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To the Members of the General Assembly

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Our ref.: AJHD/WM-34
Date: 16 June 2014

- Via E-mail -

Enabling Research WP2014 : Call for Referees

Dear Colleagues

STAC is still developing the process for the Enabling Research proposals assessment, but some preliminary information is given here to help the identification of referees.

Background

In 2013 there were approaching 140 proposals (of which 46 were funded); it would be prudent to allow for 150 in 2014. Assuming that each of these should be refereed equally (STAC may make some pre-selection), and that 3 referees are invited to look at each proposal (allowing for possible problems and still getting more than one opinion outside STAC), this leads to **450 referee-tasks**. If each referee takes on 3 proposals on average this leads to 150 referees, from a) Consortium members and b) international and EU-non-members (identified by STAC). If on average 2 of the referees for each proposal are from the Consortium this leads to a pool of about **100 Consortium referees**, without much contingency (contingency would be provided by asking referees to assess more projects, or by preselection). STAC will allocate referees to projects – this may not use every offered referee, and may also independently request EU referees not nominated by the HoRUs.

More detailed guidance to referees for this very important task will be provided later.

Request

HoRUs are asked to name referees according to the areas of expertise in the attached template (note the use of drop-down menus). More than one expertise is encouraged, and where reasonable more than one topic area to help normalisation. Clearly larger RUs would need to nominate more to achieve an adequate number overall.

The criteria for project selection in the Call for Proposals cover the whole project, feasibility, resources, relevance, etc, as well as scientific and technical aspects, so proposed referees need to be suitable.

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Referees can come from RUs or named beneficiaries of the Consortium (e.g. university departments).

If the referees offered match approximately the distribution of effort across areas of research of the RU, then the overall number of referees per topic area could match the distribution of proposals reasonably.

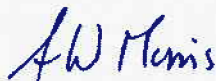
It is assumed that HoRUs will have consulted proposed referees and have confirmed their availability.

Schedule

Deadline for nominations: **Tuesday 1st July**

As in the 6 June Call for Proposals, referees will be sent proposals by the end of July to assess and report by **Friday 12th September** at the latest (there is no scope for slippage on the 12 Sept date).

Sincerely yours



William Morris
Interim STAC Chair



Tony Donné
Programme Manager

*Attached: A single list of competencies
Referee Proposal Form*