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Chinese, European researchers to collaborate on Grid research

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EUChinaGrid, a research proposal for interconnecting the Grid infrastructure in Europe and China for the benefit of E-Science applications, has been approved by European Union recently. To make preparations for its formal initiation in January 2006, a meeting was held by Italian and Chinese researchers on Nov. 14 in Beijing.

With the support from the 6th Framework Program of EU, the project will be jointly implemented by researchers from Italy, Poland Greece and China. It will be coordinated by the CAS Institute of High Energy Physics with the participation of Peking University, Beihang University and the CAS Computer Network Information Center from the Chinese side.

E-Science refers to the large scale science that will increasingly be carried out through distributed global collaborations enabled by the Internet. Typically, a feature of such collaborative scientific enterprises is that they will require access to very large data collections, very large scale computing resources and high performance visualisation back to the individual user scientists. The Grid is an architecture proposed to bring all these issues together and make a reality of such a vision for e-Science.

With the support from the China National High-tech R&D Program (the 863 program), a test-bed for Grid technologies, the China's' National Grid (CNGrid) has been developed. Many Scientific collaborations are already active between European and Chinese researchers in the field. The project will make a step forward supporting the creation a pilot intercontinental Grid infrastructure which will strengthen the existing scientific collaborations and promote new collaborations in E-Science between the two sides.

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