

Final version, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2008

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING**

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- Final assessment of the project work
- Assessment of WP3 activities from deliverables D8 and D9 (October 2008)
- Assessment of WP4 activities from deliverable D11 (October 2008)
- Assessment of WP5 activities from deliverable D13 (October 2008)
- Assessment of WP6 activities from deliverable D14 (October 2008)
- Preparation of the Final contractual report (deliverable D16, December 2008)
- Discussion of the Medium term strategic plan for EuroVO-DCA and Census of European data centres (deliverable D4 and D5, November 2008)
- Assessment of observations and recommendations from the 1<sup>st</sup> Review

**WP leads are reminded that they have to gather information from all partners on their activities in their Work Package**

## **LOCATION**

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The meeting will be held in ESAC, Villafranca del Castillo, Madrid, Spain. Please refer to the directions to get there at: [http://www.esa.int/SPECIALS/ESAC/SEMQFW5Y3EE\\_0.html](http://www.esa.int/SPECIALS/ESAC/SEMQFW5Y3EE_0.html)

The meeting will take place in the room C31. "After going through the security gate, go walking down the road, let the first two buildings on your right, and take the first entrance to the third building (Building C). The meeting room C31 is at the end of the corridor."

## **EXPECTED PARTICIPANTS**

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### Board members:

CNRS	Françoise GENOVA (Project Coordinator)
ESA	Christophe ARVISET
ESO	Paolo PADOVANI (Represented by Evanthia HATZIMINAOGLOU)
INAF	Fabio PASIAN
INTA	Enrique SOLANO
MPG	Wolfgang VOGES
NOVA	Edwin VALENTIJN (Represented by Andrei BELIKOV – NOVA PCT member)
LU	Mike WATSON

### PCT members:

CNRS	Mathias DEPRETZ (Project Manager)
ESA	Pedro OSUNA
INTA	Raul GUTIERREZ
MPG	Jens ZUTHER
NOVA	Andrey BELIKOV
LU	Anita RICHARDS
LU	Jonathan TEDDS (IST representative)

## **DRAFT AGENDA – DAY 1**

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08h30-08h50	<b>Introduction:</b> Objectives of the meeting (F. Genova)
08h50-10h30	<b>Presentation of WP activities during cycle 1 and cycle 2</b> by the WP lead, including relevant activities from <b>all</b> partners (WP1-6: 20' presentation per WP, plus 20' discussion - WP2-2 and WP3-2: 10' presentation, plus 10' discussion).
08h50-09h30	WP1: Management (CNRS)
09h30-10h10	WP2: Definition of European DCA strategy (CNRS)
10h10-10h30	WP2-2: Scientific aspects of the project (CNRS & IST)
10h30-11h00	Coffee Break
11h00-12h00	<b>Presentation of WP activities during cycle 1 and cycle 2</b> (continued)
11h00-11h40	WP3: Support to take-up and implementation of the VObs framework (ESA & ESO)
11h40-12h00	WP3-2: feedback from the VObs framework implementation by data centres (LU)
12h00-13h30	Lunch Break
13h30-15h30	<b>Presentation of WP activities during cycle 1 and cycle 2</b> (continued)
13h30-14h10	WP4: Theory in VObs (MPG)
14h10-14h50	WP5: Coordination with computational grid projects (INAF)
14h50-15h30	WP6: Support to data centres from other European countries (INTA)
15h30-16h00	Coffee Break
16h00-17h30	<b>Medium term strategic plan for EuroVO-DCA</b>
Evening	Dinner

## **DRAFT AGENDA – DAY 2**

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09h00-10h30	<b>Census of European data centres</b>
10h30-11h00	Coffee Break
11h00-11h30	<b>Assessment of observations and recommendations from the 1<sup>st</sup> Review</b>
11h30-12h00	<b>Final update of the Self-evaluation Matrix and Risk Register</b>
12h00-12h30	<b>AOB and wrap-up</b>

## **Review recommendations**

**Recommendation 1:** The project should look at establishing useful metrics of scientific impact, such as the increase in numbers and scope of registered European VO services over the time span of the project. Greater attention should also be paid to the publication impact of the project.

**Recommendation 2:** The panel felt that the intended efforts towards Virtual Observatory encapsulation of astrophysical theoretical modelling were admirable, but recognised the strong technical challenges involved in e.g. creating appropriate data models. The panel suggested that useful contacts may be formed with other groups performing similar research on grid-publication of ensembles of theoretical models, such as the climatology group METAFOR.

**Recommendation 3:** The panel felt that attendance at the first Data Centre workshop was “broad but shallow”, with good national representation, but relatively small numbers of attendees from outside France and Spain. The Consortium should take steps to address this for future events.

**Recommendation 4:** The panel recommended the development of the EuroVO website into a central repository for agreed solutions, tools and procedures to publish data. Clearer support should be given online on how to create a service from a given tool or program (e.g., a list of HOWTO documents).

## **Observations of the Panel of experts:**

The panel commends the strong emphasis on maintaining the scientific relevance of the European VO, with ‘real life’ science examples in the Workshops and promotional materials.

The panel felt that attendance at the first Data Centre workshop was “broad but shallow”, with good national representation, but relatively small numbers of attendees from outside France and Spain. The Consortium should take steps to address this for future events.

The panel recommended the development of the EuroVO website into a central repository for agreed solutions, tools and procedures to publish data. Clearer support should be given online on how to create a service from a given tool or program (e.g. a list of HOWTO documents).

A panel member observed that the Data Centre questionnaire was being distributed rather late in the project, and should perhaps have been sent out at the start.