



Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca

Direzione Generale per le Strategie e lo Sviluppo dell'Internazionalizzazione
Della Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica
Ufficio III

Prot. n. 07/08

Roma, 11 GEN. 2008

To: European Commission
Cc: EGEE-III Project Manager

On behalf of the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR) I would like to express my strong support to the Italian Grid Infrastructure (IGI) Joint Research Unit, which gathers together the public research institutions and the public consortia which have been active in the field of grid computing, both as resource providers as well as users. The IGI MoU will strengthen the collaboration between the JRU partners and will allow the advancement in the construction of the National e-Infrastructure as an essential component of the European e-Infrastructure for e-Science and open to research in other important application areas such as e-Business and e-Government.

Considering

- That INFN has been successfully coordinating and representing the Italian partners in several EU e-Infrastructure projects and, in particular, in the large EGEE I and II e-Infrastructure ones.

- The close ties between INFN and all the Institutions of the Italian Grid Infrastructure (IGI) Joint Research Unit, as demonstrated by the attached MoU which identifies the framework for cooperation, including the commitment of resource sharing, as well the responsibilities in the distributed operation and management of the resources in accordance with the national and European Grid operation structures and workflows.

- That the IGI JRU is the consequence of the intense collaborative work between the IGI JRU partners in FP6 and national e-Infrastructure projects, through which it has been possible to set up an Italian Grid infrastructure already registered and used by several application domains at the national and European level.

- That at the European level the long term sustainability of the Grid Infrastructure is at the top of the agenda, and a possible solution is based on the creation of National Grid Initiatives with strong coordination and support at the European level, as has been done in the past for the European Network infrastructure.

- That the IGI JRU represents an important step towards a sustainable organization of the Italian Grid Infrastructure, being composed of storage and computing resources provided by the IGI Joint Research Unit partners, with operational responsibility shared between INFN, the coordinating partner, and the other IGI institutions, as defined in the MoU.

Thus we confirm the strong support to the active participation of the Italian Grid Infrastructure Joint Research Unit to the e- Infrastructure EU FP7 program.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR GENERAL
Mario ALI

Handwritten signature of Mario Ali in black ink.

Maria Uccellatore

Handwritten signature of Maria Uccellatore in black ink.