

## Public Summary – 26<sup>th</sup> e-IRG Delegates Meeting

Poznan, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011

The 26th e-IRG delegates meeting was held in Poznan, under the auspices of the Polish EU-Presidency.

### Report and news from the e-IRG

The e-IRG chair **Gudmund Høst** opened the meeting and welcomed **John Boland**, the new Irish e-IRG delegate. Gudmund Høst reported further about the meetings and workshops he had participated in. He highlighted that the comments he raised at the Consultation Workshop on Horizon 2020 and the Common Strategy Framework were integrated in the summary report of the workshop and in the draft documents of the Horizon 2020. Another outcome was that the “Role of the e-IRG should be strengthened”.

During his European Commission visit, Dr Høst was able to make several new contacts with the directors from the EC DG INFSO units and representatives from FET/Flagship projects.

Dr Høst also participated at the e-IPF meeting where he gave a presentation about the e-IRG White Paper 2011. Regarding the roles of and the relationship between e-IRG and e-IPF it was said that it is too early to see what direction this is taking. The e-IPF is composed of ministerial delegates and the e-IRG chair has been taken in as an observer. In parallel to the next e-IRG delegates meeting in Warsaw the ESFRI meeting will take place. Dr Høst suggested exploiting the possibilities for a joint session or a dinner.

### Report from the e-IRGSP3

**Rossend Llurba** reported the main activities of the support team since the previous delegate meeting in Budapest. These activities comprise support during the editing of the e-IRG White Paper and the related recommendations document and their publishing. e-IRGSP3 members supported the Action on e-Infrastructures and the Digital Agenda, while several dissemination activities (newsletters, Budapest summaries) and liaison actions have taken place such as collaboration with the e-FISCAL project. Furthermore several secretariat actions were taken to support the work of the e-IRG.

### News from the member countries

**Piotr Kepski**, delegated from the Polish Ministry, reported that there would be a FET/Flagship projects conference held in Warsaw, Poland. He said the conference would presumably take place on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Neil Geddes**, UK, reported that on October 3rd the UK Minister of Department for Business, Innovation and Skills announced a £145 million boost to improve Britain’s e-infrastructure. The investment will be used to drive growth and innovation in the areas of software development, compute power, data storage, high bandwidth networks, cyber security and authentication, people and skills.

The GÉANT Expert Group has published its report “Knowledge without borders – GÉANT 2020”, which is connected to the Networking Action of the e-IRG Action Plan.

Therefore it was decided to include the report in the agenda of the e-IRG December meeting.

### **e-IRG Action Plan**

A draft version of the document "e-Infrastructures and the Digital Agenda" was discussed. **Kees Neggers**, who acts as the champion for this action item, reported on the draft document produced with the assistance from the support programme. The document refocuses e-IRG recommendations on the Digital Agenda for Europe and its actions by the EC. It was decided that the final document would be sent to the EC Commissioner for the Digital Agenda and copied to relevant EC officials and other important stakeholders such as ESFRI and e-IPF.

The Terms of Reference for the action item on Networking are updated to consider the latest developments such as the GÉANT Expert Group report (see above). Since there were comments on the report expected, the e-IRG will work on this action item with an appropriate team of national experts.

The Terms of Reference document for the next e-IRG Roadmap is expected by end of October and a final version will be presented in June 2012. It was decided that a draft plan will be presented by **Leif Laaksonen** during the delegates meeting in Warsaw.

On the action items IaaS, New User Communities and e-Infrastructure standards landscape little progress was reported. It was decided to reinforce the work on these action items.

### **e-IRG Policy Papers**

The e-IRG recommendations document, which is an excerpt of the e-IRG White Paper 2011 is printed as an A5 booklet and available in the e-IRG website. The Chair thanked **Rosette Vandembroucke** for her efforts.

**Norbert Meyer** reported on the status of the new Blue Paper on Data Management. The document will comprise sections for Data Infrastructures, Reliability, Metadata and Interoperability, Unified Access and Security. It was agreed that the document would be devised specifically to ESFRI and the requirements of the new ESFRI cluster projects. The outcome of the discussions and in particular the topics and conclusions of the e-IRG workshop will be included in the Blue Paper. The topics include Interoperability, Single-Sign-On, Metadata Structures, Unified Access and Governance. It was decided that **Leif Laaksonen** will act as co-chair of this Blue Paper on Data Management Task Force.

### **e-IRG Strategy Development**

e-IRG responds to suggestions, which range from the demand that e-IRG should be more of an action group, to statements from the EC that e-IRG should be strengthened and initiate a strategy development process. During the workshop the first step was taken and an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats was undertaken (SWOT analysis). The following step of the strategy process will be taken during the next delegates meetings.

### **e-IRG Task Force on Cloud Computing**

**Rosette Vandembroucke** reported on the status of the Task Force on Cloud Computing. The resulting draft document will be presented on the e-IRG December workshop and

the final version can be expected for the first delegates meeting during the Danish EU Presidency. The advised document will give a holistic overview on Cloud Computing, comprising a state-of-the-art overview and insights on the influence of Cloud Computing on other developments and initiatives. The document will also contain a proposed set of recommendations on policy level.

### **European Software Strategy**

**Gudmund Høst** introduced the topic, which was firstly brought up from Erwin Laure (PDC, Sweden) during the eConcertation meeting in Lyon. He stated that a European policy and corresponding strategy should be developed in this area. A special focus on Software will be useful since it becomes a separate component of e-Infrastructure. There was broad consensus that this effort is important. During the Danish Presidency this specific topic will also be included in the agenda of the e-IRG delegates meetings and workshop.

### **Activities during the Danish Presidency**

The first e-IRG delegates meeting during the Danish presidency will be hosted back-to-back with the International Conference for Research Infrastructures (ICRI). The e-IRG delegates will be invited to this invitation-only conference. The e-IRG meeting will take place on Tuesday March 20th.

The summer event will be held as lunch-to-lunch workshop together with the Danish NREN. The event will presumably take place in the beginning of June.