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NOTE

From: Commission
To: Council
Subject: Open Science
- Information from the Commission

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Commission on the above-mentioned subject with a view to the Competitiveness Council on 29 November 2016.

COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL 29.11.2016

AOB POINT : OPEN SCIENCE

In April 2016, the Commission published its vision for a **European Open Science Cloud** in the Communication: European Cloud Initiative (COM(2016) 178 of 19.04.2016).

The European cloud initiative aims to develop a trusted, open environment for the scientific community for storing, sharing and re-using scientific data and results across disciplines and borders – the European Open Science Cloud. It also aims to deploy the underpinning super-computing capacity, the fast connectivity and the high-capacity cloud solutions via a European Data Infrastructure (EDI), which should support the EU to rank among the world's top supercomputing powers by realising exascale supercomputers, based on EU technology. Finally the communication proposes to gradually extend the user base of the European Open Science Cloud and European Data Infrastructure to public sector and to industry.

The initiative has received broad support by the scientific community, in line with a strong tradition of data sharing in key disciplines like high-energy physics, life science, earth sciences, etc.

The Commission is determined to lead by example, for instance by making data produced in Horizon 2020 open by default, and by funding key e-infrastructures.

In cooperation with Member States and stakeholders, the Commission will explore appropriate governance and financing mechanisms for the Open Science Cloud and the European Data Infrastructure and define an implementation Roadmap. In this context, the Commission intends to propose how the different sources of financing at EU and national level could be blended in order to realise the objectives of the initiative in full.

The **Open Science Policy Platform** was established in May 2016 and the members of the Platform were announced at the Competitiveness Council in May 2016 by Commissioner Moedas.

The Platform consists of 25 leading representatives of European Branch Organisations including, European university associations, academies of science, research funding bodies, research performing organisations, citizen science organisations, scientific publication associations, open science platforms and European (research) library organisations. The Open Science Policy Platform met for the first time on 19 September 2016. The Commission has had an initial exchange with representatives of the Platform on the issues of Open Access to scientific publications and data; the European Open Science Cloud, and research integrity. The Open Science Policy Platform will also address other issues, including rewards for researchers, altmetrics, the future of scholarly publishing, Citizen Science, open education and skills and FAIR open data.

The following meetings of the platform are scheduled to take place on 9 December 2016 and on 20 March 2017. On 9 December 2016, the Platform is expected to address the issues of the governance and funding of the European Open Science Cloud. On 20 March 2017 a report of an Expert Group on altmetrics will be reviewed.

