

**The second meeting of the Horizon 2020 Advisory Group on
European Research Infrastructures including e-Infrastructures**

**Tuesday, 8th of April 2014, 10.00h-16.45h
Covent Garden (COV2) – meeting room 5.183**

Summary

1. Welcome and introduction

The Chair Costas Fotakis welcomed the participants, and informed them about the meeting agenda. The new Head of Unit "e-Infrastructure" at the DG for Communications Networks, Content & Technology Augusto Burgueño Arjona was introduced to the Advisory Group members.

2. Update from the European Commission – Next programming cycle

The Deputy Head of Unit "Research Infrastructures" at the DG for Research and Innovation Philippe Froissard presented the timetable for developing Work Programme 2016-2017. Each Horizon 2020 Advisory Group will produce a report summarizing the discussions and responses to seven questions provided in the Consultation paper by the end of June 2014. In parallel, appropriate stakeholder will be consulted. Discussion with member states on defining potential priorities will follow in the second half of 2014 and will be based on the inputs of the Horizon 2020 Advisory Groups. The content of the Work Programme 2016-2017 will be developed based on the list of priorities and further inputs from the Advisory Groups in the Work programme preparation process during the first half of 2015. Adoption and publication of the Work Programme is expected starting with summer 2015.

3. ESFRI presentation

Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph, as the representative of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) in this Group, gave an update on ESFRI, in particular the conclusion of the present prioritisation exercise at the ESFRI meeting in Athens on 1 April, and on the upcoming update of the roadmap. She reported that John Womersley (of the UK's Science and Technology Facilities Council, STFC) had been elected as the new ESFRI Chair in December 2013.

4. e-IRG presentation

Sverker Holmgren, the chair and the representative of the e-Infrastructure Reflection Group (e-IRG), informed the participants about the mandate and work of the e-IRG and explained that the e-IRG's delegates are appointed by Member states and represent widely the competences in the area of e-Infrastructures.

5. Advisory Group reporting on progress

The leaders of four subgroups (Data, Innovation/Cooperation, Sustainability and Evaluation) presented progress in writing the position papers. It was concluded that the draft papers were already of high quality. Comments and suggestions for further improvement will be shared

within the Advisory Group after the meeting, and the final versions of the position papers will be delivered by the end of June 2014.

6. Position Statements' process and the next programming cycle – Discussion

The Deputy Head of Unit "eInfrastructure" Anni Hellman presented seven questions to be answered by the Advisory Group in a single written report by the end of June 2014. This report will contain approximately ten pages and will serve as an input into the European Commission's drafting of the Strategic Programme 2016-2018. Work which has been already done on Position Papers will be used for drafting the answers, and the Individual Position Papers will be added as an Annex to this report.

7. Conclusions and next steps

It was agreed that the next advisory group meeting would take place in Brussels on 18th June 2014.

8. Closing of the meeting

The Chair thanked participants and closed the meeting.

Action points by Sandra Collins

Advisory Group outputs:

1. Sub-groups continue to develop individual position papers
2. Chair, Vice Chair and Rapporteur to edit and deliver the ten-page report
3. Output of Advisory Group by June/July is:
 - Ten pages of recommendations report answering European Commission questions
 - Four major position papers arguing & supporting the recommendations

Suggested structure for a ten-page guideline (one page answer per each question) summarizing the discussions and responses to seven questions provided in the Consultation paper:

- Introduction
- Answer Q1: What is (or are) the biggest challenge(s) in the field concerned which requires immediate action under the next Work Programme? Which related innovation aspects could be targeted?
- Answer Q2: What are the key assumptions underpinning and driving the future developments and expectations for research infrastructures and e-infrastructures, in particular in relation to the challenge(s) identified above (for example, regarding research & innovation, demand side and consumer behaviour, policy needs, or the concerns and expectations of citizens and civil society)?
- Answer Q3: What is the output that could be foreseen, what could the impact be, what would success look like, and what are the opportunities for international linkages?
- Answer Q4: Which are the bottlenecks in addressing these areas, and what are the inherent risks and uncertainties, and how could these be addressed?
- Answer Q5: Which gaps (science and technology, policy) and potential game changers need to be taken into account?
- Answer Q6: In which areas is the strongest potential to leverage the EU knowledge base for innovation and, in particular, ensure the participation of industry and SMEs?
- Answer Q7: What is the best balance between bottom-up activities and support to roadmaps or to the societal challenges? What is the best way to address cross-cutting activities, such as social sciences and humanities, responsible research and innovation including gender aspects, and climate and sustainable development? Which types of interdisciplinary activities should be supported?
- Conclusions

Suggestions from Group

- Identify and stress commonalities (points common to multiple sub-groups)
- Opportunity to input points that are not specific to any sub-group (e.g. political support, international co-operation, gender, etc.)

How to capture recommendations

- Each sub-group leader to consult their group for key points to answer each Q1 – Q7
- Each sub-group leader to send their key points for each of Q1 – Q7
- Suggested guide: 3 key points per Q1- Q7 (= 21 key points per sub-group)
- Full position papers as annexes with more detailed recommendations & justifications
- Ad hoc key points directly to Chair/Vice Chair/Rapporteur

Timeline for a ten page guideline summarizing the discussions and responses to seven questions provided in the Consultation paper:

- Sub-group leaders send 'key points' by May 6th
- Chair/Vice Chair/Rapporteur to edit until 20th May
- Circulate to Advisory Group on 21st May - expecting their feedback by June 2nd
- Chair/Vice Chair/Rapporteur to edit until 15th June
- Meet on 18th June to review, discuss, final edits
- Deliver Final Report by 30th June

Timeline for the Position Papers:

- All to provide feedback to Sub-group leaders by 22nd April
- Sub-groups to edit until 6th May
- Circulate to full Advisory Group on 7th May - expecting their feedback by 20th May
- Sub-group leaders to edit until 3rd June
- Circulate to Advisory Group on 4th June
- Meet on June 18th to review, discuss, final edits
- Deliver 4 Final Position Papers by 30th June