



Press Release

Three Billion Euro Programme launched to boost European Research on Nanoelectronics

Paris, February 4, 2008 – Today the ENIAC Joint Undertaking has been officially established, marking the start of the research programme adopted by the European Council to strengthen European competitiveness in Nanoelectronics. This unique Europe-wide public-private partnership combines funding from industry, the European Commission, and the Member and Associated States over a 10-year period.

Representing a major development in the funding schemes of European research programs the ENIAC Joint Undertaking is expected to mobilize up to three billion Euros for R&D projects in Nanoelectronics. More than fifty percent will be financed by industry and the other R&D organisations participating in the association AENEAS (Association for European NanoElectronics ActivitieS). The remainder will be contributed by the European Commission for up to 16.7 percent of the total, leveraging supplementary funding from the Member States, 14 of which have already signed up to the initiative. The first call for R&D project proposals will be issued in Q2 of 2008.

Directly derived from the research priorities defined in the ENIAC Strategic Research Agenda, projects will focus on the application areas of mobility and transportation, health, energy, communication, education and entertainment, and security, taking into account the demand for constant innovation in these key segments and the need for a short time to market for research results.

“We welcome the start of the ENIAC Joint Undertaking, as the fulfilment of the new comprehensive public-private approach that will increase the competitiveness of Europe in the field of Nanoelectronics,” commented Alain Dutheil, Chairman of the ENIAC European Technology Platform and newly appointed President of AENEAS, “Now that the Joint Undertaking has been launched, it is time to move to the implementation phase and transform the ENIAC Strategic Research Agenda into strong industrial research projects. To this effect the joint funding from the European Commission and the national states will provide additional resources for R&D in Europe and accelerate the development of this critical cooperation and research initiative.” Alain Dutheil concluded: “Large enterprises, innovative small and medium enterprises, and research centres and organisations throughout Europe will all play key roles and we invite all R&D players in Europe to join AENEAS and participate in this new opportunity and challenge”.

About ENIAC and AENEAS

To allow and prepare a coherent, Europe-wide development in leading-edge technologies, the European Commission established the European Technology Platforms.

ENIAC (European Nanoelectronics Initiative Advisory Council) is the European Technology Platform for Nanoelectronics. Its mission is to identify the research issues essential for ensuring Europe’s “knowledge” leadership in this area, and to define a Strategic Research Agenda, bringing together all European key players in Nanoelectronics along the common roadmap of this Agenda. The realisation of the identified research topics will be done in the ENIAC Joint Undertaking (ENIAC-JU), a public-private partnership between the European Commission, Member and Associated States, and European R&D performers in Nanoelectronics being organised in the AENEAS Association.

ENIAC was launched in 2004: the Strategic Research Agenda was released in 2005. More than 50 Stakeholders from the semiconductor industry, equipment & materials suppliers, users companies and research centres actively participated in the Platform, while Universities are represented through the ENIAC Scientific Community Council.

Since mid 2007 the members of the platform are participating in AENEAS (Association for European NanoElectronics ActivitieS), a non-profit association carrying forth the mission and activities of ENIAC. Participation in AENEAS is open to all European key players in Nanoelectronics, whether large industry, small and medium enterprises, research institutes, academia, associations or natural persons. AENEAS members have the opportunity to actively contribute to defining the future contents of the ENIAC Strategic Research Agenda.

European R&D performers in Nanoelectronics associated to AENEAS will also participate in the ENIAC Joint Undertaking, a public-private partnership with the European Commission, Member States and Associated States. The aim of this partnership is to implement key parts of the ENIAC Strategic Research Agenda in the frame of the Joint Technology Initiatives, a major new mechanism in the European Framework Programme. Implementation is expected to start in a few months.

More information on the ENIAC technology platform and AENEAS can be found at

<http://www.eniac.eu>

http://www.eniac.eu/web/aeneas/aeneas_ex.php

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