

## Lodging an Objection

### Considering lodging an objection?

If you are considering lodging an objection, please contact a member of the SME programme team first to informally discuss the nature of your objection and to weigh your course of action. If you are still set on lodging an objection, you are required to do so **within six weeks** of the date of the decision. Failure to do so within this time frame deems your objection as inadmissible.

### Who can lodge an objection?

You can lodge an objection against a decision addressed to you. You may also lodge an objection against a decision that is not addressed to you personally but in which you are directly involved. In that case, you are an interested third party.

### Nature of the objection

An objection is admissible only if the nature of the objection led to a significant and substantial negative impact on the outcome of your application- caused by a an omission or failure to properly apply the processes and procedures defined in the Call for Proposals by those directly involved. Qualifications and viewpoints per application leading up to, and during the evaluation- will not be considered as grounds for an objection.

### Submitting your objection

You can submit your objection by sending it as a letter of objection to [sme@quantumdelta.nl](mailto:sme@quantumdelta.nl)

### What must your letter of objection state?

Your letter of objection should contain at least the following:

- your name, address and signature
- the date on which you sent the letter of objection
- the reasons why you disagree with the decision
- a copy of the decision that you object to

Within one week of receiving your letter of objection, QuantumDelta NL will send you a confirmation of receipt. stating the tentative date on which the hearing of your objection has been planned.

### Withdrawing an objection

Should you change your mind and wish to withdraw your objection, then you can do so by sending a withdrawal letter to [sme@quantumdelta.nl](mailto:sme@quantumdelta.nl)



### **Objections Committee**

Quantum Delta NL will appoint a committee to assess the letters of objection. The members of this committee are independent and not employed by Quantum Delta NL.

### **Hearing**

One month prior to the hearing, you will receive an official invitation mentioning date, time and location. Shortly thereafter, you will receive a response from Quantum Delta NL to your objection. You may submit further documents to support your objection until ten days prior to the hearing. The file, which contains all documents relevant to your objection, will be sent to you at least one week before the hearing.

During the hearing, you will receive the opportunity to further clarify your letter of objection. You will also be requested to respond to the counterarguments made by Quantum Delta NL. Then the Quantum Delta NL will be given the opportunity to explain the decision taken. Subsequently, the committee members can pose questions to both parties if they so wish.

The hearing will take no more than 45 minutes. A recording of the hearing will be made, available upon request. You are allowed to bring other people involved in the application with you.

Please inform us of the person(s) you attend to bring along, no more than ten days in advance. Mention in your email the names of those you wish to have present, if applicable, their involvement in your application. Unregistered visitors will be denied entry.

### **Language**

The official language during the objection procedure is English, unless deemed otherwise.

### **Outcome**

Based on the documents received and the hearing, the Objections Committee will issue an advice to the Quantum Delta NL Executive Board. The executive board can choose to deviate from this advice when taking its decision. After the executive board has taken a decision about your letter of objection, this decision will be sent to you by with a copy of the advice issued by the Objections Committee. If you disagree with this decision, you can submit an appeal to a Dutch court within six weeks after the date on which the decision was taken.