Working rules
for the Scientific Steering Committee of the
“PARTNERSHIP FOR ADVANCED COMPUTING IN EUROPE AISBL”
(PRACE)
BACKGROUND:

A. These working rules regulate the functioning of the Scientific Steering Committee as provided in article 24 of the Statutes.

B. Words and expressions used in these working rules in capital letters have the same meaning as the definitions set out in article 1 of the Statutes of the Association, in case of contradiction between the working rules and the Statutes, the Statutes shall prevail.

C. These working rules were approved during the Scientific Steering Committee’s meeting of the Association on (DATE).

Art. 1

Notice of Meetings

(1) As provided in Art. 24.1 of the Statutes, the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee shall call Scientific Steering Committee’s meetings.

(2) The meetings shall be called at least ten business days in advance by email. Nevertheless a meeting of the Scientific Steering Committee is validly called with shorter notice, providing a simple majority of the members of the Scientific Steering Committee agree to waive the ten days prior notice. The day when the notice is posted and the day of the meeting shall not be taken into account when calculating this period. For the purposes of these working rules, “business days” refer to working days in Belgium and exclude Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays.

(3) The notice shall set out the place and time of the meeting as well as the items on the agenda and, if applicable, motions to be voted on. The documentation for the meeting as far as possible shall be sent together with the notice of the meeting (i.e. ten business days in advance) and no later than three business days before the meeting as specified in Art.2 (4).

(4) The meetings of the Scientific Steering Committee shall take place at the registered office of the Association or, considering its international scope, at any other location indicated by the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee in the notice, even if outside Belgium, provided, in such case, it does not prejudice the right of any member of the Scientific Steering Committee to attend the Scientific Steering Committee.

(5) The meetings of the Scientific Steering Committee may also take place through
videoconferencing or teleconferencing systems and the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee will be responsible for ensuring the integrity of the communications. The meetings of the Scientific Steering Committee may also take place in writing. Decisions taken by videoconference or teleconference are deemed to come into force on the date of the meeting. Decisions taken in writing are deemed to come into force on the effective date mentioned in the circular letter.

(6) The ordinary Scientific Steering Committee meetings shall be held at least once every six months. The Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee shall be obliged to call an extraordinary Scientific Steering Committee meeting upon request and for legitimate reasons by a simple majority of the members of the Scientific Steering Committee.

(7) Inasmuch as the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee does not fulfil his obligation to call a meeting, the Vice-Chairman and also each member of the Scientific Steering Committee shall be authorized to call a Scientific Steering Committee meeting.

Art. 2
Chair, Procedure

(1) The preparation of the meetings is the responsibility of the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee, or of a member of the Scientific Steering Committee appointed by the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee.

(2) In the event that the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee is unable to attend the meeting, the Vice-Chairman shall replace him/her. In the event that the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee and the Vice-Chairman are unable to attend the meeting, the Chairman shall be replaced by one of the members of the Scientific Steering Committee attending the meeting appointed by the members of the Scientific Steering Committee for such purpose.

(3) The Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee shall set the agenda and decide on the order in which items on the agenda are discussed as well as on the mode of voting subject to Art.3 (4) and the order of voting.
(4) Items that have not been communicated by the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee in writing (including by email) at least three business days before the meeting may be discussed if approved by a simple majority of the members of the Scientific Steering Committee.

(5) As a rule, the Scientific Steering Committee meetings are private. The presence of the members of the Council and of the Board of Directors shall be permitted; however, they shall not have the right to vote. Members of the Scientific Steering Committee may suggest the invitation of guests to a Scientific Steering Committee meeting by informing the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee in writing (including by email) at least eight business days in advance of the presence of guests, including name and reasons for their presence. The Chairman shall inform the Scientific Steering Committee of any proposed guests at least five business days in advance of the meeting and the attendance of each guest shall be permitted provided it is agreed in advance of the meeting by a simple majority of the members of the Scientific Steering Committee. The guests shall be listed in a separate record of attendance filed together with the minutes of the meeting. Guests shall not be entitled to put forward motions or vote.

(6) The Scientific Steering Committee shall oversee all aspects of the work of the Access Committee and shall receive regular reports about the work carried out by the Access Committee from the Chairman of the Access Committee, who is a member of the Scientific Steering Committee. The reports shall include the outcomes of each Call for Proposals for access to PRACE resources.

Art. 3

Resolutions

(1) The Scientific Steering Committee shall constitute a quorum if at least a majority of members of the Scientific Steering Committee are present.

(2) Each member of the Scientific Steering Committee shall have one vote. Resolutions are passed, as a general rule, by simple majority of the votes of the members of the Scientific Steering Committee attending the meeting. A tied vote shall mean that a motion is rejected. Abstentions, blank or mutilated votes shall not be counted in the
votes cast.

(3) As a rule, motions shall be decided upon in an open vote. Votes in face-to-face meetings shall be conducted by a show of hands. In telephone and video conference meetings, the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee can ask each one of the members of the Scientific Steering Committee for their vote for each one of the decisions. A secret vote may be conducted upon request by any member of the Scientific Steering Committee entitled to vote. This request must be introduced at the latest at the beginning of a meeting. In the case of a tele/videoconference, secret votes should be communicated to the Chairman, eg by phone or email, before the end of the meeting.

Art. 4
Minutes of Meetings

(1) Minutes of the meetings of the Scientific Steering Committee shall be kept at the registered office of the Association. The Board of Directors of the Association will be responsible for preparing and writing the minutes of the meetings. These minutes shall be signed by the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee and by the member of the Board of Directors of the Association responsible for writing the minutes of the meeting. The draft minutes shall contain the place and day of the meeting, the participants, the items on the agenda, the essence of the discussions and the resolutions. The draft minutes shall be forwarded to each member of the Scientific Steering Committee no later than ten business days after the meeting. Amendments to the minutes can be sent up to ten business days before the next Scientific Steering Committee meeting.

(2) The draft minutes of the meeting, as the case may be with the amendments suggested, if any, shall be approved at the subsequent meeting of the Scientific Steering Committee.

Art. 5
Mandate of the SSC Members

(1) As provided in Art. 22.2 of the statutes, the duration of the term of the members of the SSC is two years, renewable twice consecutively for the same period of time.
(2) The duration of the mandate of The Chairman of the SSC, is one year, and then, the Vice Chair should become the Chair. Hence, the SSC shall select a new Vice Chair every year. During every Chairman transition period, the replaced SSC Chairman, the new SSC Vice Chair and the new SSC Chairman (former Vice Chairman) will work together to guarantee the transition and shift of information.

(3) In the event an SSC member is not attending for two consecutive meetings the Chair shall contact that member in order to verify that the conditions for the fulfillment of member's commitment still exist.

Art. 6

Entry into force of the working rules

These working rules shall enter into force on DD.MM.YYYY.

By delegation of the Scientific Steering Committee meeting of [DATE]

Name, first name:
Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee