III. 3 – Selection of the *researcher(s)*

1. In accordance with the conditions mentioned below, the *beneficiaries* shall select the necessary number of *researchers* according to the objectives of the *project* and the indicative distribution referred to in Annex I.

2. Criteria for eligibility of the *researcher*(s)

To be eligible, each *researcher* must simultaneously fulfil the following criteria at the time of appointment by the *beneficiary* concerned in the frame of this *project*.

a) Nationality

The *researcher* may be a national of a Member State of the *Community*, of an *Associated Country* or of any other *third country*.

b) Mobility

The *researcher* shall not be a national of a State in which the *beneficiary's* research team appointing him/her is located.

In the case of a *researcher* holding more than one nationality, he/she will be able to be hosted by a *beneficiary* located in the country of his/her nationality in which (s)he has not resided during the previous 5 years.

At the time of appointment, the *researcher* may not have resided or carried out his/her main activity in the country of the *beneficiary* for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to his/her appointment. Short stays such as holidays are not taken into account.

As an exception to the general rule, a *researcher* holding the nationality from a Member State or an *Associated Country* can carry out his/her *initial training activities* in his/her country of nationality if s/he can provide evidence testifying that s/he has legally resided and had his/her main activity in a *non –Associated third country* for at least three of the last four years immediately prior to his/her appointment.

These mobility rules do not apply when a *researcher* is appointed by *an international European interest organisation*, an *international organisation* located in any of the *Member States* or *Associated Countries* or the *JRC*.