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GÉANT Community Committee Terms of Reference

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1 Terms of Reference

Aspect	Summary
Name of Committee	GÉANT Community Committee (GCC)
Purpose	<p>The main role of the GCC is to guide and steer the GÉANT Community Programme (GCP) and be the spokesperson of the GCP to the Board and GA to periodically raise and discuss community programme priorities. Its objectives are outlined in the section below.</p> <p>The GCC meets annually with community activity representatives to evaluate the GCP and advise on future activities. Sub-groups of the GCC may advise on specific components of the GCP.</p>
Composition	<p>The membership of the GCC includes leaders of GCP activities, who represent key expertise areas, and other community experts as appropriate, the GCC Chair and co-Chair, ex-officio members (relevant GCP management staff). Members should represent diverse European countries and may include one non-European country. Gender Equality Principles shall be adhered to. There will be a total of 8 members, including Chair, Co-Chair and 6 members.</p>
Appointment of Members	<p>The Chair of the GCC is a representative of a National Research and Education Networking organization. The Chair is appointed by the GCC members from their midst. If there is no one in the GCC that can take the position of Chair, the Chair will be selected by the GCC via an open application process and agreed upon criteria. When a new Chair is appointed, the GÉANT General Assembly endorses the appointment.</p> <p>The Co-chair of the GCC is the Manager of the GCP.</p> <p>Members are representatives of GCP activities and are selected by the GCC via an open application process and agreed upon criteria. Their appointment is endorsed by the GÉANT Board of Directors.</p>
Term of Office	<p>The Chair and each member of the GCC serve for 3 years, except ex-officio members whose term is determined by their role terms as GÉANT Association staff. The Chair and members can stand for reappointment for a second term, until a maximum of 6 years in total.</p>
Meetings	<p>The GCC will meet as frequently as deemed necessary to fulfil its duty, with a minimum of two in person meeting per year. All meetings shall produce meeting minutes.</p>
Decision-Making Process	<p>The GCC endeavours to work by consensus but, if this is not achieved, the GCC voting members will cast a vote and the decision is taken by simple majority. Quorate will be defined as at least 60% of appointed Members.</p>
Reporting and Communication	<p>The GCC is a committee organised under the oversight of the GÉANT Exec. GCP activities will be reported on annually at the June General Assembly meeting and the September Board meeting and additionally when needed.</p>

	Funding requests and approvals will be made at the September Board meeting.
Performance Review	The work of the GCC and, if needed, its Terms of Reference will be reviewed every two years at the GCP annual workshop.
Finances	Travel costs relating to the duties for GCC shall be covered by the GÉANT Association. Volunteer Agreements should be in place for non GÉANT Association staff members.

2 GÉANT Community Committee Objectives

The GÉANT Community Committee (GCC) is a body of the GÉANT Community Programme (GCP), the activities of which are described in the GÉANT Community Programme.

It is an advisory body and plays an important role in providing proactive guidance and expert insights on the execution of the GÉANT Community Programme and other community initiatives when relevant.

The Main objectives of the GCC are to:

- **Build community identity.** Promote a sense of belonging and identity that the whole community can embrace. Highlight the broader role of GÉANT as a collaborative community that enables European R&E to excel, fosters innovation, knowledge exchange, and cooperation across the continent's R&E landscape and connects it with the wider global community. GCC members serve as ambassadors in their respective expertise and roles to build the sense of belonging and community identity.
- **Link strategically.** Identify areas of cross collaboration and link Community Programme initiatives strategically across GÉANT programming. Ensure coordination with external bodies such as the CEO Forum, EOSC working groups and others.
- **Steer and advise.** Guide on initiatives entrusted to them via the Community Programme such as the Innovation Programme and other collaborative initiatives to ensure they address community priorities.
- **Unite in diversity.** Represent the community from the ground up to ensure the GÉANT Community Programme reflects the full diversity- thematic, geographic and individual background- of the community and incentivises the broadest level of participation, based on community solidarity principles.
- **Bridge gaps.** Support ways to address disparities within the NREN community and strengthen collaboration of NRENs from different backgrounds first and foremost across Europe, also beyond.
- **Evaluate and improve.** Annually evaluate the implementation of the GÉANT Community Programme Strategy and advise on improvements. Support the development of new iterations that stay relevant and responsive to new priority areas of the community.

Glossary

GA	General Assembly
GCC	GÉANT Community Committee
GCP	GÉANT Community Programme
NREN	National Research and Education Network