Appendix1

Proposal for the International Track of the 2025 Hunan (International) Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition

I. Structure of the International Track

(I) Cultural and Technological Integration Track. This track primarily covers areas such as audio-visual production, creative design, digital cultural heritage, news and publishing, performing arts and cultural tourism, gaming and animation, and cultural preservation and inheritance.

(II) Biomedicine Track. This track primarily focuses on fields including cell and gene therapy, advanced medical devices and materials, and innovative drug development.

II. Eligibility Requirements

Teams (or individuals) that have not yet established a legal entity, as well as enterprises established outside Hunan Province, are eligible to apply for the International Track. Specific requirements are as follows:

(I) Eligibility Requirements for Enterprises:

1. The applicant enterprise must be legally registered outside Hunan Province, possess independent legal person status, and hold independent intellectual property rights without any ownership disputes.

2. The enterprise must operate in compliance with regulations, maintain good social credit, have no adverse records, and must not be publicly listed.

3. The enterprise’s annual revenue for the previous year must not exceed RMB 200 million.

4. The enterprise must plan to establish a business presence in Hunan Province or engage in related cooperation following the competition.

5. The products, technologies, or related patents of the submitted project must belong to the applicant. There must be no ownership disputes, and the applicant shall bear full responsibility for any infringement-related liabilities.

(II) Eligibility Requirements for Teams (or Individuals):

1. High-level entrepreneurial teams or individuals possessing innovative achievements and entrepreneurial plans.

2. The products, technologies, or related patents of the submitted project must belong to the applicant. There must be no ownership disputes, and the applicant shall bear full responsibility for any infringement-related liabilities.

3. Teams (or individuals) from outside Hunan Province must plan to establish a business presence in Hunan or engage in relevant cooperation following the competition.

4. For teams (or individuals) from within Hunan Province, if the submitted project has previously won an award in past editions of the Hunan Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition, or if the affiliated enterprise plans to participate in the 2025 Hunan Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition under the Provincial Track, duplicate registration is not permitted.

(III) All competition materials and presentations must be conducted in either Chinese or English in principle.

III. Competition Procedure

The competition consists of four stages: Registration, Preliminary Round, Semifinal Round, and Final Round.

**(I) Registration**

**1. Online registration.** Applicants who deem themselves eligible shall visit the official website of the Department of Science and Technology of Hunan Province (<https://kjt.hunan.gov.cn>), log in to the “Hunan Science and Technology Cloud Platform” and navigate to the “Science and Technology Project Management System – Project Application – Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition” section to complete the online submission; if technical issues prevent online submission, applicants may contact the Organizing Committee Office and, **upon confirmation,** **complete the registration form (see Appendix2) and send it to the designated email address: hncxcyds2025@163.com** (Email subject: Track Name + Project Title). Applicants are responsible for the accuracy and authenticity of the information provided. No hard-copy submission is required.

Registration Period: May 12 – June 15, 2025

**2. Review and confirmation.** Third-party institutions will conduct a strict review of the authenticity, completeness, accuracy, and compliance of the information submitted by applicants via the “Hunan Science and Technology Cloud Platform.” In principle, the review should be completed within five working days from the date of submission. If supplementary materials are required, applicants shall be informed in a single notification.

Third-party institutions must enhance their awareness of risk, quality, and responsibility, and rigorously verify the applicant’s eligibility, operational status, credit standing, intellectual property, and other relevant information. They shall be accountable for the results of their review.

The Department of Science and Technology of Hunan Province conducts a formality review of the projects confirmed by third-party institutions, focusing on verifying the completeness of the submitted materials. Projects that pass the review will be counted as part of the valid project base for the preliminary round.

Deadline for Review Confirmation by Third-Party Institutions: June 18, 2025

Deadline for Review Confirmation by the Provincial Department: June 20, 2025

**(II) Preliminary Round**

The preliminary round will be organized by third-party institutions. Two advancement pathways to the semifinals will be implemented: “Competition-Based Evaluation” and the “Golden Seed Express,” aiming to innovate the selection mechanism for high-quality projects. Third-party institutions shall recommend projects for advancement in accordance with established procedures.

**1. Competition-Based Evaluation**

(I) Formulating the plan. Based on local conditions within their designated regions, third-party institutions shall formulate detailed organization plans, ensuring standardized naming, streamlined procedures, innovative promotional strategies, and supportive policies. All plans must be submitted to the Department of Science and Technology of Hunan Province for record-keeping.

(2) Organizing the competition. Third-party institutions are encouraged to adopt innovative models for organizing and servicing the competition, positioning the event as a key platform for supporting technology-based enterprises. They shall establish a competition mechanism characterized by “streamlined and efficient operations with high-quality services,” and in principle, organize no fewer than two service-related activities.

(3) Recommendation for advancement. Based on competition results and the advancement quotas allocated by the Department of Science and Technology of Hunan Province (100 slots for the International Track), third-party institutions shall recommend outstanding projects. After a public disclosure period with no objections, the recommendations shall be formally submitted to the Department. The submission must include a semifinal project recommendation letter and a summary table of recommended projects. An electronic copy of the summary table must also be sent to: hnst-hj@kjt.hunan.gov.cn.

Deadline for Submission of Preliminary Round Recommendation Materials: July 15, 2025

**2. Golden Seed Express**

To further attract high-quality global participants and enhance the quality of project submissions, the “Golden Seed Express” pathway will be implemented alongside the “Competition-Based Evaluation” for advancement within the International Track.

(1) Eligibility for advancement. Projects that meet the general registration requirements of the competition and have received awards in the “Golden Seed Cup” College Student Entrepreneurship Competition (specifically those participating in either the Healthcare sector or the Culture + Technology sector of the “Golden Seed” Emerging Industries Track, and having won Gold, Silver, Bronze, or Excellence Awards) are eligible.

(2) Advancement process. Eligible applicants shall upload proof of award to the “Hunan Science and Technology Cloud Platform.” Upon verification by the Organizing Committee Office, qualifying projects will be granted direct entry into the semifinal round of the International Track.

**(III) Semifinal Round**

Organized by the Department of Science and Technology of Hunan Province, the semifinal round will be conducted via online roadshow and defense. (Based on performance, the top six projects from each track—Cultural and Technological Integration and Biomedicine—will be selected to advance to the provincial final, for a total of 12 finalists.)

Each project will be allotted a total of 12 minutes for the competition session, consisting of a 7-minute presentation and a 5-minute Q&A. The judging panel will comprise five experts, including technical specialists and venture capital professionals. Judges will score the projects online based on the defense performance, and results will be announced in real time.

Semifinal Round Date: Mid to Late July 2025

**(IV) Final Round**

Organized by the Department of Science and Technology of Hunan Province, the final round will be conducted in the form of on-site project roadshows. The process will include random draw for presentation order, on-site presentations, on-site scoring, and immediate announcement of results. Each project will be allotted 15 minutes, consisting of an 8-minute presentation and a 7-minute Q&A. The judging panel will consist of seven experts, including technical specialists and venture capital professionals. Scores will be determined on-site and announced in real time.

Final Round Date: Mid to Late August 2025

IV. Awards and Incentives

(I) Ranking Awards. Based on the results of the final round, the International Track will grant one First Prize, two Second Prizes, and three Third Prizes, for a total of six awards. Projects receiving ranking awards will not be eligible for the Excellence Award.

(II) Excellence Awards. Based on the overall scores in the final round, six Excellence Awards will be granted.

(III) Winning projects will receive monetary awards as follows: RMB 500,000 per First Prize, RMB 300,000 per Second Prize, RMB 200,000 per Third Prize, and RMB 100,000 per Excellence Award. Subsequently, if an award-winning project by an enterprise or team from outside Hunan is commercialized in Hunan within two years (i.e., registered as a business entity in Hunan), it will receive 1:1 matching funds equivalent to the original award amount (excluding projects already supported by the Provincial Science and Technology Innovation Program in the same year).

V. Supporting Measures

(I) Project implementation services. For award-winning projects that intend to be commercialized in Hunan (i.e., the startup is registered within the province), the Organizing Committee will assign dedicated personnel to provide coordination services. Projects in the Cultural and Technological Integration category may directly enter the review and announcement process of the “Colt Program” at the Malanshan Video Cultural and Creative Industrial Park, and will receive comprehensive “end-to-end” support to facilitate local implementation and commercialization in Hunan.

(II) Talent support. The primary founder and actual controller (defined as the largest shareholder or legal representative) of enterprises that win First or Second Prize at the provincial level and meet the eligibility criteria for the Provincial Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Leading Talent Program will be directly selected for the program. Participating teams and individuals who meet the requirements of the “Furong Talent Program” will be recruited and supported in accordance with established procedures. Top-tier talent teams may receive support of up to RMB 100 million.

(III) Innovation and entrepreneurship services. Partner banks of the competition will provide preferential loan credit support to selected projects. Outstanding projects will also be recommended to the competition’s partner venture capital institutions and media outlets. During the competition, a series of supporting service activities will be organized to provide enterprises with diversified services, including specialized guidance on shareholding reform, mergers and acquisitions, listing preparation, and investment and financing roadshows.