

10th May 2002

Invitation to submit a joint Expression of Interest to the European Union Research Initiative under the EU/IST 6th Framework Programme

As you may already be aware, the Management of the European Union 6th Framework Programme¹ under the Information Society Technologies (IST) Research Projects has set the date of 7th June 2002 as the deadline for submitting a so called Expression of Interest (Eoi) document.

In our capacity as holding the chairmanship of the Partnership Project MESA² Technical Specification Group for Radio Access (TSG RA) it is therefore the pleasure of Helsinki University of Technology³ herewith to take the initiative to address interested industrial entities with a view to producing a joint Eoi in time to meet the deadline, and open the opportunity for a subsequent establishment of a Research Consortium under this programme.

It is our experience that interested industrial corporations vastly can optimize the chances of having a particular research item enjoy promotion in a later firm proposal by including it in the Eoi document. A firm Integrated Project Proposal will be due in the autumn of 2002. The proposing consortia might also include organizations outside the European Union.

The events of 11th September 2001 created the awareness that new internationally deployable communication technologies are needed. MESA is a Transatlantic Partnership Project between ETSI⁴ and TIA⁵. It aims to develop technical specifications for a new advanced wireless technology concept that will be able to support a set of new and hitherto unknown applications first and foremost aimed at the PPDR⁶ Sector but also at the wider context of the United Nations Humanitarian Relief Section.

For example, a MESA system would be able to assist law enforcement agencies in combating internationally organized crime, improve efficiency of medical and rescue workers and in general be applied in areas where public telecommunication infrastructure and supply of electrical power might not exist or has been destroyed.

From a technical perspective MESA is a very challenging project. It will require the application of the latest technological achievements and also considerable research efforts.

It is our hope, but also our expectation, that an aggressive and visionary Research Consortium addressing these challenges will be considered by the IST Evaluation Committee and thereby contribute to the development of future wireless communication systems.

Project MESA will be considering research projects within the areas of:

- 1) Ad hoc wireless network
- 2) Broadband wireless systems with high level of mobility
- 3) Adaptive network protocol and signal processing/coding techniques
- 4) Spatial processing and Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) systems with smart antennas
- 5) Ultra Wideband Techniques

Please feel free to add other relevant research items to this list.

We must have your positive response back before Monday 3rd of June in order for us to prepare the Eoi paperwork. Please send your inputs to mesa@projectmesa.org

Best regards

Adrian Boukalov, Chairman MESA TSG RA
Helsinki University of Technology
abuadrian@netscape.net

¹ see www.cordis.lu/fp6/eoi-instruments/

² www.projectmesa.org

³ www.hut.fi/English/

⁴ www.etsi.org

⁵ www.tiaonline.org

⁶ Public Protection and Disaster Relief (Official ITU-R acronym)