

Final version, 1st September 2008

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

- 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 1st Review

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

LOCATION

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

The meeting will take place in the room A24

EXPECTED PARTICIPANTS

Board members:

CNRS	Françoise GENOVA (Project Coordinator)
ESA	Christophe ARVISET
ESO	Paolo PADOVANI
INAF	Fabio PASIAN
INTA	Enrique SOLANO
MPG	Wolfgang VOGES
NOVA	Edwin VALENTIJN
LU	Mike WATSON

PCT members:

CNRS	Mathias DEPRETZ (Project Manager)
CNRS	Mark ALLEN (IST Chair)
ESA	Pedro OSUNA
ESO	Andreas WICENEC
INAF	Guiliano TAFFONI
INTA	Raul GUTIERREZ
MPG	Gerard LEMSON (TEG Chair)
NOVA	Andrey BELIKOV
LU	Anita RICHARDS

DRAFT AGENDA – DAY 1

08h30-08h50	Introduction: Objectives of the meeting (F. Genova)
08h50-10h30	Presentation of WP activities during cycle 1 and cycle 2 by the WP lead, including relevant activities from all 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)
10h30–11h00	Coffee Break
11h00-12h00	Presentation of WP activities during cycle 1 and cycle 2 (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)
12h00-14h00	Lunch Break
14h00-16h00	Presentation of WP activities during cycle 1 and cycle 2 (continued)
14h00-14h40	WP4: Theory in VObs (MPG)
14h40-15h20	WP5: Coordination with computational grid projects (INAF)
15h20-16h00	WP6: Support to data centres from other European countries (INTA)
16h00–16h30	Coffee Break
16h30-18h00	Medium term strategic plan for EuroVO-DCA
Evening	Dinner

DRAFT AGENDA – DAY 2

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

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.