 400 staff members), the size of the AMLA's premises should be between 6.000 to 10.000 square meters gross floor area above ground.</i>		
1) Total surface of the premises (expressed in m ²)	10000	The application indicates that the total surface of the premises is 10,000 m ² .
2) Staff capacity (expressed in maximum number of staff)	600	The application indicates that the hosting capacity of the premises is 600 staff members.
3) Availability of one large conference room (including for the meetings of the General Board) (approx. 300 m ²)	Yes	The application indicates that there is a large conference room of approx. 300 m ² .
4) Number of meeting rooms for more than 40 persons	2	The application indicates that there are 2 meeting rooms for more than 40 persons.
5) Number of meeting rooms for 13-15 persons	3	The application indicates that there are 3 meeting rooms for 13-15 persons.
6) Number of meeting rooms for 25-35 persons	2	The application indicates that there are 2 meeting rooms for 25-35 persons.
7) Availability of a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering	Yes	The application indicates that there is a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering.
8) Availability of a dedicated area for FIU (around 30 individual offices)	Yes	The application indicates that there is a dedicated area for FIU.
9) Internal archives capacity of the premises	Yes	The application indicates that there is internal archives capacity of the premises of 308 m ³ .
9.1) Archives volume (expressed in m ³)	308 m ³	
10) Number of parking spaces (inside and outside) - Available for AMLA	50	The application indicates that there are 50 parking spaces (inside and outside) available for AMLA.
11) Possibilities for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area	No	The application indicates that there is the possibility for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area by 1,000 m ² .
11.1) Surface for possible extensions (expressed in m ²)	1000	
12) Are the premises EMAS verified?	No	The application indicates that the premises are not EMAS verified.

13) Description of the general compliance with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications of the premises including for environment performance standard	All equipment and engineering communications are maintained in accordance with regulations and established procedures, as specified by the equipment manufacturer's requirements, and equipment maintenance is performed by certified companies.	The application does not provide information on the general compliance with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications but indicates that the premises' equipment is certified and maintained in accordance with regulations and established procedures.
14) Description of the digital security and connectivity with regard to physical and IT infrastructure	Separate VLANs for network segmentation, micro segmentation for the server side, and protocol 802.1X for end-user devices are used on the premises. Employees connect to the corporate network using a wireless network, where access is granted from Aruba ClearPass policies in two layers. 1st connection is made if the user's computer has an issued certificate, and 2nd - if the user using SSO is authorized to Active directory. Other equipment, like printers, screen sharing devices, and meeting room reservation screens are connected using MAC layer filters on network access ports.	The application indicates that the premises are equipped with digital connectivity, office IT devices, printers, screen sharing and meeting room reservation systems.
Financial terms		
1) Description of the financial terms	Monthly rental cost is 14,56 EUR/m ² . Total rental cost depends on the total office space used. Rent and maintenance costs are covered by the State for the first 2 years of operation. Financial terms include rent, security deposit, lease agreement, rent escalation - price index, utilities, maintenance fees, late fees, security deposit return.	The application indicates that financial terms include rent, security deposit, lease agreement, rent escalation - price index, utilities, maintenance fees, late fees, security deposit return.
2) Monthly rental cost (expressed in EUR/m ²)	14.56	The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is 14.56 EUR/m ² .
3) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the rent?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the rent for 2 years.
3.1) Will the applicant Member State cover the rent	For a given period of time	
3.2) If yes, for how many years?	2	
4) Monthly cost of charges (expressed in EUR)	5.04	The application indicates that the monthly cost of charges is 5.04 EUR/m ² .
5) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the maintenance costs?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the maintenance costs for the first 2 year of operations of AMLA.
6) Fit-out costs (expressed in EUR/m ²)	1500	The application indicates that the fit-out costs are: 1,500 EUR/m ² .
7) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the fit-out costs?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the fit-out costs.
8) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the future upgrade and extension?	No	The application indicates that Latvia does not intend to cover the future upgrade and extension
9) Financial conditions of future upgrades and extensions	Cost of future upgrade and extensions depend on depreciation and tenant needs. Minimum restoration costs varies from 150 EUR/m ² to 250 EUR/m ² (excluding VAT).	The application indicates that cost of future upgrade and extensions depend on depreciation and tenant needs. The application indicates that minimum restoration costs vary from 150 EUR/m ² to 250 EUR/m ² (excluding VAT).
10) Duration of the lease (expressed in years)	10	The application indicates that the duration of the lease is of 10 years.
11) Financial conditions of termination before the end of the lease	Notice period is 6 months. Security deposit depends on the circumstances and any damages or unpaid rent owed. Alternative terms for early lease termination can be negotiated.	The application indicates that a notice period of 6 months shall be respected in case of early termination of the lease as well as a security deposit depending on the circumstances, damages or unpaid rent owed.
12) Description of any special conditions with regard to the costs and dedicated infrastructure		The application does not provide information on special conditions with regard to the costs and dedicated infrastructure.
Summary Criterion 1		The application indicates that premises 2 are situated in the North district of Riga (Talejas iela 1 Building). The application indicates that the premises are immediately available and that 6 months will be needed for fit-out. The application indicates that the surface of the premises is 10,000 m² and can host 600 people. It indicates the availability of a large conference room of approx. 300 m², meeting rooms (2 for more than 40 persons, 3 for 13-15 persons and 2 for 25-35 persons), a

		<p>lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering a dedicated area for FIU, 308 m³ of internal archives capacity 50 parking spaces and possible extensions of 1,000 m². The application indicates that the premises are not EMAS verified. The application indicates that premises 2 equipment is certified and maintained in accordance with regulations and established procedures. The application does not specifically indicate if the premises comply with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications but indicates that the premises are equipped with digital connectivity and office IT devices.</p> <p>The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is 14.56 EUR/m², the monthly cost of charges is 5.04 EUR/m², the fit-out costs are 1 500 EUR/m². The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the rent and the maintenance costs for 2 years as well as the fit-out costs, but not the future upgrade and extension. The application indicates that cost of future upgrade and extensions depend on depreciation and tenant needs and that minimum restoration costs varies from 150 EUR/m² to 250 EUR/m² (excluding VAT). The application indicates that the duration of the lease is of 10 years and that a notice period of 6 months shall be respected in case of early termination as well as a security deposit depending on the circumstances, damages or unpaid rent owed.</p>
--	--	---

Criterion 2 – ‘Accessibility of the location’		
Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
Public transportation		
<p>1) Description of the access to air and rail transport linking the location with European capitals</p>	<p>By air:</p> <p>Located just 15 minutes from the city centre Riga Airport is the largest international airport in the Baltics and connects Riga to 100+ destinations. It accommodates nine major airline companies and serves more than 8 million passengers a year. It is located approximately 10 kilometers southwest of the city center. The airport has modern terminal facilities with various amenities such as shops, restaurants, car rental services, and lounges for travelers. Several major airlines operate at Riga International Airport, including Latvia’s national carrier, Air Baltic. Other international airlines like Ryanair, Lufthansa, Turkish Airlines, British airways and Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) also provide services to and from Riga. Riga International Airport offers over 100 direct flights to all 26 EU capitals (over 35 countries in total) and their cities, making it a convenient gateway to Europe. Major European cities like Paris, Brussels, Berlin, Vienna, Amsterdam, Stockholm, Rome, Dublin, London and many others have regular flight connections to Riga and most of them can be reached within 3 hours.</p> <p>By rail:</p> <p>Connected throughout Europe, the 870 km long Rail Baltica rail line, which is currently being developed, will link Tallinn–Riga–Kaunas–Warsaw–Berlin, ensuring the full integration of Latvia into a single European railway system. Sections of it will start operating gradually from 2026. The implementation of the new high-speed railway network will result in a surge of rail freight and passenger commute volumes, presenting new opportunities for businesses to optimize their supply chain logistics.</p> <p>By sea:</p> <p>Riga port offers regular passenger ferry connections with the Nordics and Germany. Riga’s special economic zone has an ice-free international port, which is one of Europe’s leading</p>	<p>The application indicates that the city centre of Riga is located 15 minutes from the airport, which provides over 100 direct flights to all EU capitals (most of them being reached within 3 hours) and 35 countries. The application indicates that Latvia will be integrated in the single European railway system by 2026 and that Riga port, with tax-free zones, offer regular ferry connections with the Nordic countries and Germany.</p>

	sea hubs in terms of cargo turnover. Connections to all other transport infrastructure elements, along with attractive tax-free zone incentives, have resulted in the port becoming a regional centre of industrial activity.	
2) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest airport to the premises	Tram; Bus	The application indicates the availability of tram and bus connections from the premises to the closest airport
Frequency of tram connections (expressed in minutes)	7	The application indicates that the frequency of the tram connection is of 7 minutes and the duration 60 minutes.
Duration of tram connections (expressed in minutes)	60	
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	10	The application indicates that the frequency of the bus connection is 10 minutes and the duration 70 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	70	
3) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest international/national train station to the premises	Tram; Bus	The application indicates that tram and bus connections are available from the closest international/national train station to the premises.
Frequency of tram connections (expressed in minutes)	7	The application indicates that the frequency of the tram connections is of 7 minutes and the duration 35 minutes.
Duration of tram connections (expressed in minutes)	35	
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	30	The application indicates that the frequency of the bus connections is of 30 minutes and the duration 37 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	37	
4) Other	Developed micromobility ensures safe cycling routes. Wide variety of ride-to-rent solutions are available (cars, bicycles, electric mobility solutions).	The application indicates that safe cycling routes and other transport solutions are available.
Accommodation facilities in the vicinity of the premises		
1) Number of 3 star hotels at walking distance from the premises	3	The application indicates the presence of 3 three star hotels at a walking distance from the premises.
2) Number of 4 star hotels at walking distance from the premises	0	The application indicates that there are no four star hotels at a walking distance from the premises.
3) Number of 5 star hotels at walking distance from the premises	0	The application indicates that there are no five star hotels at a walking distance from the premises.
4) Number of 3 star hotels beyond walking distance in the vicinity of the premises	19	The application indicates the presence of 19 three star hotels beyond a distance of one km from the premises.
5) Number of 4 star hotels beyond walking distance in the vicinity of the premises	20	The application indicates the presence of 20 four star hotels beyond a distance of one km from the premises.
6) Number of 5 star hotels beyond walking distance in the vicinity of the premises	10	The application indicates the presence of 10 five star hotels beyond a distance of one km from the premises.
7) Description of available facilities for events and conferences outside AMLA premises	Riga offers a range of diverse conference facilities to cater to various needs and preferences. List of notable venues and facilities for conferences and events: 1. Arena Riga: is able to host high-class events and is also able to provide technical solutions (1 hall with maximum capacity: 13 486). Location: city centre. Website: www.arenariga.com 2. ATTA CENTRE is the largest convention centre in the Baltics. The total area of the centre is 15 000 m2 (32 halls with maximum capacity: 3551, catering services available). Location: city centre. Website: www.attacentre.com 3. FANTADROMS offers multifunctional and customisable premises on 2 floors (7	The application provides information on 16 locations and various hotels of different destination, categories, styles, capacities, equipment, surfaces, configurations and facilities, where conferences and events can be organised.

halls with maximum capacity: 700). Location: city centre. Website: eventspaces.teikums.lv

4. Several buildings around the H2O6 territory is available for organizing events (conference facilities: 4 halls with maximum capacity: 1200). Location: city centre. Website: www.h2o6.lv

5. Hanzas Perons: a modern, multifunctional cultural and artistic space for organizing events (1-3 halls with maximum capacity: 2100). Location: city centre. Website: www.hanzasperons.lv

6. Splendid Palace is a unique neo baroque styled cultural centre with luxurious halls (6 halls with maximum capacity: 557). Location: city centre. Website: www.splendidpalace.lv

7. The Culture Palace ZIEMEĻBLĀZMA is a multifunctional culture centre and it offers facilities for various activities (6 halls with maximum capacity: 450). Location: out of city centre. Website: ziemelblazma.riga.lv

8. National Library of Latvia known for its striking architecture offers a unique and prestigious setting for conferences and cultural events. It has modern conference facilities with stunning views of the city. It offers well-equipped conference and events premises for different types of events (9-15 halls with maximum capacity: 462). Location: city centre. Website: www.lnb.lv

9. The Great Guild is one of the oldest public buildings in the Baltic States (3 halls with maximum capacity: 669). Location: old town. Website: en.lnso.lv

10. The Small Guild House offers venue rental for business meetings, courses, seminars, conferences, etc. (3 halls (330 m², 137 m² and 95 m²)). Location: old town. Website: mazagilde.lv

11. The Riga Latvian Society House a Neoclassical style building - the very first of its kind in Riga (6 halls with maximum capacity: 700). Location: city centre. Website: www.rlb.lv

12. Ķīpsala International Exposition Centre is the largest specialized exhibition venue in the Baltics. The hall can be easily transformed into any necessary number of rooms, equipped with movable podiums (7 halls with maximum capacity: 5100). Location: city centre. Website: www.rigaexpo.lv

13. Zuzeum Art Centre is a new space for art in Riga and the home of the Zuzāns Collection – the largest private collection of Latvian art in the world (5 halls with maximum capacity: 1000). Location: city centre. Website: www.zuzeum.com

14. The House of the Black Heads is a unique place for organizing representative events (6 halls with maximum capacity: 715). Location: old town. Website: www.melngalvjunams.lv

15. The University of Latvia or Riga Technical University as the knowledge HUBs: The university has multiple facilities available for conferences, seminars, and workshops. These spaces often combine historical and modern elements, creating a unique atmosphere for events.

16. Radisson Blu Latvija Conference & Spa Hotel: This upscale largest hotel in the Baltic region offers a modern conference centre with multiple meeting rooms and can accommodate events of various sizes for up to 1100 delegates. The hotel also has a SPA and wellness centre.

17. Various hotels: Many of Riga's hotels offer excellent conference facilities, including the MC Hotel Riga by Marriott, Wellton Riverside Spa, Radisson Blu Daugava, Grand Hotel Kempinski Riga, Grand Poet by SemeraH Hotel, Pullman Riga Old Town Hotel, Mercure Riga City Centre Hotel, Tallink Riga Hotel and the Bellevue Park Hotel Riga, among others. Riga's diverse conference facilities are well-equipped with modern technology, catering services, and professional staff to ensure the success of your event. The city's central location in the Baltic region, rich cultural heritage, and historic charm makes it an attractive destination for conferences and events. Detailed info displayed at www.MeetRiga.com.

<p>Summary Criterion 2</p>		<p>The application indicates that the city center of Riga is located 15 minutes from the airport, which provides over 100 direct flights to all EU Capitals and 35 countries. The application indicates that Latvia will be integrated in the single European railway system by 2026 and that Riga port offers regular ferry connections with the Nordic countries and Germany.</p> <p>The application indicates the availability of tram (7 minutes frequency, 60 minutes duration) and bus (10 minutes frequency, 70 minutes duration) connection from the closest airport to the premises The application indicates the availability of tram (7 minutes frequency, 35 minutes duration) and bus (30 minutes frequency, 37 minutes duration) connections from the closest international/national train station to the premises. The application indicates that safe cycling routes and other transport solutions are also available.</p> <p>The application indicates the presence of 3 three star hotels at a walking distance from the premises and 19 three star hotels, 20 four star hotels and 10 five star hotels in the vicinity of the premises. The application provides information on 16 locations and various hotels of different destination, categories, styles, capacities, equipment, surfaces, configurations and facilities, where conferences and events can be organised.</p>
-----------------------------------	--	--

PREMISES 3		
Criterion 1 - 'The date on which AMLA can become operational on site after the entry into force of the Regulation'		
Building		
Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
1) Description of the proposed premises 3 (address and general description)	<p>Preses Nama Kvartals. Adress: Balasta dambis 2, K-2, Riga. “Preses Nama Kvartāls” (PNK) is centred around the historic landmark building that once housed the publishing industry of Latvia. PNK is planned to be a unique, sustainable business centre, and an array of public space solutions. PNK is located 15 minutes by car, to central railway station - 10 minutes by car, to Freeport of Riga - 8 minutes by car. The Business Centre offers 11 floor A-Class offices with 24/7 access in the 120-meter-long, 50-meter-high glazed building. The neighbouring Multifunctional Centre offers various facilities such as a grocery store, food court, restaurant, coffee shops, fitness centre, SPA, football field on the roof. Spacious and flexible conference center will be available for tenants on the 1st floor of the office building with total capacity of up to 250 people. Holiday Inn operated hotel will be available, providing 305 suits. PNK is an A class, Nearly Zero-energy office building, that offers in total up to 26 000 m2 of office area for 2 500 employees. The non-load bearing structure of the building provides total freedom of customizing floor plans according to the tenants’ needs. There are open floor plans, individual finishes, superior natural daylight in every workplace, and a completely customizable climate system with environmentally friendly and sustainable solutions in a convenient location. Surrounding infrastructure offers up to 120 residential apartments within close proximity to PNK.</p>	<p>The application indicates the availability of ‘Preses Nama Kvartāls’ (PNK) - Balasta dambis 2, K-2, Riga, as premises 3. The building is located on the Left bank of Daugava River with proximity to airport, the central railway station (15 minutes by car) and Freeport of Riga (10 minutes by car). The application indicates that the premises are hosted in a nearly zero-energy office building of 11 floor A-class that offers in total up to 26,000 m² of office area for 2,500 employees and various facilities (stores, restaurant, fitness centre, SPA, football field on the roof). The application indicates that floor plans can be customised according to the tenants’ needs with environmentally friendly and sustainable solutions. The application indicates that 120 residential apartments are available in close proximity of the premises.</p>
Availability of the premises		
1) Timeline of the availability of the premises (before fit-out and necessary adaptation works) as soon as possible after the entry into force of the Regulation	Available starting from February 2025 at earliest.	The application indicates that the premises are available from February 2025 at the earliest.
2) Estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works (expressed in months)	4	The application indicates that 4 months is the estimated time needed for fit-out and adaptation works.
Organisation of the premises		
Indicatively, and depending on the final number of staff (between 250 and 400 staff members), the size of the AMLA’s premises should be between 6.000 to 10.000 square meters gross floor area above ground.		
1) Total surface of the premises (expressed in m ²)	10000	The application indicates that the total surface of the premises is 10,000 m ² .
2) Staff capacity (expressed in maximum number of staff)	1200	The application indicates that the hosting capacity of the premises is 1,200 staff members.
3) Availability of one large conference room (including for the meetings of the General Board) (approx. 300 m ²)	Yes	The application indicates that there is a large conference room of approx. 300 m ² .
4) Number of meeting rooms for more than 40 persons	3	The application indicates that there are 3 meeting rooms for more than 40 persons.
5) Number of meeting rooms for 13-15 persons	3	The application indicates that there are 3 meeting rooms for 13-15 persons.
6) Number of meeting rooms for 25-35 persons	3	The application indicates that there are 3 meeting rooms for 25-35 persons.
7) Availability of a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering	Yes	The application indicates that there is a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering.

8) Availability of a dedicated area for FIU (around 30 individual offices)	Yes	The application indicates that there is a dedicated area for FIU.
9) Internal archives capacity of the premises	Yes	The application indicates that the internal archives capacity of the premises is 625 m ³ .
9.1) Archives volume (expressed in m ³)	625	
10) Number of parking spaces (inside and outside) - Available for AMLA	1000	The application indicates that there are 1,000 parking spaces (inside and outside) available for AMLA.
11) Possibilities for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area	Yes	The application indicates that there is the possibility for extension of office space in its original premises or the nearby area by 26,000 m ² .
11.1) Surface for possible extensions (expressed in m ²)	26000	
12) Are the premises EMAS verified?	Yes	The application indicates that the premises are EMAS verified.
13) Description of the general compliance with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications of the premises including for environment performance standard	<p>PNK office building is BREEAM Excellent certified and meets all standards of class A building. Detailed specification to be evaluated during next phase of building selection.</p> <p>Clear ceiling height – 3.38 m (open ceilings), 2.85 m (suspended ceiling).</p> <p>Floor depth – 11 m (from façade to façade 22 m).</p> <p>Lighting level in offices – according to Landlord standard.</p> <p>Max. floor load capacity – 2.5 kN/m² (250 kg/m²), next to the columns 5.0 kN (500 kg/m²), dedicated areas for server rooms 10 kN/m² (1000 kg/m²), in Archive/Storage rooms up to 7.5 kN/m², point load of 7.0 kN.</p> <p>The floor covering of the auxiliary rooms is concrete.</p> <p>Building Management system – yes.</p> <p>Columns grid - The business center building constructive solution - without columns. The central part of the floor has only 3 columns on each side (6 columns in total) with a step of 12m between the columns. The rest of the floor has no columns that would affect the layout.</p> <p>HVAC - Central heating will be ensured through convectors, cooling system will be provided via chilled beams, centralized ventilation, and humidification also through the chilled beams.</p> <p>Elevators – 8 + 2 (cargo elevators).</p> <p>Sprinklers – yes.</p> <p>Openable windows – partially.</p> <p>Suspended ceilings – optional.</p> <p>Raised floors – yes.</p> <p>Security system – yes.</p> <p>All door openings in both buildings in common areas are designed in accordance with regulations, incl. following the requirements for people with mobility impairments.</p> <p>Average temperature in Office building is +21, cooling in summer +24.</p> <p>The building will provide a high cybersecurity for its tenants, including Network Security, Secured Wi-Fi connections, Access Control and others. High level and required cybersecurity in office premises is Tenant's responsibility.</p>	The application does not provide information on the general compliance with the Manual of Standard Building Specifications of the premises but indicates that the premises meet all standards of an A-class office building and is certified BREEAM Excellent. The application provides information on ceiling height, floor depth, lighting levels, building management system, heating ventilation and air conditioning, elevators. The application indicates that the premises provide access control, connections and network security, and high cybersecurity under the responsibility of the tenant.
14) Description of the digital security and connectivity with regard to physical and IT infrastructure	<p>Digital security and communication in relation to physical and IT infrastructure compliant to standard of A class office building.</p> <p>PNK provides:</p> <p>1. Access Control system: Access control systems is a part of standard of Office building, providing advanced access control systems, such as electronic keycards to regulate entry and exit. This digital security measure ensures that only authorized personnel can access the offices.</p>	The application indicates that the premises are equipped with digital security and communication technicalities, compliant with standard of A-class office building. The application indicates that the premises provide remote monitoring, access control systems, surveillance devices, network connections. The application indicates that the premises are equipped with Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning system that ensures timely maintenance and reduction of energy consumption.

	<p>2. Surveillance and security: PNK provides surveillance cameras and regular security. These devices provide continuous monitoring of public spaces, entrances, and sensitive areas to deter unauthorized access and monitor activities.</p> <p>3. Connectivity for Building Management: Connectivity enables the remote management and monitoring of critical building systems such as HVAC, lighting, elevators, and security. This connectivity ensures efficient building operations, reduces energy consumption, and allows for timely maintenance.</p> <p>4. Wi-Fi and Connectivity: PNK provide high-speed, reliable Wi-Fi and wired network connections throughout the building to support the connectivity needs of tenants and their IT infrastructure.</p>	
15) Other	PNK Office building will provide two independent electricity connections, which can be crucial for several reasons, primarily related to ensuring uninterrupted power supply and continuity of operation.	The application indicates that the premises will be equipped with independent electricity connections that ensure continuity of operation.
Financial terms		
1) Description of the financial terms	Provided commercial offer is indicative and can be updated upon next steps of negotiations. There is up to 10 000 m ² offered for tenant's needs. Area can be reduced/increased upon request and availability. Commercial terms provided below can be negotiated upon request. Monthly rental cost is 15,50 EUR/m ² +VAT. Rent and maintenance costs are covered by the State for the first 2 years of operation.	The application indicates the terms of the lease contract can be negotiated upon request.
2) Monthly rental cost (expressed in EUR)	15.5	The application indicates that the monthly rental cost is 15.5 EUR/m ² .
3) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the rent?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the rent for 2 years.
3.1) Will the applicant Member State cover the rent	For a given period of time	
3.2) If yes, for how many years?	2	
4) Monthly maintenance costs (expressed in EUR/m ²)	3.25	The application indicates that the maintenance monthly are: 3.25 EUR/m ² .
5) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the maintenance costs?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the maintenance costs for the first 2 years of operations of AMLA.
6) Fit-out costs (expressed in EUR/m ²)	550	The application indicates that the fit-out costs are: 550 EUR/m ² .
7) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the fit-out costs?	Yes	The application indicates that Latvia intends to cover the fit-out costs.
8) Does the applicant Member State intend to cover the future upgrade and extension?	No	The application indicates that Latvia does not intend to cover the future upgrade and extension
9) Financial conditions of future upgrades and extensions	To be discussed and agreed during the next phase of building selection.	The application indicates that the financial conditions of future upgrades and extensions are to be discussed and agreed during the next phase of building selection.
10) Duration of the lease (expressed in years)	5	The application indicates that the duration of the lease is of 5 years.
11) Financial conditions of termination before the end of the lease	Parties can agree on 5 year unbreakable lease term. The tenant will have the right to terminate the agreement upon completion of 5 years of the lease. The parties may also agree that after 5 years or more, the tenant can terminate the agreement by notifying the lessor in advance. If the tenant wants to terminate the agreement before 5 year term, the tenant has to cover the unamortized part of the lessor's investments into the fit-out works.	The application indicates that parties can agree on 5-year unbreakable lease term, or more. The application indicates that the tenant may terminate the agreement before 5-year term by notifying the lessor in advance and under the obligation to cover the unamortised part of the lessor's investments into the fit-out works.
12) Description of any special conditions with regard to the costs and dedicated infrastructure	The total rented area of the premises also includes a part of the supportive area, which consists of fully-fitted and equipped elevator area and shared facilities only for tenant's employees.	The application indicates that the rented area of the premises includes a part of the supportive area, which consists of elevator area and shared facilities.

13) Other	<p>More detailed information regarding the architectural and interior solutions of the building:</p> <p>Atrium, connecting the Office Building with the overground parking and the Multifunctional Center: https://360tour.lv/proj/preses-nams/atrium/tour/index.html</p> <p>Model office tour, located on the 10th floor https://360tour.lv/proj/preses-nams/tour/index.html</p>	The application provides information on architectural and interior configuration of the building.
Summary Criterion 1		<p>The application indicates the availability of ‘Preses Nama Kwartāls’ (PNK) - Balasta dambis 2, K-2, Riga, as premises 3. They are located on the Left bank of Daugava River with proximity to the airport, the central railway station (15 minutes by car) and Freeport of Riga (10 minutes by car). The application indicates that the premises are hosted in a nearly zero-energy office building of 11 floor A-class that offers in total up to 26,000 m² of office area for 2,500 employees and various facilities. The application indicates that floor plans can be customised with environmentally friendly and sustainable solutions. The application indicates that the premises are available from February 2025 at earliest and that 4 months will be needed for fit-out. The application indicates that the premises offer a total surface of 10,000 m² and can host 1,200 people. It indicates the availability of a large conference room of approx. 300 m², meeting rooms (3 for more than 40 persons, 3 for 13-15 persons and 3 for 25-35 persons), a lounge area for lunch and/or dinner catering, a dedicated area for FIU, an internal archive capacity of 625 m³ and 1,000 parking spaces. The application indicates the possibility for extension of office space by 26,000 m² in the premises or the nearby area. The application indicates that the premises are EMAS verified. The application provides information on ceiling height, floor depth, lighting levels, building management system, heating ventilation and air conditioning, elevators. The application indicates that the premises are equipped with digital security and communication technicalities.</p> <p>The application indicates that the terms of the lease contract can be negotiated, that the monthly rental cost is 15.5 EUR/m², that the monthly maintenance costs are 3.25 EUR/m² and that the fit-out costs are 550 EUR/m². It indicates that Latvia intends to cover the fit-out costs and for two years the rent and the maintenance costs, but not the future upgrade and extension. The application indicates that the duration of the lease is 5 years and that the tenant may terminate the agreement before the term under the obligation to cover the lessor's investments into the fit-out works. The application indicates that the rented area of the premises includes a part of the supportive area, which consists of an elevator area and shared facilities.</p>

Criterion 2 – ‘Accessibility of the location’		
Sub criterion	Member State application	Commission assessment
Public transportation		
1) Description of the access to air and rail transport linking the location with European capitals	<p>By air:</p> <p>Located just 15 minutes from the city centre Riga Airport is the largest international airport in the Baltics and connects Riga to 100+ destinations. It accommodates nine major airline companies and serves more than 8 million passengers a year. It is located approximately 10 kilometers southwest of the city center. The airport has modern terminal facilities with</p>	The application indicates that the city centre of Riga is located 15 minutes from the airport, which provides over 100 direct flights to all EU Capitals (most of them being reached within 3 hours) and 35 countries. The application indicates that Latvia will be integrated in the single European railway system by 2026 and that Riga port, with tax-free zones, offer regular ferry connections with the Nordic countries and Germany.

	<p>various amenities such as shops, restaurants, car rental services, and lounges for travelers. Several major airlines operate at Riga International Airport, including Latvia's national carrier, Air Baltic. Other international airlines like Ryanair, Lufthansa, Turkish Airlines, British Airways and Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) also provide services to and from Riga. Riga International Airport offers over 100 direct flights to all 26 EU capitals (over 35 countries in total) and their cities, making it a convenient gateway to Europe. Major European cities like Paris, Brussels, Berlin, Vienna, Amsterdam, Stockholm, Rome, Dublin, London and many others have regular flight connections to Riga and most of them can be reached within 3 hours.</p> <p>By rail:</p> <p>Connected throughout Europe, the 870 km long Rail Baltica rail line, which is currently being developed, will link Tallinn–Riga–Kaunas–Warsaw–Berlin, ensuring the full integration of Latvia into a single European railway system. Sections of it will start operating gradually from 2026. The implementation of the new high-speed railway network will result in a surge of rail freight and passenger commute volumes, presenting new opportunities for businesses to optimize their supply chain logistics.</p> <p>By sea:</p> <p>Riga port offers regular passenger ferry connections with the Nordics and Germany. Riga's special economic zone has an ice-free international port, which is one of Europe's leading sea hubs in terms of cargo turnover. Connections to all other transport infrastructure elements, along with attractive tax-free zone incentives, have resulted in the port becoming a regional centre of industrial activity.</p>	
2) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest airport to the premises	Bus	The application indicates the availability of bus connections from the premises to the closest airport.
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	10	The application indicates that the frequency of the bus connection is 10 minutes and the duration 20 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	20	
3) Availability and types of public transport connections from the closest international/national train station to the premises	Bus	The application indicates that bus connections are available from the closest international/national train station to the premises.
Frequency of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	10	The application indicates that the frequency of the bus connections is of 10 minutes and the duration 10 minutes.
Duration of bus connections (expressed in minutes)	10	
4) Other	From Riga Central Station to the premises, it is possible to take a trolleybus. Frequency of connections - 20 minutes depending on rush hours. Duration – 10 minutes. Developed micromobility ensures safe cycling routes. Wide variety of ride-to-rent solutions are available (cars, bicycles, electric mobility solutions).	The application provides information on other transport means from Riga Central Station to the premises (trolleybus, cycling routes, cars, electric mobility solutions).
Accommodation facilities in the vicinity of the premises		
1) Number of 3 star hotels at walking distance from the premises	4	The application indicates the presence of 4 three star hotels at a walking distance from the premises.
2) Number of 4 star hotels at walking distance from the premises	6	The application indicates the presence of 6 four star hotels at a walking distance from the premises.

3) Number of 5 star hotels at walking distance from the premises	1	The application indicates the presence of 1 five star hotel at a walking distance from the premises.
4) Number of 3 star hotels beyond walking distance in the vicinity of the premises	33	The application indicates the presence of 33 three star hotels beyond a distance of one km from the premises.
5) Number of 4 star hotels beyond walking distance in the vicinity of the premises	20	The application indicates the presence of 20 four star hotels beyond a distance of one km from the premises.
6) Number of 5 star hotels beyond walking distance in the vicinity of the premises	10	The application indicates the presence of 10 five star hotels beyond a distance of one km from the premises.
7) Description of available facilities for events and conferences outside AMLA premises	<p>Riga offers a range of diverse conference facilities to cater to various needs and preferences. List of notable venues and facilities for conferences and events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arena Riga: is able to host high-class events and is also able to provide technical solutions (1 hall with maximum capacity: 13 486). Location: city centre. Website: www.arenariga.com 2. ATTA CENTRE is the largest convention centre in the Baltics. The total area of the centre is 15 000 m2 (32 halls with maximum capacity: 3551, catering services available). Location: city centre. Website: www.attacentre.com 3. FANTADROMS offers multifunctional and customisable premises on 2 floors (7 halls with maximum capacity: 700). Location: city centre. Website: eventspaces.teikums.lv 4. Several buildings around the H2O6 territory is available for organizing events (conference facilities: 4 halls with maximum capacity: 1200). Location: city centre. Website: www.h2o6.lv 5. Hanzas Perons: a modern, multifunctional cultural and artistic space for organizing events (1-3 halls with maximum capacity: 2100). Location: city centre. Website: www.hanzasperons.lv 6. Splendid Palace is a unique neo baroque styled cultural centre with luxurious halls (6 halls with maximum capacity: 557). Location: city centre. Website: www.splendidpalace.lv 7. The Culture Palace ZIEMEĻBLĀZMA is a multifunctional culture centre and it offers facilities for various activities (6 halls with maximum capacity: 450). Location: out of city centre. Website: ziemelblazma.riga.lv 8. National Library of Latvia known for its striking architecture offers a unique and prestigious setting for conferences and cultural events. It has modern conference facilities with stunning views of the city. It offers well-equipped conference and events premises for different types of events (9-15 halls with maximum capacity: 462). Location: city centre. Website: www.lnb.lv 9. The Great Guild is one of the oldest public buildings in the Baltic States (3 halls with maximum capacity: 669). Location: old town. Website: en.lnso.lv 10. The Small Guild House offers venue rental for business meetings, courses, seminars, conferences, etc. (3 halls (330 m2, 137 m2 and 95 m2)). Location: old town. Website: mazagilde.lv 11. The Riga Latvian Society House a Neoclassical style building - the very first of its kind in Riga (6 halls with maximum capacity: 700). Location: city centre. Website: www.rlb.lv 12. Ķīpsala International Exposition Centre is the largest specialized exhibition venue in the Baltics. The hall can be easily transformed into any necessary number of rooms, equipped with movable podiums (7 halls with maximum capacity: 5100). Location: city centre. Website: www.rigaexpo.lv 13. Zuzeum Art Centre is a new space for art in Riga and the home of the Zuzāns Collection – the largest private collection of Latvian art in the world (5 halls with maximum capacity: 1000). Location: city centre. Website: www.zuzeum.com 14. The House of the Black Heads is a unique place for organizing representative events (6 halls with maximum capacity: 715). Location: old town. Website: www.melngalvjunams.lv 	The application provides information on 16 locations and various hotels of different destination, categories, styles, capacities, equipment, surfaces, configurations and facilities, where conferences and events can be organised.

	<p>15. The University of Latvia or Riga Technical University as the knowledge HUBs: The university has multiple facilities available for conferences, seminars, and workshops. These spaces often combine historical and modern elements, creating a unique atmosphere for events.</p> <p>16. Radisson Blu Latvija Conference & Spa Hotel: This upscale largest hotel in the Baltic region offers a modern conference centre with multiple meeting rooms and can accommodate events of various sizes for up to 1100 delegates. The hotel also has a SPA and wellness centre.</p> <p>17. Various hotels: Many of Riga's hotels offer excellent conference facilities, including the MC Hotel Riga by Marriott, Wellton Riverside Spa, Radisson Blu Daugava, Grand Hotel Kempinski Riga, Grand Poet by SemeraH Hotel, Pullman Riga Old Town Hotel, Mercure Riga City Centre Hotel, Tallink Riga Hotel and the Bellevue Park Hotel Riga, among others.</p> <p>Riga's diverse conference facilities are well-equipped with modern technology, catering services, and professional staff to ensure the success of your event. The city's central location in the Baltic region, rich cultural heritage, and historic charm makes it an attractive destination for conferences and events. Detailed info displayed at www.MeetRiga.com.</p>	
Summary Criterion 2		<p>The application indicates that the city center of Riga is located 15 minutes from the airport, which provides over 100 direct flights to all EU Capitals and 35 countries. The application indicates that Latvia will be integrated in the single European railway system by 2026 and that Riga port offers regular ferry connections with the Nordic countries and Germany.</p> <p>The application indicates the availability of bus connections (10 minutes frequency, 20 minutes duration) from the airport to the premises and the availability of bus connections (10 minutes frequency and 10 duration) from the closest international/national train station to the premises. In addition, the application indicates other means of transport from Riga Central Station to the premises, via trolleybus, cycling routes, cars, or electric mobility solutions.</p> <p>The application indicates the presence of 4 three star hotels, 6 four star hotels and 1 five star hotel at walking distance from the premises, and 33 three star hotels, 20 four star hotels and 10 five star hotels in the vicinity of the premises. The application indicates the availability of 16 locations and various hotels of different destinations, categories, styles, capacities, equipment, surfaces, configurations and facilities, where conferences and events can be organised.</p>