

# **Memorandum of Understanding**

## **Nordic Data Grid Facility**

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as “MoU”) is entered into effective as of April 2006, by the CSC-Scientific Computing Ltd. of Finland, the Danish Natural Science Research Council, the Research Council of Norway and the Swedish Research Council, hereinafter collectively referred to as “the Parties”.

### **Background**

The Joint Committee of the Nordic Natural Science Research Councils (hereinafter referred to as “NOS-N”) agreed in 2002 to support a pilot project with the purpose to set up an inter Nordic Data Grid test facility, NDGF. After a two years pilot period NDGF was mandated to propose a Nordic Grid infrastructure and an organization to manage and develop Grid for scientific computing in the Nordic countries. In 2005, the NDGF steering committee together with the NDGF director presented a report covering the results achieved since the beginning of the project and a proposal for a future organization. An international evaluation panel was mandated to make an in depth analysis of the proposal and report its findings to NOS-N. The evaluation took place during Spring 2005. The evaluation panel’s overall recommendation was to pursue the activity of establishing a common Nordic Grid infrastructure as proposed jointly by the four Nordic countries. Following the evaluation, NOS-N recommended the Parties to fund a full scale Nordic Data Grid Facility from 2006 to 2010.

### **Article I**

The Parties agree to fund, in equal shares, the NDGF with 941.000 EURO in 2006 to cover the expenses of NDGF in this period. The funds should be paid to the host institution of NDGF according to the decisions by NDGF-SB. The Parties intend to fund, in equal shares, NDGF with 1.883.000 EURO per annum for the years 2007-2010.

The Parties will initiate a preliminary evaluation of NDGF during 2007, including the technical progress, organisational structure and choice of host institution. An in-depth evaluation of NDGF will be initiated during 2009.

The host institution of NDGF undertakes to administer the funds. In the case of Denmark, Norway and Sweden the respective national research councils party to this MoU will pay the funds. In the case of Finland the funds will be paid by the Finnish Academy for 2006 and by the Ministry of Education for 2007.

### **Article II**

The Parties hereby agree on the Terms of Reference of the Nordic Data Grid Facility Steering Board, hereinafter referred to as “NDGF-SB”, see Annex 1 to this document.

### **Article III**

The terms of this MoU shall be from the date first herein set forth until 31. December 2010.

The law of the country where the host institution is situated shall apply to this MoU. This MoU has been executed in four equally valid copies, one for each party.

In witness whereof the Parties have executed this MoU as of the date first herein set forth. By executing this MoU, each individual signatory warrants that such signatory is duly authorised to execute this MoU for the party on whose behalf the signatory signs.

At all times of this MoU, the Parties agree to cooperate with one another and to use their reasonable best efforts to resolve by mutual MoU any dispute or difference between them and all other difficulties that may arise from time to time concerning their respective obligations under this MoU.

Any dispute form or relating to this MoU shall be resolved by a binding arbitration under the Danish Act of Arbitration before a panel of one arbitrator. Such arbitration shall be held in Denmark or a mutually agreeable location.

Date:

CSC-Scientific Computing Ltd.

The Danish Natural Science Research Council

The Research Council of Norway

The Swedish Research Council