

**Actions arising from the meeting of the Task Force on instruments
11 January 2002**

Chair P. Kind (RTD-B)

Present M. Bauer (RTD-05), U. Beelitz (RTD-A), E. Colinet (RTD-B2), D. Dambois (RTD-B3), M. Frohn (RTD-A3), J. Fuchs (FISH), F. Gautier (RTD-A3), L. Karapiperis (RTD-B2), K. Kögler (RTD-A4), M. Moller (INFSO), N. Pantalos (ENTR), M. Poinot (RTD-A3), C. Renier (RTD-B2), M. Richards (RTD-G4), E. Rille (RTD-L4), T. Romanova (TREN), K. Rouhana (INFSO), N. Sabatier (RTD-A3), G. Stroud (RTD-A2), G. Van den Brande (RTD-A2)

- ***Communication/information***

Thematic seminars. DG research has decided to organise one seminar per priority thematic area. Seven seminars (including EURATOM activities) will take place before Easter. The objective is to start an interactive dialogue with the user community on the application of the instruments in the field. Each seminar to be organised by the responsible Directorate(s) with the assistance of Directorate B. EC to convene a meeting with the persons in charge of organising the seminars. DG INFSO was offered to nominate a person for joining in.

London Conference on 22 January 2002. The Chairman informed on this important event foreseen as an operational launch of FP6. 500/600 participants are expected. **PK** to give a general presentation in the morning. **PK** and **MF** to take part in parallel sessions organised in the afternoon, on NoE and IP respectively.

Calls for expressions of interest on IP and NoE. Conceived as a means to help focus down on topics for the forthcoming calls. The expected result should enable stakeholders to build new teams, in an informed manner, in time for the calls for proposals to be launched in autumn this year. Timing is tight: calls for EoI to be published soon after Easter. A Task Force has been established to examine how to proceed. Work to start first within DG research, under the chairmanship of A. Mitsos.

- ***Interaction with other Institutions***

Research Group of Council. Discussion of the modified proposal for the rules of participation to start on 14 January 2002.

European parliament. Commissioner Busquin to meet Mrs Quisthoudt-Rowohl, rapporteur for the proposal on the rules of participation, in Strasbourg on 15 January. **PK** and **MF** will be present.

Economic and Social Committee. Second meeting on 24 January to discuss the rules of participation.

- ***Article 169***

Pilot proposals were requested by the Council for early 2002. A Task Force chaired by C. de la Torre is working on possible candidates. The most advanced proposals concern European participation in the international Ocean Drilling Platform programme and the Clinical Trials Platform.

- ***Interaction with FP6 Working Groups***

The outline for the model contract to be distributed by **MR** to the Task Force.

- *Integrated projects*

A list of remaining questions had been drawn up and was discussed. A series of issues were addressed, resulting in the following decisions/actions:

- participants : associated candidate countries are treated on equal footing as Member States: therefore no special conditions need to be foreseen for them;
- training activities: guidance must be provided on how to describe the procedure, training scheme in the proposal; **LK** to consult with RTD-D on this issue;
- financial issues: **ER** and **A3** to work on the list of non-chargeable costs;
- contractual matters: annex I to the contract will contain the detailed implementation plan; further work is required for setting rules regarding subcontracting; matter taken up by the **WG on contracts**.

LK to produce a revised version of the discussion paper. The penultimate draft to be circulated again to the Task Force with a view to finalising the document no later than Monday 21 January. The objective is to release the document and put it on the DG research Europa Website before the London Conference.

- *Networks of excellence*

The chairman gave an oral presentation of the concept. The main “deliverable” of the network is the progressive and lasting integration. Questions still regard the way the level of the grant for integration will be estimated. It should provide enough incentive to overcome barriers, which are not only financial. A draft document addressing these issues to be discussed at the next meeting.

Next meeting, Friday 18 January, SDME 1F, 15:00