

Declaration of Principles relating to EUREKA
adopted at Hannover, 6 November 1985

EUREKA was established by a Conference of Ministers of 17 countries and Members of the Commission of the European Communities, meeting in Paris on 17 July 1985.

Meeting in Hannover on 5 and 6 November 1985, Ministers of 18 countries and a Member of the Commission of the European Communities agreed as follows:

I. Objective

The objective of EUREKA is to raise, through closer cooperation among enterprises and research institutes in the field of advanced technologies, the productivity and competitiveness of Europe's industries and national economies on the world market, and hence strengthen the basis for lasting prosperity and employment: EUREKA will enable Europe to master and exploit the technologies that are important for its future, and to build up its capability in crucial areas.

This will be achieved by encouraging and facilitating increased industrial, technological and scientific cooperation on projects directed at developing products, processes and services having a world-wide market potential and based on advanced technologies.

EUREKA projects will serve civilian purposes, and be directed both at private and public sector markets.

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II. Focus and criteria

1. EUREKA projects will initially relate primarily to products, processes and services in the following areas of advanced technology: information and telecommunication, robotics, materials, manufacturing, biotechnology, marine technology, lasers, environmental protection and transport technologies.

EUREKA will also embrace important advanced technology research and development projects aimed at the creation of the technical prerequisites for a modern infrastructure and the solution of transboundary problems.

2. EUREKA is open to all efficient capacities including those existing in small and medium-sized enterprises as well as in smaller research institutes, in which many of the innovative technological products and processes are initiated.
3. The exchange of technologies between European enterprises and institutes is a prerequisite for a high technological standard of European industry. EUREKA projects will encourage and enlarge this exchange.
4. EUREKA projects will satisfy the following criteria:
 - Compliance with the objectives set out above,
 - cooperation between participants (enterprises, research institutes) in more than one European country,
 - some identified expected benefit from pursuing the project on a cooperative basis,
 - the use of advanced technologies,
 - the aim of securing a significant technological advance in the product, process or service concerned,
 - appropriately qualified participants - technically and managerially,
 - adequate financial commitment by participating enterprises.

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III. General conditions

1. EUREKA will receive suitable support by the Governments of the participating countries and by the European Communities.
2. The establishment of a large homogeneous, dynamic and outward-looking European economic area is essential to the success of EUREKA.
3. Completion of the internal market of the European Communities and the implementation of the Luxembourg declaration between the European Communities and EFTA countries will therefore benefit EUREKA.

In particular this means that EUREKA should lead to an acceleration of ongoing efforts to

- elaborate joint industrial standards at an early stage,
 - eliminate existing technical obstacles to trade, inter alia by the mutual recognition of inspection procedures and certificates,
 - open up the system of public procurement.
4. The European Communities and the Governments of the countries participating in EUREKA will examine the possibility of additional supportive measures for EUREKA.
 5. Actions in the framework of EUREKA will be carried out in accordance with the principles of international free competition.

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IV. Project implementation and co-ordination

1. The projects

- 1.1 EUREKA projects will be prepared by an intensive exchange of information among enterprises, institutes and - where appropriate - potential users. In this context the establishment of industrial fora in certain sectors could help to identify possible EUREKA projects.
- 1.2 Governments and the Commission will support the exchange of information so as to inform all interested parties of (envisaged projects.
- 1.3 EUREKA projects finally will result from the consultations among relevant parties. The enterprises/institutes concerned will carry out the projects in groups chosen by them.
- 1.4 The parties to a EUREKA project will determine the form of co-operation according to the specific requirements. The parties will likewise be responsible for determining the nature of the project management and for providing their own administrative support.
- 1.5 The enterprises/institutes participating in a EUREKA project will finance the project from their own funds, the capital market and any public funds made available to them.
- 1.6 Governments of countries of enterprises/institutes participating in an agreed project, and the Commission of the European Communities when appropriate, will establish its compliance with the objectives and criteria laid down for EUREKA. They will then jointly inform the

Conference of Ministers through the High Representatives meeting as a group. Such information will include a project description, an analysis of compliance with the objectives and criteria of EUREKA, and an indication of any additional measures involving third parties. Projects requiring such additional measures may be discussed by the High Representatives on the request of any one of them. The procedures will be reviewed in the light of the experience gained.

- 1.7 After such notification EUREKA projects should, however, remain open to other parties, should the project partners so desire.

2. Organization

- 2.1 The co-ordinating body is the EUREKA Conference of Ministers. Its members will be representatives of Governments of the participating countries and of the Commission of the European Communities.

At the end of each meeting the Conference of Ministers will choose the chairman of the next meeting. The chairman will ensure continuation of the work.

It will be the responsibility of the Conference of Ministers to develop further the substance, structures and goals of EUREKA and to assess the results.

- 2.2 High Representatives of each of the participating countries and of the Commission of the European Communities will meet when necessary as a group in order to assist the Conference of Ministers in carrying out its tasks and prepare its meetings, including a briefing on projects to be notified to the Conference of Ministers.

The chairman of the group will have the same nationality as the chairman of the next Conference of Ministers.

The High Representatives, in accordance with national procedures, will make suitable arrangements to

- promote the necessary flow of information in their own country,
- arrange contacts between enterprises and institutes in countries participating in EUREKA, provide the requisite information and promote the implementation of projects,
- inform the other High Representatives and point out sectors, technologies, products or services for which there is a declared interest in co-operation,
- provide the other High Representatives with information on the preparation of EUREKA projects,
- discuss with other High Representatives solutions to any problems and exchange views on project funding.

Meetings of the High Representatives concerned may be held to discuss specific projects.

2.3 A small and flexible EUREKA secretariat or task force under the responsibility of the EUREKA Conference of Ministers will be established to enhance the transparency and efficiency of EUREKA^{*)}. Among its tasks will be

- to collect and to disseminate information, thus offering the services of a clearing house
- to assist enterprises and institutes in establishing contacts with partners for EUREKA projects

*) The High Representatives acting as a group, are requested to discuss ways of setting up such a secretariat by the end of January 1986.

- to give support to meetings of the Conference of Ministers and of the High Representatives
- to provide for continuity in the tasks to be performed.

The composition of the Secretariat should reflect the participation of EC and non-EC members in EUREKA. The relationship with the European Communities as well as possible support by industry from participating countries should be taken into account.

V. Relationship between EUREKA, the European Communities and existing European co-operative arrangements

1. EUREKA projects are not intended as a substitute for existing European technological co-operation, such as programmes sponsored by the European Communities, COST, CERN, ESA projects, bilateral or multilateral co-operative projects, or its further development. Their purpose is instead to extend or supplement it.
2. The European Communities may participate as a partner in EUREKA, e. g. through their own research capacity, research and development programmes and financial facilities.
3. The creation of suitable general conditions in the European Communities and in the participating countries concerned and of an environment conducive to technological co-operation is a particular prerequisite for success of the EUREKA initiative.