Public Summary - 29th e-IRG Delegates Meeting

Copenhagen, Denmark, June 13th, 2012

The 29th e-IRG delegates meeting took place in Copenhagen under the auspice of the Danish EU Presidency. Main topics discussed were the new strategy of the e-IRG and the upcoming policy documents of the e-IRG.

Report from the e-IRG chair and board

In his opening talk **Gudmund Høst**, chair of e-IRG, summarized his activities since the last meeting. He was invited to the EC's Horizon 2020 consultations on e-Infrastructures for Open Science and on Skills and Human Resources for e-Infrastructures. Furthermore Dr Høst visited the department for business innovation and skills of the UK Research Council, the STFC/RAL eScience Centre, DANTE and JANET, the UK NREN. He also participated in the eIPF meeting in Brussels and the ESFRI meeting in Ispra. As an insight of these visits Mr Høst said that there is an increasingly strong focus on dealing with the data deluge and implementing "Open Science". In combination these two issues might be changing the way in which science is done in the future. The challenges for e-IRG itself are the development towards a think-tank on e-infrastructures on global scale, which should be more ambitious and should produce more high-level policy papers.

News from the Commission

Pekka Karp updated the delegates about the three action lines for Research Infrastructures under Horizon 2020. Mr Karp said that decisions on the total Horizon 2020 package would be taken by July 2013. Furthermore Pekka Karp informed about the EC Communications in progress. The Communication "A re-

inforced European Research Area Partnership for Excellence and Growth" addresses optimal circulation and transfer of scientific knowledge and lists short-term actions for the Members States and the EC to accomplish by 2014. The Communication "Towards Better Access to Scientific Information – Boosting the Benefits of Public Investments in Research" and the recommendation "Access to and Preservation of Scientific Information" are both in consultation phase.

Pekka Karp informed that DG INFSO will change into DG for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT, pronounced as DG connect).

News from ESFRI

Bjørn Henrichsen reported the status of ESFRI projects and said that the ministries have given ESFRI the target to implement at least 60% of its projects as institutions by the end of 2015, which is a challenging goal that needs sev-

eral support activities. Mr Henrichsen said that a proposed new and extended mandate for ESFRI includes follow-up of the implementation and prioritisation of the ESFRI Roadmap projects.

Mr Henrichsen said that all projects need e-infrastructures (national or European) but that the current issues are more organisational and funding issues than technical issues.

Report from the e-IRGSP3 support programme

Rossend Llurba reported that the main support activities are related to policy support, i.e. support of: Task Force on Cloud Computing, Blue Paper on Data Management, Reaction on GEG report, Roadmap 2012, Task Force on Scientific Software, and e-IRG Strategy. The other regular activities were support of Chair and Executive Board, support of workshop and delegates meeting, dissemination activities and secretariat activities.

e-IRG Strategy

The e-IRG strategy development process aims at strengthening the role of e-IRG as advisory body but also to establish e-IRG as a coordination platform. Particular attention will initially be given to the use and management of data. In its advisory role, e-IRG should be more ambitious and extend its focus beyond Europe. It was suggested to involve external experts and users in the policy document process. Furthermore e-IRG should be a coordination platform for e-infrastructures, which should facilitate international coordination, integrated services for the users, operational structures to support merging new services and innovation in the data area. The implementation of the new strategy needs further discussion with the EC.

Procedure for election e-IRG Chair

Gudmund Høst explained that his term as e-IRG Chair will end at the 31. December 2012. According to the by-laws a search committee has been established. **Kees Neggers** (Committee Chair), **Norbert Meyer** and **Fiorenzo Scaroni** are nominated as search committee for the election of the next e-IRG Chair.

Observers from data infrastructure projects

Representatives from OpenAIREplus and EUDAT projects will be invited to the next e-IRG delegates meetings as experts. This was decided because data will be the next main topic on the delegates meetings.

e-IRG Action Plan

Christian Straube (e-IRGSP3) presented the status of the e-IRG Action reporting on the changes and the on-going and upcoming actions except for actions being addressed in other agenda items. Three new proposed actions are: Task force on Legal Issues, Social Media and Emerging new directions of ICT infrastructures.

e-IRG Policy Papers

Norbert Meyer reported on the status of the Blue Paper on Data Management. He recapitulated that the ESFRI cluster projects BioMedBridges, DASISH and ENVRI and the projects DC-NET, ITER and PaNdata provided requirements. The aim is to release and present the Blue Paper to the ESFRI council in their meeting on 28.9.2012.

Anton Frank (e-IRGSP3) reported on the progress of e-IRG's Roadmap 2012. The roadmap was aligned with the new e-IRG strategy (in particular being more forward looking and bold in some areas) and covers all current e-Infrastructures (integration aspect) to be in line with e-IRG's mission and strategy. It is planned to approve the final Roadmap 2012 at the December Amsterdam meeting.

e-IRG Task Forces

Rosette Vandenbroucke informed that the current version of the Task Force on Cloud Computing has to be short-ened while at the same time many new documents appear that have to be taken into account. She informed that the aim is to have by the end of July a new version of the report with bolder recommendations.

Sverker Holmgren presented the status of the Task Force on Scientific Software report. He explained that software is essential to exploit e-Infrastructures in an efficient way and that investments in software are comparable to those for hardware, massive parallelism is the near future.

Rossend Llurba introduced the background for putting in place Task Force on Legal Issues for the use of e-infrastructures. According to Mr Llurba there is an urgent need to identify legal and regulatory issues related to the commercial use of (public) e-Infrastructures and for a strategy to address these issues.

Activities during the Cyprus and next EU Presidency

Panos Argyrakis informed that the delegates meeting in Athens could be held on Friday 14.9.2012.

Patrick Aerts explained the ideas for the e-IRG events in December. The workshop will be on 3-4.12.2012 and the delegates meeting on 5.12.2012. A Programme Committee has been established for the workshop that will focus on DATA in all its forms and contexts.

The Chair pointed out that this was **Patrick Aerts** last participation as delegate since he will leave e-IRG on 1.7.2012. He commended Patrick's important contributions to e-IRG since 2004 and thanked him for his engagement.

Jan Wiebelitz