



Prof. Eshel Ben Jacob - *The Maguy-Glass Chair in Physics of Complex systems*

Tel: 972 -3- 640 7845 Fax: 972-3-642 5787

April 17th, 2011

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Letter of support: the FutureICT Flagship

With this letter I wish to express the full support of myself and the Tel-Aviv University (TAU), Tel-Aviv, Israel, to the FutureICT Flagship Initiative headed by Prof. Dirk Helbing of the ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

TAU is the largest research university in Israel, with over 30,000 students and 7000 graduate students. TAU is funded both by the government and private institutions and research funds. It has recently been announced that TAU is ranked 11th in the world for in citations per faculty in 2010, alongside the Ivy League universities in the U.S. and the leading universities in Europe.

In TAU, I head a multi-disciplinary research group for the study of complex systems. I am known worldwide for my various research interests, ranging from bacteria decision-making, social intelligence, social networks, and swarm intelligence to pattern formation, multi-agent modeling, neuroscience and econophysics. I currently lead two international initiatives - the Distributed Information Processing in Complex Biological Networks initiative, and the Italy-Israel Initiative on Integrative Network Neuroscience.

As a result of our successful research in the field of econophysics, analyzing correlations and network structure in capital markets, we have established a prosperous collaboration with the Israel Securities Authority (ISA), the regulators of the stock market in Israel. Furthermore, we are acting as the representatives in Israel of the Socio-Economic systems division of the German Physics Society (DPG). Our research focuses on understanding the structure and dynamics of capital markets, by the analysis of correlations. In this context, we are involved in many collaborations, such as with the group of Prof. Rosario Mantegna (Italy) and Prof. Thomas Lux (Germany).

With this letter I confirm my enthusiastic support for the proposed FutureICT Flagship Initiative. I am looking forward to actively participate in the flagship, in all aspects which are in my capacity.

Sincerely,

Eshel Ben - Jacob.

Eshel Ben-Jacob

Professor of Physics

Maguy-Glass Professor in Physics of Complex Systems

Former President of the Israel Physical Society

Fellow of the American Physical Society

Fellow of the World Institute of Physics