



Athens, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007

## PRESS RELEASE

### ATHENS POLICY-MAKERS WORKSHOP FOR E-INFRASTRUCTURES IN SOUTH-EAST EUROPE

The **Policy-makers Workshop** for e-Infrastructures in South-East Europe, organized by the **European Commission SEE-GRID-2 project** (South-East European GRID e-Infrastructure Development), will take place in Greece, on February 21<sup>st</sup>. More specifically, the Workshop, which will be hosted by the **Greek Research and Technology Network (GRNET)**, will be held in Divani Caravel Hotel, in the center of Athens.

The workshop aims to bring together key policy-makers of South-East European governments supervising the development of electronic infrastructure in their countries, as well as leaders in e-Infrastructure implementation activities in these countries. The objective of the workshop is to involve these key players in a dialogue and exchange of experience regarding the current status of e-Infrastructure and help pave the way for a future common vision and strategy.

The workshop will include keynote address by high-level European Commission representatives leading the EC electronic infrastructure activities, followed by presentations of country-level activities in e-Infrastructures, and will conclude with an open discussion regarding regional vision and common strategy.

**SEE-GRID-2** <http://www.see-grid.eu> is an initiative carried out within the European Commission's Sixth Framework Program under Research Infrastructures and aims to assist the participation of the South-Eastern European (SEE) states to the pan-European and worldwide Grid initiatives by establishing a Grid infrastructure that will expand and support the European Research Area in the region. The initiative is coordinated by the Greek Research & Technology Network and the project consortium consists of representatives from National



Grid Initiatives of Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Hungary, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, FYR of Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro, Moldova, Croatia, as well as CERN in an advisory role. The project has established National Grid Initiatives in all countries in the region, developed the regional Grid infrastructure, and is currently supporting more than 20 end-user applications from more than 10 different scientific fields.

The Greek Research and Technology Network operates as the driving force of the Greek Information Society. It supports the research and development of Information and Communication Technologies within Greece and internationally, through the provision of its high-capacity networking and grid computing infrastructure, the strengthening of e-Learning & e-Business practices, as well as the participation in international research and education efforts. GRNET operates under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Development ([www.grnet.gr](http://www.grnet.gr)).

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