

15th PRACE Council Meeting
4 February 2015, Cyprus

With respect of the decision for item number 6 in the agenda of the 15th PRACE Council Meeting:

“Decision Proposal: The Council endorses the document presented by the Strategy WG and asks this WG to produce a new version taking into account the input of the Council Members until middle of March 2015.

After the round table, held during the Council meeting, in which each delegate expressed comments on the proposed model for PRACE 2.0, it was agreed that each delegate is expected to provide comments and expectations related to the document “PRACE 2.0 Proposal” within the agreed deadline. It is now remarked the importance to focus the contributions on the topics that were highlighted as still open points and that need a more accurate elaboration to achieve a common vision.

Tier0. The current definition of PRACE 2.0 Tier0 system needs more elaboration in order to address at the same time the ambition of maintaining the level and quality of the PRACE infrastructure and of ensuring the affordability of the investments of the potential PRACE 2.0 Hosting Members.

OPEX. Many interventions underlined the need to define more precisely the composition of the OPEX costs and the need of transparency and auditability, also considering the economical efficiency of such a costs.

Predictability of contributions. The proposed model bases the calculation of the OPEX shared “quotas” that each member has to cover on GDP and past usage of each country. It is still to be defined the preferred solution between the two possibilities:

- re-calculating year by year the contribution due by each country, on the basis of updated GDP and updated past usage
- maintaining the contribution of each country fixed along the Agreement duration, ensuring the predictability of the contribution and not taking into account possible variations of the two parameters, GDP and past usage.

Besides the previous points, some more topics have been remarked during the Council session discussion as still open issues, in particular:

- The way to improve the collaboration between the members of the PRACE AISBL;
- The assessment of the PRACE impact for the improvement of the competitiveness of the European research and socio-economical ecosystem;
- The way to involve the European Commission;
- The evolution of the PRACE access model;
- The perimeter and the effectiveness of the involvement of the industries (either as technology providers, either as end user).