

Minute 2

I - Introduction

On the 5th of February of two thousand twenty-six, at seventeen hours and thirty minutes, the jury nominated by the CCMAR board of Directors on 13/01/2026, met in office 2.76 of the CCMAR, for the second meeting of the call Ref. CCMAR/BINCGAM/01/2026. The meeting was for the hiring of a Research Fellowship for a person with a Master Degree (Bolsa de Investigação não conducente à obtenção de grau académico para mestre), for applicants of any nationality, including stateless candidates, and holders of political refugee statute, in the scientific field of Molecular Biology within the research project number CDKL5-22-103-02 - named as CDKL5-2 : “Rescuing functional defects in a zebrafish model of CDKL5 deficiency: Contribution to the identification of therapeutic targets” funded by The Orphan Disease Center – University of Pennsylvania. The jury present at the meeting was composed by Professor Leonor Cancela, Full Professor at the University of Algarve, Group Leader and Project Coordinator at CCMAR (President of jury); Professor Paulo Gavaia, Invited Assistant Professor at the University of Algarve, Group Leader and Principal Investigator at CCMAR (Member) and Professor Márcio Simão, Invited Assistant Professor at the University of Algarve and Researcher at CCMAR (Member) and had the following agenda items: admission and evaluation of the applications admitted for the fellowship CCMAR/BINCGAM/01/2026.

II - Statement of no conflict of interests

We, the undersigned, fully understand the confidential nature of the assessment process and agree not to disclose or discuss its materials, nowhere, with no one, knowing the consequences of a misconduct.

We further declare that we have no direct or indirect financial, economic or personal interest that could compromise our impartiality and autonomy as members of this Jury.

Thus, we declare under word of honour that we will not evaluate candidates with whom we have a conflict of interest, for what we will require our immediate replacement

III – Candidates

5 (five) applications were received:

1. Linda Inês Henriques Geraldo
2. Eleonora Amadio
3. MAHANTHI VASU
4. Maria Trindade Paço
5. Henrique Ribeiro de Sousa

IV – Admission of applications

3 candidates were not admitted to the evaluation phase due to failure in meeting one requirements stated in the official announcement within the application period, as follows:

1. Master’s degree in Biomedicine or Biology with knowledge on zebrafish maintenance, molecular biology and histology.

The candidate Elanora Amadio was excluded since she presented no evidence of experience working with zebrafish. The candidate Mahanthi Vasu was excluded since he did not present a valid graduation certificate. The candidate Maria Trindade Paço was excluded since she did not present evidence of experience in molecular biology.

Table 1. Candidates admitted and proposed for the evaluation and ranking phase.

Linda Inês Henriques Geraldo
Henrique Ribeiro de Sousa

V - Evaluation of applications

The Jury evaluated the application documents of the eligible candidates (**Table 1**) and applied the classification criteria and weighting factors set out in the vacancy announcement as shown in **Table 2** below:

Table 2. Table with the evaluation of applications.

Candidate	Criterion 1	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	Final Classification
Linda Inês Henriques Geraldo	18	15	18	18	17,7
Henrique Ribeiro de Sousa	17	14	18	15	16,4

Evaluation criteria and respective weighting:

1. Evaluation of the Curriculum (30%);
2. Practical knowledge on zebrafish colony maintenance (10%)
3. Practical knowledge on analysis of gene expression and Molecular biology (30%);
4. Interview (30%).

Note: The final grades in table 2 represent the average of the individual evaluation performed by each member of the jury, presented on a scale from 0 to 20, rounded to the nearest tenth.

Table 3 presents the final classification.

Table 3. Overall classification and ranking of the admitted applicants of call CCMAR/BINCGAM/01/2026, indicating the final score.

Candidates	Final Classification	Ranking
Linda Inês Henriques Geraldo	17,7	1 st
Henrique Ribeiro de Sousa	16,4	2 nd

VI - Conclusion

The fellowships will be awarded to the best ranked applicant. The candidate Linda Inês Henriques Geraldo had the highest classification (**Table 3**) and based on the elements presented in the application, candidate Linda Inês Henriques Geraldo meets the conditions for the purposes of eventual selection, so the Jury proposes the ratification of this decision to the CCMAR Board.

The Jury will proceed to the right of prior hearing, setting a deadline of 10 working days and gives candidates the right of recourse of the announced decision, whether in relation to scientific or procedural matters.

With no other item on the agenda, the meeting of which these minutes were drawn up was closed, with 3 pages, which after being read and approved were signed by the members of the jury.

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Professor Leonor Cancela
(President)

Doctor Paulo Gavaia
(Member)

Professor Márcio Simão
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