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Prof. Steven Bishop

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Brussels, 24 April 2012

Subject: letter of support for the FuturICT FET Flagship proposal

Dear Professor Bishop,


I am writing to express the interest of the Funding Organisation F.R.S.-FNRS for the FET Flagship proposal "*FuturICT: Global Computing for Our Complex World*" that is now entering the final stage of its pilot phase.

F.R.S.-FNRS is the main funding body for basic research in the French-speaking Community of Belgium. It supports individual researchers and research teams by providing grants, fellowships and scientific prizes. F.R.S.-FNRS fosters research in all scientific fields, following a bottom-up approach of investigator-driven research.

Our organisation is already funding several scientific groups in support of FuturICT related research activities in ICT, complexity science and the social sciences. In the future, we can carry on funding this type of interdisciplinary research by supporting individual researchers in the field as well as by awarding grants for collaborative research projects in compliance with our bottom-up approach of open competition between scientific fields.

Whilst we are not in a position to offer firm financial commitment to the FET Flagship proposal "*FuturICT: Global Computing for Our Complex World*" at this stage, we will closely monitor the outcomes of the "*FuturICT*" Coordination Action in order to explore the possibility of joining the resulting Flagship Initiative.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Ir. Véronique HALLOIN
Secretary-General