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Prof. Dr. Dirk Helbing
Chair of Sociology, in particular of Modeling and Simulation
Clausiusstraße 50
8092 Zurich
Switzerland

Of.178 - REIT/2012

09-05-2012

Dear Prof. Helbing,

Re: Letter of support for the FuturICT project

I herewith wish to express the full support of Universidade de Aveiro (UA) to the FuturICT Flagship Initiative, which is coordinated by Prof. Dirk Helbing of ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

University of Aveiro (UA) was created in 1973 by Government Decree and, in 2009, became a public foundation operating under private law. UA has transformed itself into one of the most dynamic and innovative universities in the country. With more than 14.500 students distributed for 231 undergraduate, postgraduate and post-secondary courses, UA has now 16 Academic Departments and 4 Polytechnic Schools which work together in an inter-disciplinary manner according to their academic and research affinities. UA is a place for research, where innovative products and solutions are developed to contribute to the advance of science and technology. It is a privileged partner for companies and other national and international organisations with which the University cooperates in numerous projects and for which it provides important services. In the specific research area of Future ICT, the University of Aveiro has groups with expertise that match with FutureICT goals, as well as specific infrastructures and other research facilities.

Universidade de Aveiro intends to contribute to FutureICT's goals with its most talented researchers and students. It is expected that about 30 researchers and students will participate on FutureICT related projects. Due to the importance of FutureICT project and its relevance to UA mission we intend to contribute with about 1.5 M € for a three year period to the development of FutureICT related projects within the Universidade de Aveiro. Nevertheless, the Universidade de Aveiro retains the right to withdraw its intentions if changes in economic climate or in the University financial position occur or any other situation that would necessitate the University of Aveiro reconsiders its intentions.

Yours faithfully,

Professor José Fernando Mendes

(Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral School)