



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

Coordination  
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### **Short summary report of the meeting of the H2020-ICT National Experts' Group** Held in Brussels, 5 September 2013

#### **1. INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The Chair reported on the state of play of the comitology discussions in the Council and their repercussions for the different configurations of the programme committee. He further focused on the mandate and role of the H2020-ICT National Experts' Group.

Delegations raised the following comments and questions regarding the H2020-ICT National Experts' Group's mandate and role:

- The composition of the delegations and the expenses reimbursed (Dutch and French delegations).
- The practical implementation of the discussion on the LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 in parallel with the Inter-service Consultation on it (French delegation).
- The short deadlines to discuss and agree on the LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015, especially given the lack of budget figures in the first draft of the Work Programme that had been circulated (French, German and Spanish delegations). Also detail on the instruments was missing in the first draft (United Kingdom delegation).
- The importance of being kept up-to-date about the other parts in Horizon 2020 where ICT is involved and the possibility to make suggestions about them (Croatian and German delegations).

The Chair confirmed that delegations have full flexibility on their composition. He also said that sufficient time to discuss content, budgets and instruments of the LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 would be foreseen.

The H2020-ICT National Experts' Group will be kept fully informed about ICT in Horizon 2020.

The agenda was adopted with the following points under AOB:

- Horizon 2020 national launch events
- NCP activities following the first call for proposals under Horizon 2020
- PPP on the Future Internet Information Day and Brokerage Event: Presentation
- Future meetings

## **2. HORIZON 2020 LEIT-ICT WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015**

### **2.a. Overall approach and timetable**

The Chair said that the strategic programming for the different work programmes in Horizon 2020 as well as a first version of the H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 had been uploaded on CIRCABC. Three meeting dates had been booked in order to discuss the LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015: 5 September, 23 September and 22 October. At that last meeting a general agreement on the LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 should be reached, in order to be able to provide full information on it at the ICT 2013 Event in Vilnius.

The Chair further said that the next draft of the Work Programme will also contain budget figures. It will be discussed at the meeting of 23 September and delegations will be given the chance to send further written comments until one week after that meeting.

Finally the Chair said that just before the ICT 2013 Event an extra meeting of the H2020-ICT National Experts' Group will be organised. It is not the aim to further discuss the Work Programme at that meeting, but rather its practical implementation.

### **2.b. Detailed presentation on the Horizon 2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 (including links with ICT R&I activities in the other priorities of Horizon 2020) and first exchange of views**

Mr Møller gave a presentation on the Draft H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015. After having given an overall overview on Horizon 2020 – including the different pillars of the programme and its novelties as well as the strategic programming approach – he gave an overview of ICT in Excellent Science and the Societal Challenges.

The main part of Mr Møller's presentation focused on the H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015. He first explained the purposes of industrial leadership and the innovation dimension of the Work Programme. Mr Møller then presented the different areas the Work Programme will concentrate on. For each of these areas he gave more details on the topics that will be covered and also indicated preliminary budget figures.

In the final part of his presentation Mr Møller highlighted the rules for participation and the different instruments that will be used. He also presented the timetable for the next steps to take and for the calls to be published. Mr Møller concluded his presentation by drawing attention to the ICT 2013 Event in Vilnius and underlining its importance.

The following issues on the overall H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 and its position within Horizon 2020 were raised and discussed:

- Several delegations questioned the structure of the Work Programme and stressed the need to clearly explain the synergies and links with the different parts of the Horizon 2020 programme, in particular taking into account that ICT is pervasive in many other areas and therefore present in many other parts of the work programmes discussed by different configurations (Austrian, Belgian,

- Dutch, German, Hungarian, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and United Kingdom delegations).
- In that respect the need for a more detailed introduction of the Work Programme was underlined. Also the need to have precise figures in the Work Programme was stressed (German, Hungarian, Polish, Spanish and United Kingdom delegations).
  - It was asked what the role of DG CONNECT in the governance of projects in Excellent Science and the Societal Challenges will be. It was further remarked that it would be useful to know which CONNECT units will be responsible (German and Spanish delegations).
  - The need for a clear strategy on international cooperation (United Kingdom delegation).
  - It was said that the division between research and innovation is not always clear in the Work Programme. Further, also the risk that industry will totally consume the provided budgets was addressed (Polish and Spanish delegations).
  - As LEIT is industry oriented, the position of countries having less industry was questioned (Hungarian delegation).
  - The need for more clarification on the use of the Structural Funds in conjunction with Horizon 2020 (Portuguese delegation).
  - The question if when making use of the SME instrument, a consortium is required to execute the project or only one partner is sufficient (Portuguese delegation).
  - The need for improvements to the fast track procedures in FET Open (Dutch delegation).
  - The short time for consulting stakeholders at national level and for delivering comments on the Work Programme (Italian and United Kingdom delegations).

The European Commission provided the following answers:

- Compared to FP7, Horizon 2020 has a completely new logic. Through national launch events and the ICT 2013 Event the research community will be helped to find its way in Horizon 2020 and the H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 in particular. A full table of content of the overall work programme, showing how the H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 fits in the overall programme, could be provided as soon as it becomes available.
- The European Commission committed to further elaborate on the introduction of the Work Programme. It also welcomed delegations' comments on it.
- The overall governance of Horizon 2020 projects is being elaborated within the so-called research family (all DGs involved in Horizon 2020). DG CONNECT will co-own the budgets of FET and some of the Societal Challenges. However, the executive agencies will take care of the implementation of these projects.
- For the strategy on international cooperation the European Commission is at this stage following the same logic as for FP7. However, the horizontal configuration will discuss the review of this strategy. Afterwards it will be necessary to also elaborate on the international strategy for ICT.
- It is up to consortia to establish the right partnerships. The European Commission foresees consortia that are combinations of academia and industry and there will be no geographic discrimination. However, in LEIT there should always be industrial partners involved to ensure exploitation. It is important that stakeholders get full information.
- In cooperation with DG REGIO the research DGs are trying to improve the synergies between the Structural Funds and Horizon 2020.

- One single partner can run an SME instrument project without a consortium.
- As stakeholders prefer not to have a gap between FP7 and Horizon 2020 and in order to be able publishing the first calls under Horizon 2020 in December 2013, the proposed time schedule should be followed. It is important to keep working for the H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 in a spirit of transparency. In that respect a second draft of the Work Programme will be provided to the National Experts' Group by 9 September at the latest, in order to engage in a detailed discussion at the meeting of 23 September.

The following issues on the content of the H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015 were raised and discussed:

- It was remarked that it is not totally clear in which pillar of the programme HPC should be addressed (French delegation).
- It was remarked that PCP should rather be addressed in the Societal Challenges (French and United Kingdom delegations).
- It was remarked that there is no clear reason to support the risk financing facility under the LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015, as there is already one dedicated programme with a dedicated budget in the Excellence pillar (French delegation).
- The possibility to do more on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). It was also proposed to put more emphasis on standardisation (Portuguese and United Kingdom delegations).
- The need for more clarification on Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) (Belgian, Hungarian and United Kingdom delegations).
- The question if there will be a separate multi-KET work programme (United Kingdom delegation).
- The need for more information on the plans for big data (Hungarian delegation).
- It was remarked that the Work Programme sets out a general framework for robotics but that the reference documents for this area may still change (Spanish delegation).
- The question how COST actions will be funded under Horizon 2020 (Belgian delegation).

The European Commission provided the following answers:

- Although there will be synergies with the H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme, the work on HPC will be done in the Excellence pillar as part of the FET Proactive initiatives.
- For PCP the European Commission has picked areas that it has judged to be ready for establishment of collaborative procurement. Over time PCP could be addressed in all areas.
- Three areas having possibilities for risk financing have been identified.
- Note was taken of the comments on KPIs. The European Commission invited delegations to provide more input on measurable goals.
- TRLs will be used in sectors where industry is familiar with it. Depending on the main bulk of activities projects will be classified as being innovation or research oriented.
- KETs are covered in the Work Programme, so there will be no separate multi-KET work programme.
- The big data sector is now being dominated by SMEs. The European Commission is looking at possibilities to establish an ETP.

- The definitions of the topics in the Work Programme are stable. The references to the strategic agenda for ETPs are indicative.
- COST actions will be funded under Societal Challenge number 6.

### **3. PARTNERING FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN HORIZON 2020**

Mr Rouhana gave a presentation on contractual PPPs in Horizon 2020. He first sketched the legislative context and the processes followed in setting up the contractual PPPs, including the implications for stakeholders and the assessment of the contractual PPPs that have been proposed so far. Thereafter Mr Rouhana gave a brief description of each of the planned contractual PPPs. Finally, he also focused on the ECSEL JTI.

The following issues were raised and discussed:

- It was remarked that the objectives for robotics and photonics are described very differently in the Work Programme (French and United Kingdom delegations).
- The rationale for using CSAs in the field of robotics was questioned (French delegation).
- The rationale for involving international competitors in the 5G PPP, while Europe seems to be losing its leading role in telecom (French delegation).
- It was asked how the longer term commitment from industry will be ensured (United Kingdom delegation).

The European Commission provided the following answers:

- The European Commission had tried not to be too prescriptive on robotics and had rather focused on the ultimate goals of the contractual PPP. The wording of the Work Programme may be revised, but the European Commission is reluctant to add other areas.
- 5G is the start of a new process which needs to have worldwide impact. Therefore the European Commission is involving international competitors, while at the same time safeguarding IPRs.
- In order to involve industry, PPPs should not be restricted to KETs. Moreover, the European Commission is addressing two KETs in the new JTI and it has proposed a specific strategy for electronics.
- The longer term commitment from industry will be measured at micro-level. For example it will be closely monitored how many jobs are being created.

### **4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **4.a. Horizon 2020 national launch events**

The Chair said that the ICT 2013 Event in Vilnius will be the main launch event for ICT under Horizon 2020. A presentation on this event will be provided at the next meeting of the H2020-ICT National Experts' Group.

The Chair further said that DG RTD will be organising around the time of the adoption of the work programmes high-profile national launch events on Horizon 2020. The European Commission will ensure high-level participation in these events. The Chair added that it is important for delegations to reflect in which national launch events they want ICT to be more/less visible, so that the European

Commission can help in making the content of the national events more adapted to the needs.

Finally, the Chair said that the European Commission could also contribute to smaller events on regional level. Therefore it is important that delegations keep the European Commission updated about the preparation of their events.

#### **4.b. NCP activities following the first call for proposals under Horizon 2020**

Mr Barbagli gave a presentation on the new structure and the scope of NCPs under Horizon 2020. He also focused on the planned trainings.

#### **4.c. PPP on the Future Internet Information Day and Brokerage Event: Presentation**

The Polish delegation gave a presentation on the Information Day and Brokerage Event on the PPP on Future Internet that will be organised in Poznan on 17 and 18 September. It invited all delegations to participate in this event.

#### **4.d. Future meetings of the H2020-ICT National Experts' Group**

##### Meeting of 23 September 2013:

Continued discussion on the H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015.

##### Meeting of 22 October 2013:

Final discussion and agreement on the H2020 LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015.

##### 6 to 8 November 2013:

ICT Event in Vilnius. The H2020-ICT National Experts' Group will meet on 5 November in Vilnius, just before the ICT 2013 Event, to discuss the practical implementation of the LEIT-ICT Work Programme 2014-2015.

**Annex 1 - List of participants at the H2020-ICT National Experts' Group Meeting of 5 September 2013**

<b>Austria (AT):</b>	Mr Walter PRINZ Mr Michaël WIESMÜLLER
<b>Belgium (BE):</b>	Mr Karel GOOSSENS
<b>Bulgaria (BG):</b>	Ms Totka CHERNAEVA
<b>Croatia (HR):</b>	Mr Mario KOVAČ
<b>Cyprus (CY):</b>	Absent
<b>Czech Republic (CZ):</b>	Mr Jiri KADLEC
<b>Denmark (DK):</b>	Mr Christian HOLSTEIN JENSEN
<b>Estonia (EE):</b>	Absent
<b>Finland (FI):</b>	Mr Timo TASKINEN
<b>France (FR):</b>	Mr Frédéric LAURENT
<b>Germany (DE):</b>	Mr Rubén CANTERO-ÁLVAREZ Mr Friedhelm GILLESSEN Ms Andrea KÖNDGEN
<b>Greece (EL):</b>	Absent
<b>Hungary (HU):</b>	Mr Sándor BOTTKA Mr Ferenc KNEISZ Ms Edina NEMETH
<b>Iceland (IS):</b>	Absent
<b>Ireland (IE):</b>	Mr Stephen O'REILLY
<b>Italy (IT):</b>	Ms Paola INVERARDI
<b>Latvia (LV):</b>	Ms Dina BERZINA Mr Atis KAPENIEKS
<b>Liechtenstein (LI):</b>	Absent
<b>Lithuania (LT):</b>	Absent
<b>Luxembourg (LU):</b>	Mr Younis HIJAZI
<b>Malta (MT):</b>	Ms Marie Claire TONNA
<b>Netherlands (NL):</b>	Mr Roy KEESENBERG Mr Wolfgang TOSTMANN
<b>Norway (NO):</b>	Mr Gard JENSSEN Mr Till Christopher LECH

**Poland (PL):** Mr Andrzej GALIK  
Mr Piotr KEPSKI

**Portugal (PT):** Ms Filipa DUARTE  
Mr Carlos SALEMA

**Romania (RO):** Absent

**Slovak Republic (SK):** Mr Martin KLIMO

**Slovenia (SI):** Ms Andreja UMEK VENTURINI

**Spain (ES):** Mr Mariano ALCANIZ RAYA  
Mr Fernando RICO RÍOS

**Sweden (SE):** Mr Bogumil HAUSMAN

**United Kingdom (UK):** Mr Lee VOUSDEN  
Ms Zoe WEBSTER

Commission

<p>Mr Zoran STANCIC (Chair)</p> <p>Mr Eric BADIQUE Ms Annalisa BOGLIOLO Mr Thierry BOULANGE Mr Mario CAMPOLARGO Mr Tom CLAUSEN Mr Max LEMKE Mr Morten MØLLER Mr Khalil ROUHANA Mr Thomas SKORDAS Ms Susan TOURNIS Mr Thierry VAN DER PYL Ms Isabel VERGARA</p>	<p>Mr Alessandro BARBAGLI (ICTC Secretary) Mr Eric CASTEELS (short summary report) Ms Gerda COLLING (secretary) Ms Catherine HODJEFF (secretary) Ms Carine MATHY (secretary)</p>
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