

**SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL
RESEARCH COMMITTEE
High Level Group for
Joint Programming**

Secretariat

CREST-GPC 1301/10

NOTE

Subject : **Summary conclusions of the 7th meeting of the High Level Group for Joint Programming (GPC), held in Brussels on 4 December 2009**

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Rolf Annerberg, representative of the Swedish Presidency of the EU.

The High Level Group for Joint Programming (GPC) drew the following conclusions:

1. Outcome of the Competitiveness Council meeting on 3 December 2009

The Chair informed the Group that the Competitiveness Council had adopted conclusions on JP in Europe which contain two parts, the launch of the pilot JPI on combating neurodegenerative diseases, in particular Alzheimer's, and the progress made in JP. In addition he reported that the Council expressed satisfaction with the work of the GPC, in particular on the selection of new JPI themes, and that it looked forward to receiving Commission's input on these themes in a timely manner.

The Commission reassured its continued support to the GPC work and confirmed it would prepare an input on the selected themes, together with the analysis of the relevance and potential existing instruments for meeting the identified challenges, in good time with a view to the adoption by the Council by the end of 2010.

2. Preliminary suggestions for JPI themes

Following the identification and substantiations of the first wave of themes for JPI on 10 November, four new preliminary suggestions for JPI themes were presented, with a view to the decision on the next wave of themes selection:

- a) Demographic change/Health and ageing - living independently and actively in old age (DE)
- b) Enhancing the utility of climate knowledge for decision-making in Europe (DE)
- c) Living with the climate change (FI, AT)
- d) Antimicrobial resistance (SE)

In addition, the Austrian delegation provided information on the state of play of the development of the JPI theme proposal entitled "Future of cities and transport (FoCiT)", and the Spanish delegation on the JPI theme proposal entitled "Water challenges for the changing world".

3. Work Programme of the incoming Spanish Presidency

The ES delegation presented its preliminary work programme for the first semester in 2010. The main focus will be on the work on voluntary guidelines with regard to the Framework conditions, and to continue with the identification and substantiation of JPI themes in accordance with the following tentative timetable:

- Information on the state of play: 20 January;
- Submission of templates;
- Presentation of mature JPI themes proposals: 19 March;
- Refinement of mature JPI themes proposals: March, April
- (poss.) Identification and substantiation of JPI themes: 4 May

A more detailed outline of the incoming Spanish Presidency will be given during the next GPC meeting on 20 January 2010.

4. Framework conditions

The Chair of EUROHORCs and the CH representative, Mr. Dieter Imboden, informed the Group on the state of play of the work on the framework conditions in various EUROHORCs/ESF working groups. According to their roadmap, these groups should provide an interim report to the EUROHORCs plenary in April with a view to the final report during autumn 2010. Mr. Imboden repeated the readiness of EUROHORCs, in cooperation with ESF, to support the work of GPC in drawing guidelines for framework conditions, in particular by reporting on the work done on the framework conditions which are to the interest of the GPC.

At the same time, the incoming Spanish Presidency of the GPC presented its Work Programme which also includes the establishment of voluntary guidelines on the framework conditions which would contain basic principles on which the GPC would base its work. The work on the framework conditions would be organised in different working groups, composed of interested delegations and other relevant organisation.

The question was raised, whether the work on the framework conditions in the GPC context should be done in parallel with the work in EUROHORCs/ESF or should the work start only after EUROHORCS/ESF working groups will have finalised their work. Due to various positions of delegations on how to further engage in developing framework conditions within GPC, the Spanish delegation will prepare a background document with a view to taking a decision on the approach at the next GPC meeting on 20 January.

5. Pilot JPI concerning the combat against neurodegenerative diseases, in particular Alzheimer's

The President of the management Board of the pilot JPI, Prof. Philippe Amouyel, informed the Group of the state of play in establishing the JPI. It was agreed that a regular report on the state of play would be done also during the next semester with a view to drawing the necessary experience for the selection of new JPI themes.

6. The SET Plan in relation to the JPI themes handled by the GPC

The Commission presented the SET Plan to the Group. Following several questions as regards the possible relation of the plan with the JPI themes handled by the GPC, it was agreed to continue to maintain links between relevant JPIs and the SET plan.
