Short report COPRAS IST2004 Networking Session (N66)

"A more efficient way of cooperation between IST research projects and standardization"

16th November 2004; meeting room 'Zonnebloemen'

1	**Welcome; overview of the background & goals of the COPRAS project by the Chairman of the COPRAS Steering Group**	09:15
	John Ketchell opened the networking session and asked the participants, some of whom were representing projects in call 1 (e.g. SPIDER-WIN, INSPIRED and aceMedia), to introduce themselves. Following this, he briefly introduced the COPRAS project, its background and links with the ICTSB, as well as the general benefits for IST projects from closer cooperation with standards bodies and the current status of the project.	
2	**Short introduction of the COPRAS consortium partners (CEN, CENELEC, ETSI, World Wide Web Consortium & the Open Group) by their respective representatives.**	09:25
	Following the general introduction of COPRAS, the represented consortium members gave a short overview of their organizations' backgrounds, standardization areas, working methods, membership structure and interest in COPRAS. At the end, the Chairman briefly introduced W3C, who could not be present at the networking session.	
3	**Overview of the results achieved during the 1st 9 months of the COPRAS project by the Project Manager**	09:55
	The results of COPRAS' first steps addressing projects in call 1 were presented by the Project Manager. He specifically focused on the participation and outcome of the 14th October kick-off meeting and emphasized COPRAS' clustering policy, based on the fact that projects across different Strategic Objectives may still address similar standardization issues. Also he highlighted the results achieved in the kick-off meeting's break-out sessions	

	and the overall conclusions, as well as the follow up steps that will lead to the definition of standardization action plans, either with individual or with clustered projects.	
4	**Presentation on different steps towards standardization by Mr. Scott Hansen of the Open Group** Finally, Scott Hansen presented some of the benefits of interoperability (e.g. through standards) and the use of open processes in standardization. Also he gave an overview of the different ways in which COPRAS could support IST projects, highlighting for example the benefits of certification programs as well as the fact that, through the COPRAS consortium partners, IST projects have access to thousands of organizations and companies active in ICT and ICT standardization.	10:10
5	**Input from participants: contributions, questions, answers, & discussion** Although limited time was available for questions and discussion, COPRAS' objectives and goals were generally greeted with enthusiasm and several valuable responses were received from the audience: - Despite the obligation to deliver output to standards bodies, only an estimated 5% of projects were actually doing this due to: i) a lack of awareness among projects; ii) a lack of confidence to participate in standardization processes and; iii) a lack of means and resources. - The 'standardization gap' at the end of a project's lifetime may be shortened by COPRAS but additional actions are most likely necessary to address all aspects of this problem in a comprehensive long-term manner. - Several projects may not have a clear view of their standards-related output at the beginning of their lifespan and may want to interface with COPRAS at a later point in time, although they were not capable of participating in the kick-off meeting. - Given that COPRAS is going to produce generic guidance material, it would be helpful if this could eventually be translated into the national languages in the EU to help this material to achieve its goals. - The question how to address interfacing between IST research and standardization more structurally in FP7 may need additional attention and discussion, involving for example the Commission and the COPRAS consortium partners; an Information Day, specifically focusing on standardization and addressing project proposers may also be helpful in this respect, as may some additional 'standardization coaching activity' during the course of the projects.	10:20
6	**Close**	10:35