



EuroHPC JOINT UNDERTAKING
DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EuroHPC JOINT
UNDERTAKING

No 65/2024

Endorsing the assessment of the Executive Director on the selection of the
Destination Earth project as initiative receiving access time to EuroHPC
supercomputers for being strategic for the Union for the years 2025-2026

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EuroHPC JOINT UNDERTAKING,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 of 13 July 2021 on establishing the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking and repealing Regulation (EU) 2018/1488¹, in particular Article 17(8) thereof,

Having regard to the Statutes of the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking annexed to the Regulation (thereinafter "Statutes"), in particular Article 1(o) thereof,

Having regard to the Council Regulation (EU) 2024/1732 of 17 June 2024 amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 as regards a EuroHPC initiative for start-ups in order to boost European leadership in trustworthy artificial intelligence²,

Having regard to Governing Board Decision No 02/2022 of 14 June 2022 approving the definition of specific rules to grant access time for initiatives considered as strategic for the Union,

Having regard to Governing Board Decision No 30/2022 of 3 November 2022 endorsing the assessment of the Executive Director on the selection of the Destination Earth project as initiative receiving access time to EuroHPC supercomputers for being strategic for the Union,

Having regard to Governing Board Decision No 05/2023 of 1 March 2023 approving the amendment of Decision of the Governing Board No 30/2022 of 3 December, by allowing Destination Earth project to access MeluXina Supercomputer,

¹ OJ L 256, 19.7.2021, p. 3–51.

² OJ L, 19.6.2024, p. 1-5.

WHEREAS

- (1) Pursuant to Article 1 of Governing Board Decision No 02/2022 of 14 June 2022 any initiative considered as strategic for the Union in the meaning of the Regulation shall be granted access time for the use of EuroHPC systems free of charge, where appropriate, and without a call for expression of interest.
- (2) According to Recital (51) of the Regulation, the Destination Earth project is recognized as strategic initiative for the Union. The Destination Earth project is an ambitious initiative of the European Union which aims to develop a high-precision digital replica of our planet. Its purpose is to create a digital twin of the Earth that will make it possible to interactively explore various natural processes and human activities.
- (3) By means of Governing Board Decision No 30/2022 of 3 November 2022 and Decision No 05/2023 of 1 March 2023, the Governing Board endorsed the assessment of the Executive Director on the selection of the Destination Earth project as initiative receiving access time to EuroHPC supercomputers for being strategic for the Union. The Destination Earth project was allocated with 50 % of the total resources for Strategic Initiative allowed by the Regulation, 5 % of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking compute time on the three requested pre-exascale systems (LUMI, MareNostrum 5, and Leonardo) and 3,5 % of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking compute time on the requested petascale system: MeluXina.
- (4) The commitment to the access time allocated as described in Recital (3) is valid until the end of 2024.
- (5) On 1 October 2024, the Executive Director received an official request from the applicants to allocate access time for the Destination Earth project to the EuroHPC pre-exascale systems (LUMI, MareNostrum5, and Leonardo), the EuroHPC petascale system (MeluXina), and EuroHPC exascale system (JUPITER) when the system will be available for the users.
- (6) The Executive Director assessed, as a first step, the relevance of the submitted request and submitted his conclusions to the Commission.
- (7) Following the positive opinion of the Commission on the eligibility of the request as being the strategic nature of the initiative, the Executive Director assessed in a second step the request on the technical criteria. The Executive Director provided the assessment to the Governing Board.
- (8) On the basis of the Executive Director assessment and the conditions attached for the applicant special access to EuroHPC systems, the Governing Board shall take a decision on endorsing the assessment.
- (9) The Governing Board discussed the assessment during its 43rd meeting and on this basis, the Governing Board

HAS DECIDED THE FOLLOWING

Article 1

Following the assessment of the Executive Director on the selection of the Destination Earth project as an initiative receiving access time to EuroHPC supercomputers for being strategic for the Union and the conditions included therein, the Governing Board endorses the assessment under the following base

- a) EuroHPC Joint Undertaking shall commit 50% of the total resources for Strategic Initiative allowed by the Regulation to the Destination Earth project, meaning 5% of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking compute time on the three requested pre-exascale systems: LUMI, Leonardo, and MareNostrum5; and 5% of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking compute time on the requested petascale system: MeluXina; and 5% of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking compute time on the requested exascale system: JUPITER, when the system will be available for users.
- b) The applicant shall be allowed to use the remaining 50% access time until any other Strategic Initiative is accepted to receive access time to any of the requested systems. This also applies to the ongoing Strategic Initiatives.
- c) The relevant EuroHPC hosting entities and Destination Earth shall collaborate with the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking to find appropriate access arrangements for maximum efficiency of resources, including by ensuring regular and sustained use of the resources granted by this Decision, while minimizing any impact on other users.
- d) This commitment will be valid until the end of 2026, but it can be adjusted downwards if the project fails to fill its assigned time on any of the mentioned systems.
- e) The applicant should commit to ensure that the following wording is added to all Destination Earth project dissemination activities: “We acknowledge the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking for awarding this project access to the EuroHPC supercomputer [*insert*], hosted by [*insert*] in [*insert*] through a EuroHPC JU Special Access call”.

Article 2

The Executive Director shall inform the applicant of the conditions for granting access in the terms specified in its assessment and indicate in Article 1 of this Decision.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Luxembourg, on 27 November 2024.

For the Governing Board

Rafal Duczmal

The Chair