

Public Summary - 28th e-IRG Delegates Meeting

Copenhagen, March 20th, 2012

*The 28th e-IRG delegates meeting was held under the auspices of the Danish EU Presidency. At the meeting the main elements of the e-IRG strategy were discussed. Other major topics were the progress of the e-IRG policy papers and Task Forces. The document **e-IRG's reaction on the findings and recommendations of the report of the GÉANT Expert Group** was approved.*

Reports and News from the e-IRG

The e-IRG chair **Gudmund Høst** welcomed **Ian Meli** and **Saviour Zammit**, the new e-IRG delegates from Malta. **Gudmund Høst** reported about the meetings he had recently attended in which he gave a presentation on e-IRG. He noted that several South East European countries will probably apply individually for e-IRG membership. **Dana Petcu** has given a presentation at CLOUDSCAPE IV where the interesting discussion afterwards provided input for the Task Force on Cloud Computing. **Rene Belsø** presented at the DC-NET Final Conference e-IRG and discussed e-infrastructure trends. He noted that the cultural heritage community finds it difficult to communicate with e-infrastructure providers about their need for e-Infrastructure services.

News from the Commission

Pekka Karp updated the delegates on Horizon 2020. Horizon 2020 has three action lines for Research Infrastructures (RIs): Development of European RIs, Reinforcing the RI innovation potential and their human capital, and Supporting consistency/efficiency of Member States and EU RI policies. Two EC consultation meetings on e-infrastructures in Horizon 2020 took place (GÉANT; Industry and Innovation) and three more are planned (Open infrastructures for Open Science; Human Capital; Distributed Computing, Grids and Clouds). EC will involve e-IRG in the organisation of the last two. He presented the key policy actions related to the EC Communication on HPC adopted on 15.2.2012. The Communication has been sent to the Council and Parliament and their conclusions will probably be received under the Cyprus EU Presidency. End of March there will be a meeting on the RI Work Programme 2013 dedicated to GÉANT and the expectation is that the GEG report will inspire the outcome. The ICT Work Programme 2013 is being drafted.

Report from the e-IRGSP3

Rossend Llurba reported the main support activities since the previous delegates meeting which included support of: the document "e-IRG's reaction on the findings and recommendations of the report of the GÉANT Expert Group", the Task Forces (Cloud Computing, European Software Strategy), the Blue Paper, the Roadmap 2012 and the Strategy Working Group. The support project was reviewed on 31.1.2012 with assessment "good progress". The recommendations received included three that belong to the competence of e-IRG: use of social media by e-IRG, liaison with FIRE and its projects, and taking into account emerging new directions of ICT infrastructure.

e-IRG Strategy

Gudmund Høst informed that the strategy has been discussed in the Strategy Working Group and the Executive Board as well as informally with DG INFSO. DG INFSO has offered to host a meeting with the Executive Board on the e-IRG strategy. The main elements of the strategy are: strengthening the role of e-IRG as advisory body on e-infrastructures in Europe and as coordination platform for European e-infrastructures. In the discussion that followed it was first established that both the approach, structure and content of the strategy document provided a good basis to discuss upon. The topics of

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discussion were: the stakeholders, increasing the weight of e-IRG policy documents, the global role of e-IRG, engagement with national ministries, and involving experts.

e-IRG Action Plan

Rossend Llurba presented the updated Action Plan and reported the status of the actions. It was decided to remove or postpone until after the summer of 2012 several actions that are not urgent or directly related to the e-IRG policy work.

e-IRG Policy Papers

Fotis Karagiannis reported the status of the **Data Management Blue Paper**. An integrated version will be available in May 2012 for public consultation. The aim is to produce the final document before the June e-IRG delegates meeting.

Gudmund Høst introduced **e-IRG's reaction on the GEG report** with the slides he used at the EC GÉANT consultation meeting which convey the basic message which is also in the paper. He stressed that the paper should go to print quickly. After discussing several topics, the document was approved. It will be printed in A5 format and disseminated.

Anton Frank presented the status of the **e-IRG Roadmap 2012**. The Editorial Board, editors and contributors are in place. There is a first draft of the document structure with proposed topics. A second draft of the Roadmap is planned for June 2012, the pre-final version for public consultation in September 2012 and the final document should be ready in November 2012. Unlike what was done in the previous Roadmap, the topics now address horizontal layers that span all e-infrastructures. It was decided to proceed with the proposed approach and structure and to elaborate in the next draft of the Roadmap 2012 on the data concept and the synchronisation with the Blue Paper on Data Management.

Task Forces

Rosette Vandenbroucke informed that the report of the **Task Force on Cloud Computing** is subject to a final review. The next steps are to first send a complete draft with recommendations to the delegates for their comments, then prepare a final draft which will be sent to a selected group of stakeholders for comments, and to submit the final document for approval at the delegates meeting in June. **Dana Petcu** presented the draft recommendations. It was decided that a new version of the document with draft (bold) recommendations will be sent to the delegates for comments.

Sverker Holmgren reported that while the **Task Force on Scientific Software** had had a slow start now the first draft of the document is planned end April and it will be short, around 20 pages including the recommendations. It will focus on scientific software with as major topic applications.

Activities during the Danish EU Presidency

Rene Belsø mentioned that ICRI 2012 will be the major event during the Danish EU Presidency and that there will be a Future Internet Conference on 10 May in Aalborg. The e-IRG workshop will be on 11-12 June from lunch to lunch in the city centre of Copenhagen. The title of the workshop will be: European Research Infrastructure Strategy.

Activities during the Cyprus EU Presidency

The tentative date for the delegates meeting to be hosted by Greece and Cyprus in Athens is Friday 14 September. The workshop and the second delegates meeting will be held in Amsterdam either end November or begin December.

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