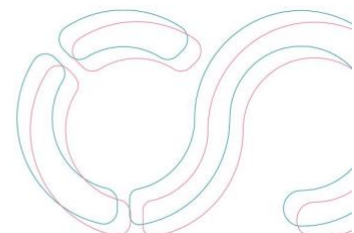


## EOSC Association AISBL 7th General Assembly Meeting Meeting Minutes, released 02/01/2024



<b>Date/Time:</b>	21 November 2023 12:00-14:00 CET (registration) 14:00-17:30 CET (formal part)
<b>Location:</b>	Online Meeting via Zoom All participants receive a personalised link sent by Zoom Events with subject line: "Invitation: EOSC-A / General Assembly #7"
<b>Chair:</b>	Karel Luyben (EOSC-A) <a href="mailto:Karel.Luyben@eosc.eu">Karel.Luyben@eosc.eu</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ute Gunsenheimer (EOSC-A) <a href="mailto:Ute.Gunsenheimer@eosc.eu">Ute.Gunsenheimer@eosc.eu</a>
<b>Invited Guests:</b>	Representatives of the European Commission (EC) and the EOSC Steering Board (EOSC-SB)
<b>Delegates and Observer Representatives:</b>	The list of participating organisations is available in Annex 1
<b>Date of Production:</b>	02 January 2024



[Tuesday, 21 November 2023, 12:00 CET](#)

## BEFORE THE MEETING

### Registration time, 12:00-14:00 CET

Registration opens at 12:00 CET and all participants are requested to identify themselves with a valid ID or passport in a private Zoom breakout room before entering the main online meeting room. During the registration process participants are asked to rename themselves in Zoom to indicate whether they are M - Member Delegate (voting Member), MO - Mandated Organisation Delegate (voting Member), O - Representative (of Observer), G - Guest (all else), B - Board, S - Staff in the format: X - NAME – ORGANISATION

In total, 237 individuals registered their participation in GA#7, and a total of 205 (including support staff and those participants who could not attend the entire meeting) joined the meeting. With a representation of 26 Mandated Organisations and 116 Members, all statutory quorums were met.

## OPENING, 14:00 CET

### Item 01: Welcome and Opening of the General Assembly Meeting #7

The Chair, EOOSC-A President Karel Luyben, opens the 7<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (GA) of the EOOSC Association AISBL and welcomes all participants to the online meeting. He highlights the two voting procedures: only Delegates, i.e., the official representatives of Member organisations have voting rights. Open voting will be done by raising a virtual hand in the Zoom meeting, and anonymous voting will be facilitated by the Votebox voting system in the background.

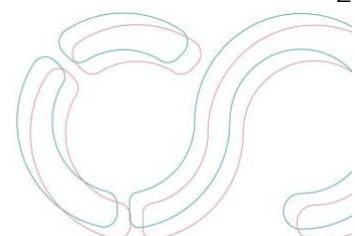
Participants are also informed that their identity as delegates of Mandated Organisations or other Member organisations should be made obvious, and that Observer representatives, guests and Board Members do not have voting rights.

The Chair announces that GA#7 will be recorded, and participants are invited to opt-in to this functionality.

### Item 02: Adoption of Draft Agenda

The agenda items for the afternoon are listed with the message that there will be time for questions and answers after each item as well as during the closing wrap-up item.

The adoption of the agenda is used to test the Votebox system to address issues such as undelivered PIN codes. The Votebox system has been chosen on the recommendation of the German Mandated Organisation National Research Data Infrastructure (NFDI) after the EOOSC-A membership had expressed a clear demand to change from ZEUS, the previously used online voting system, following its use in General Assembly #5.



In line with Art. 3.2 of EOSC-A's Articles of Association, the draft agenda and related paperwork was made available on 01.11.2023. The latest agenda issued 21.11.2023, which was included as part of the registration package, is unanimously adopted by the GA.

### Item 03: Admission of new Members and Observers of the Association incl. short presentation of new organisations

- Paper A - New Members and Observers  
Resignations, provisional members, new Observers, Members changing over to Observers, voting.

EOSC-A Director Ignacio Blanquer notes that 5 Members have resigned as Members to reapply as Observers. 3 Members and 2 Observers were definitive resignations. 3 new applications for Membership, and 1 for Observer status, have been received. One appointment of an existing Member as a Mandated Organisation is noted.

The Board screened all new applications and proposed the list of 3 new Members and 1 new Observer, which met the requirements for Members and Observers in the EOSC-A Articles of Association.

Following brief presentations outlining their motivations, the three provisional Members, [Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin](#), the [European Southern Observatory](#) and [Trust-IT Services](#), and the one provisional Observer, the [Institute for Information Science](#) in Maribor, Slovenia, were all unanimously accepted through a single public vote.

The Board welcomed all the organisations, which are added to [the EOSC-A website](#).

### Item 04: Report of the President and the Secretary General

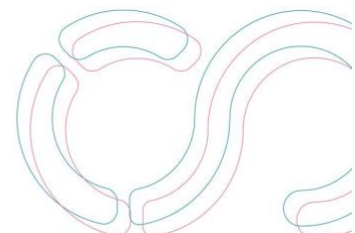
- Paper B – Report of the President and the Secretary General

The Chair, EOSC-A President Karel Luyben, together with Secretary General Ute Gunsenheimer, present the Report of the President and Secretary General (Paper B), which describes the work of the EOSC Association in three sub-sections:

1. EOSC Partnership
2. INFRAEOSC Projects
3. The Association

Not all activities are presented in detail since some will be covered under dedicated agenda items later in the programme.

The report includes a recap of the EOSC Partnership's MoU requirements, according to which EOSC-A must contribute 500 MEUR of in-kind contributions over the lifetime of the EOSC Partnership (2021-2030). The Additional Activities Report (AAR) 2022 shows the impressive result of 292 MEUR of accepted in-kind contributions by EOSC-A members; and the Additional



Activities Plan (AAP) 2024 projects in-kind contributions of 335 million euros for next year. This results in accepted and projected Additional Activities of the EOSC Association membership of approximately one billion euros in the first three years of the EOSC Partnership. These numbers, together with further performance and impact indicators, will be reported in the so-called Biennial Monitoring Report.

Karel Luyben updates the membership about the on-going discussions within the Tripartite Collaboration on the future evolution and operations of EOSC post-2027. EOSC-A has proposed the so-called Option F, which combines Tasks 1, 2 (operations and maintenance) with 4 (development of the operation and the innovation) and advocates for addressing Task 3 (establishment of a web of FAIR data and services) and Task 5 (Open Science policies and practices) in an Open Science programme. This Option will be presented at the upcoming European Tripartite Event in Madrid on 28 November 2023.

EOSC-A Director Bob Jones presents the process and status of the development of the [EOSC Association Board position paper on the EOSC Federation and the role of EOSC Nodes](#). He invites the member base to review the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft version<sup>1</sup>.

Further updates provide a summary on the collaboration with the Data Spaces Support Centre, the 13 National Tripartite Events organised in 2023 and EOSC-A's participation in international events such as the EOSC Symposium. A big effort has been made in fostering collaboration among the INFRAEOSC projects, which resulted in the release of the EOSC implementation Macro-Roadmap and the planning of the EOSC Winter School.

The GA takes note of the Report of the President and Secretary General.

#### Item 05: Election of three Board Members, incl. short presentations of candidates

- Paper C – Directors' Candidacies

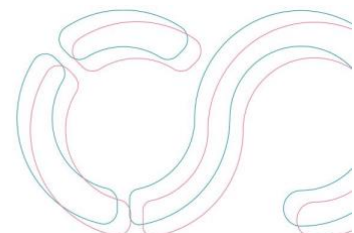
The chair opens the election of three Board Members of the EOSC Association and reviews the procedure for voting. The election of the three Board Members requires a double two-thirds majority. This means that the candidates need to receive two thirds of the votes of all Delegates and also two-thirds of the votes of the Delegates of the Mandated Organisations. He invites the three candidates to present their candidacies.

- Suzanne Dumouchel (CNRS)
- Marialuisa Lavitrano (University Milano Bicocca)
- Klaus Tochtermann (ZBW)

After their self-introductions, the anonymous voting proceeds with 132 members voting. The General Assembly re-elects each of the three Directors for an additional three-year term (2024-2026).

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<sup>1</sup> The document was shared with the membership on 27 November 2023, to provide further feedback and input by 10 December 2023. Informational webinars will follow on 16 and 17 January 2024.



Suzanne Dumouchel	Yes	No	Abstain
MOs	25 (96,2%)	1 (3,8%)	0
Other Members	100 (99%)	1 (1%)	5
Total	125 (98,4%)	2 (1,6%)	5

Marialuisa Lavitrano	Yes	No	Abstain
MOs	24 (96%)	1 (4%)	1
Other Members	97 (99%)	1 (1%)	8
Total	121 (98,4%)	2 (1,6%)	9

Klaus Tochtermann	Yes	No	Abstain
MOs	25 (100%)	0	1
Other Members	101 (100%)	0	5
Total	126 (100%)	0	6

### Item 06: Adoption of the EOOSC-A Internal Regulations (Bylaws)

- Paper D – Internal Regulations (Bylaws)

Following a coffee break, EOOSC-A's new Internal Regulations, previously referred to as "Bylaws", are presented.

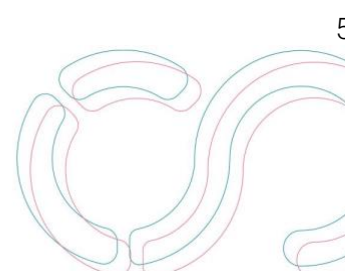
EOOSC-A Director Suzanne Dumouchel recalls the year-long process of drafting the Internal Regulations, which has involved the membership in various stages and formats. After the first draft was presented at GA #6 in May 2023, members were invited to provide feedback over the summer, which was assessed and incorporated in early autumn. The document was finalised by a lawyer to ensure compliance between the EOOSC-A Articles of Association (AoA) and the Internal Regulations.

During the question and answer, Rupert Lueck (EMBL) reports that he missed feedback on what had been done with the comments from the consultation round in the summer, and how that was incorporated into the final draft Internal Regulations on 01.11.2023. Suzanne Dumouchel replies that we understand this, and that this step could have been better handled. Karel Luyben suggests that for similar situations in the future EOOSC-A will hold extra webinars to discuss the comments received.

According to Art. 3.4 of the AoA, the Internal Regulations are a decision-making item that requires a double majority for adoption. With one abstention by one Member delegate, the Internal Regulations are adopted unanimously.

### Item 07: Adoption of SRIA 1.2 and Multi-Annual Roadmap (MAR) 2025-2027

- Paper E – SRIA 1.2 and MAR 2025-2027



The Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) 1.2 and its Multi-Annual Roadmap (MAR) 2025-2027 are presented. The MAR serves to directly inform the Commission's forthcoming work programme for Horizon Europe.

President Karel Luyben presents the process of community co-creation that started over a year ago to inform the establishment of MAR 2025-2027, and to identify the eight priorities for 2025.

There are no questions raised, and the General Assembly unanimously approves SRIA 1.2, including MAR 2025-2027.

### Item 08: Establishment of a new Advisory Group on Data Spaces and Industry

- Paper F – New Advisory Group on Data Spaces and Industry

EOOSC-A Director Ignacio Blanquer advocates for the establishment of a new Advisory Group on Data Spaces and Industry, emphasising its necessity due to the expanding role of Data Spaces in private and public sectors. The purpose of this new Advisory Group is to foster interactions between EOOSC and the Common European Data Space, in accordance with the SRIA objective over the period 2024-2027 to expand EOOSC to industry and the public sector. Creation of Thematic Task Forces is proposed, with the first focusing on health, in part to establish relations with the forthcoming European Health Data Space.

Comments and questions by Chris De Loof (Belnet), Per Öster (CSC), and Etienne Augé (Univ. Paris-Saclay) were taken on board. As with the previous Task Forces, the process for the enrolment of experts and the selection of chairs will be open and clearly explained to the EOOSC-A constituency.

The establishment of the new Advisory Group on Data Spaces and Industry was unanimously approved by the General Assembly.

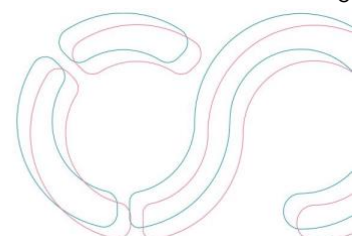
### Item 09: Work Plan 2024

- Paper G – Work Plan 2024

President Karel Luyben and Secretary General Ute Gunsenheimer present EOOSC-A's proposed 2024 Work Plan, which will focus on continuing the work to shape the future of EOOSC post-2027, to align and collaborate with the existing and new EOOSC-related projects, and to systematically work with the community and the EC to arrive at a co-owned EOOSC Partnership SRIA 2.0 by the end of the year.

Key activities are:

1. Tripartite Collaboration & EOOSC Partnership
  - Extend the position paper on Nodes into a handbook with guidelines.
  - Continue discussions with the membership and advocate for EOOSC-A's preferred option (Option F) for the evolution and operations of EOOSC post-2027.
  - SRIA 2.0 draft to begin in January, to be finalised in September/December 2024.





## 2. HE EOSC Partnership

- Continued collaboration with INFRAEOSC projects.
- EOSC Winter School in Thessaloniki.
- EOSC Gravity proposal (response to INFRA-2024-EOSC-01-02): Call for expressions of interest for EOSC-A Members to join the proposal consortium. Interviews conducted, consortium to be in place by December and work on the proposal to start in January.

## 3. Inside EOSC-A

- AAR 2023 and AAP 2025 surveys in Q2 2024. Additional focus on case studies, use cases, and good practices for the EOSC Macro-Roadmap.
- Finalisation of Task Forces (TFs) reconfiguration, drafting of terms of references, call for new members, kick-off of new set of Task Forces before the summer break.
- Establishment of a forum with funding organisations who are members in EOSC-A.
- Engaging with Research Performing Organisations – developing a holistic engagement strategy.
- Consolidating administration and IT infrastructure (migration to Microsoft Teams 365).
- Organising the EOSC Symposium 2024 taking place in Berlin from 21-23 October 2024.

The work plan's extensive elements are discussed. Comments and questions from Gaëlle Decroix (CEA), Philippe Segers (PRACE/GENCI), Eleni Toli (Athena RC) were taken on board and include questions about options post-2027 and future relations with EuroHPC.

The Work Plan 2024 is unanimously adopted.

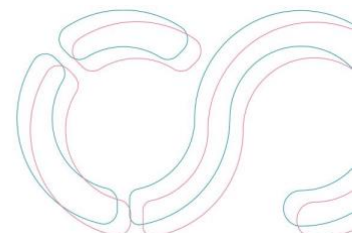
## Item 10: Financial matters

- Paper H-1 – Financial Matters / Balance Forecast 2023 (Information)
- Paper H-2 – Financial Matters / Budget Proposal 2024 (Decision / open voting)

EOSC-A Treasurer Klaus Tochtermann presents the balance forecast for 2023 and reports 2.4 million euros as income. Noted were savings on structural changes in the Secretariat and underspend by the Task Forces and the ESFRI RI Working Group. EOSC-A ends the year with a surplus of 164,000 euros.

Next is the Budget Proposal 2024 projecting 2.7 million euros as income and 2.8 million euros in projected costs. The difference is due to increased input costs, which the surplus of 2023 will cover, resulting in a balanced budget in 2024.

The treasurer mentions that the Association is continuously analysing processes, costs, and reviewing models to optimise costs; structural changes are constantly being identified and implemented into daily work resulting in the outsourcing of some activities, which can make



more financial sense than delegating them to full-time staff; while at other times, activities are consolidated internally, which was done with some communications activities in 2023, in order to increase efficiency.

As a remark, Achim Streit (KIT) notes that 500 euros have been reflected twice in the last table displayed and thus shows a difference of 500 euros in the income. The treasurer acknowledges the error, and the updated budget is available in Annex 2.

The budget is voted upon and is unanimously approved with no abstentions.

#### Item 11: Question & Answers

There were no questions raised by any of the attendees.

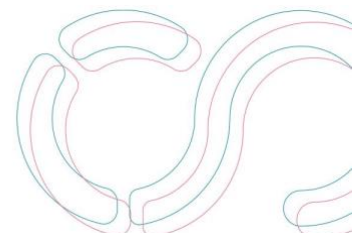
#### Item 12: Wrap-up and closing of formal part

President Luyben expresses his warm thanks to all the participants in GA #7 for their attendance and engagement, and to all those responsible for the meeting's organisation. President Luyben then closes the meeting.

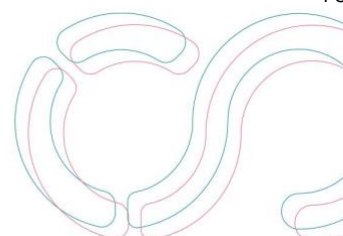


## Annex 1

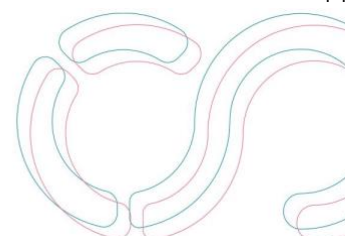
Agentschap Meise Botanic Garden
Akademski in raziskovalna mreža Slovenije
Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna
Area Science Park
Athena - Research and Innovation Center in Information, Communication and Knowledge Technologies
Augstākās izglītības un zinātnes informācijas tehnoloģijas koplietošanas pakalpojumu centrs
Barcelona Supercomputing Center - Centro Nacional de Supercomputación
Belnet
Biobanking and BioMolecular resources Research Infrastructure - European Research Infrastructure Consortium
Bogolyubov Institute for Theoretical Physics of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
Centre Informatique National de l'Enseignement Supérieur
Centro de Investigación Ecológica y Aplicaciones Forestales
Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas
CERIC-ERIC
CESNET
Chalmers tekniska högskola Aktiebolag
CLARIN ERIC
Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique et aux Energies Alternatives
Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research (CESAER)
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche
Consortio para la Construcción, Equipamiento y Explotación del Laboratorio de Luz de Sincrotrón
Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives
Coöperatie SURF u.a.
Consortium GARR Association (Gestione Ampliamento Rete Ricerca)



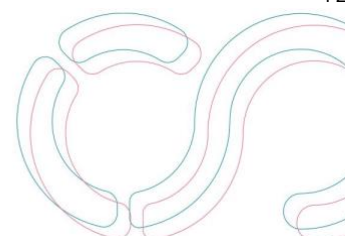
CSC - IT Center for Science Ltd
Data Archiving and Networked Services - Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation)
Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY
Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.
Digital Research Alliance of Canada
EGI Foundation
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich (ETH) / Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich
Elsevier B.V.
Entidad pública empresarial Red.es
ERINHA AISBL
ESRF
EURO-BIOIMAGING ERIC
European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
European Federation for Medical Informatics
European Food Information Resource AISBL
European Mathematical Society
European Molecular Biology Laboratory
European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere
European Organization for Nuclear Research
European Social Survey European Research Infrastructure Consortium
European Spallation Source
European Synchrotron Radiation Facility
EU-XFEL
Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research in Europe GmbH
Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek Vlaanderen (Research Foundation Flanders)
Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
Foundation for Science and Technology
Fundacion Publica Gallega Centro Tecnológico de Supercomputación de Galicia
Gdańsk University of Technology
GEANT Association



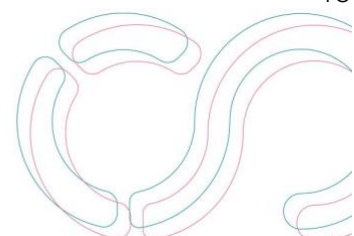
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Stiftung Öffentlichen Rechts
Ghent University
Governmental Agency for IT Development (Kormányzati Informatikai Fejlesztési Ügynökség)
Grand Equipement National de Calcul Intensif
Graz University of Technology
GSI Helmholtzzentrum für Schwerionenforschung GmbH
Hasselt University
HEAnet CLG
Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin für Materialien und Energie GmbH
Illes Balears Health Research Institute foundation
Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale / National Institute for Health and Medical Research
Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et Automatique/ National Institute for Research in Digital Science and Technology
Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry - Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center
Institute of Geophysics Polish Academy of Sciences
Institute of Information science - IZUM
Institute of Physics Belgrade
Institutul National de Cercetare-Dezvoltare in Informatica - ICI Bucuresti
Instruct Integrated Structural Biology Infrastructure in Europe
Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica - National Institute for Astrophysics
Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare
Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia
Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale
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Jisc LBG
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
Karolinska Institutet
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven



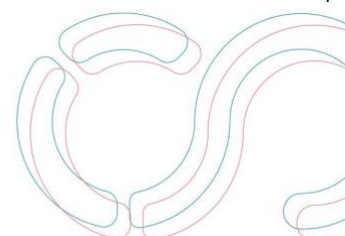
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Linnaeus University
Łukasiewicz Research Network – Institute of Innovative Technologies EMAG
Lund University
Masaryk University
Miller International Knowledge
National Center for Scientific Research
National Infrastructures for Research and Technology - GRNET S.A.
National Library of Technology
National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment (INRAE)
National Science Centre
Nationale Forschungsdateninfrastruktur (NFDI) e.V.
Norwegian University of Science and Technology
Observatoire de Paris - PSL
Open scholarly communication in the European Research Area for the Social Sciences and Humanities
open science for open societies - os4os gemeinnützige UG (haftungsbeschränkt)
OpenAIRE
Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe
Politecnico di Milano
Politecnico di Torino
Premotec GmbH
Research Council for Sustainable Development, Formas (Sweden)
Research Data Alliance Association AISBL
Rīga Stradiņš University
Scuola Internazionale Superiore Di Studi Avanzati
Scuola Normale Superiore
SIB Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics
Sikt - Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research
Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information
Sofia University "St.Kliment Ohridski"
Spanish National Research Council
Stichting LIBER



Stockholm University
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Swiss National Science Foundation
SWITCH
Technical University of Denmark (DTU) - Danish e-Infrastructure Cooperation (DEIC)
Technical University of Ostrava
Technische Universität Wien
Technische Universiteit Delft
The Extreme Light Infrastructure ERIC
The International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers
The Israel Science Foundation
The Research Council of Norway
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey - Turkish Academic Network and Information Center
The University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway
TIB Leibniz Information Centre for Science and Technology
Trust-IT
Umeå University
Unitatea Executiva pentru Finantarea / Invatamantului Superior, a Cercetarii, Dezvoltarii si Inovarii
Universidad de Córdoba
Universidad Internacional Isabel I de Castilla
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid
Universidade de Vigo
Università degli studi di Milano-Bicocca
Università degli Studi di Padova
Università degli studi di Torino
Università del Piemonte Orientale
Università di Pisa
Universität Wien (University of Vienna)
Universite de Bordeaux (Bordeaux University)
Université de Lorraine
Universite Paris Nanterre
Universite Paris-Saclay
Universiteit Antwerpen
Universiteit van Amsterdam
Universitetet i Oslo



University of Bergen
University of Coimbra
University of Gothenburg / host university for the Swedish National Data Service (SND)
University of Graz
University of Strasbourg
University of Tartu
University of Warsaw
University of Zagreb University Computing Centre
University Ss Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, Faculty of computer science and engineering
Uppsala University
Verein zur Förderung eines Deutschen Forschungsnetzes
Verein zur Förderung eines österreichischen, wissenschaftlichen Datennetzes
Vetenskapsrådet - Swedish Research Council





Annex 2: Corrected budget to be inserted.

	Planning 2024
<b>1 - Personnel costs</b>	<b>1.857.980,98</b>
<b>2 - Office-related</b>	<b>228.934,44</b>
Office supplies and other costs	43.500,00
IT support + License fees	60.521,29
Office Rent and insurances	124.913,15
<b>3 - Financial management</b>	<b>39.450,00</b>
Financial and legal advice	35.350,00
Publication	4.100,00
<b>4 - Communication activities</b>	<b>202.344,85</b>
Communications	32.019,85
EOOSC Focus Communication activities	170.325,00
<b>5 - Event and Travel</b>	<b>484.453,37</b>
General Assembly	85.000,00
F2F Board meetings	4.000,00
EOOSC Symposium 2024	237.500,00
Travel and representation	45.000,00
EOOSC Focus event and travel	22.750,00
National tripartite events	20.203,37
Task force activities	70.000,00
<b>7 - Income</b>	<b>+ 2.701.500,00</b>
Membership fees	+ 1.630.000,00
Observer fees	+ 174.000,00
EOOSC Focus Grant	+ 740.000,00
Registration fees EOOSC Symposium 2024	+ 157.500,00
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2.813.163,64</b>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>+ 2.701.500,00</b>
<b>Result</b>	<b>- 111.663,64</b>
Compensated by the reserve	+ 111.663,64
<b>Budget Balance</b>	<b>0,00</b>

