

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

Secretariat

CREST-GPC 1309/09

NOTE

Subject : **Summary conclusions of the 5th meeting of the High Level Group for Joint Programming (GPC), held in Brussels on 15 October 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. Proposal(s) for a theme for Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) submitted by one or more of GPC members

The following templates with proposals for JPI themes, submitted by 10 October, were presented:

1. Future of Cities and Transport - FoCiT
2. Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change
3. The challenge for cultural heritage: providing protection in response to major change for Europe in a global context
4. Water challenges for a Changing World
5. Health, food and prevention of diet related diseases
6. Living independently and actively in old age
7. Strengthening the European Union Energy Security

Each presentation was followed by the discussion on different aspects of the proposal, concentrating in particular on the fulfilment of the criteria for the identification of JPI themes, as set out in paragraph 9 of the Council conclusions concerning joint programming of research in Europe in response to major societal challenges (doc. 16775/08).

At the end of the discussions the Chair made the following conclusions:

- All presented proposals received a broad support by the Group, although the level of maturity of these proposals varied. Therefore, all proposals need to be further improved as only proposals which are sufficiently well specified and mature can be put forward by the GPC. However, the proposal on "Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change" was set out as a term of reference of a proposal of sufficient maturity to already at this stage fulfil large part of the criteria;
- In order to stimulate the continued development and improvement of JPI proposals, the Presidency, with the support from the Commission, will provide detailed comments for each proposal, structured according to the criteria for the identification of JPI themes.
- To that end, the work of cluster groups will continue.
- The deadline for the submission of revised templates was set for 4 November.
- With a view to the identification and substantiation of proposals by the GPC, all delegations were requested to reflect upon these proposals in particular from the point of view of national priorities as well as availability of resources, including financial, in view of eventual participation in the proposed JPI.
- Delegations were additionally requested to identify their top two priorities out the seven proposals presented above, as a preparation for the next GPC meeting on 10 November, and to facilitate the decision process regarding the first wave of JPI themes to be taken by the GPC at that meeting.
- The aim of the GPC meeting of 10 November is to take decision on a list of not more than three JPI themes. However, it was reiterated that only most mature JPI themes proposals will be identified and substantiated, which means that there is a possibility that fewer or none of the proposals will be put forward by the GPC if not all criteria are fulfilled.
- In parallel, the discussion on the framework conditions will continue.

2. Timetable of GPC activities during the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the EU

The Chair informed the Group about the following activities during the remainder of the Swedish Presidency:

- On 21 October, the Chair will present the state of affairs in GPC at the meeting of the Scientific Forum for International S&T Cooperation (SFIC);
- On 22 October, the Presidency is organising an informal dinner for GPC members and observers;
- Agenda items for the GPC meeting on 10 November:
 - Identification and substantiation of JPI theme(s)
 - SET-Plan (presentation by the Commission)
 - Presentation of the work of the CREST Working group on Knowledge Transfer;
- The Competitiveness Council of 3 December is to decide on the pilot JPI on neurodegenerative diseases, in particular Alzheimer's, and take note of the work done by the GPC on the identification and substantiation of themes;
- The last GPC meeting during the Swedish Presidency will be held on 4 December. Possible agenda items are the following:
 - Outcome of the Competitiveness Council of 3 December;
 - Progress report from the Pilot Joint Programming Initiative on Neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's.
 - Continuation of the discussion on the framework conditions;
 - Presentation of the work programme of the incoming Spanish Presidency.

3. AOB

For clarification purpose as regards the framework conditions for the development and implementation of JPIs, the Chair reiterated that no separate Task Forces will be established within the GPC. However, as agreed at the GPC meeting on 14-15 September, there will be joint Task Forces with EUROHORCs/ESF, in the sense that GPC members and observers are free to send delegates to participate in the work of the appropriate working groups of EUROHORCs/ESF dealing with individual framework conditions, without prejudice of their membership in these organisations. In addition, EUROHORCs will invite other research organisations, as proposed by some GPC delegations, to participate at this work.