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Subject: THE SECOND PHASE OF THE IPv6 TASK FORCE

Dear Colleague,

The current Internet, based on Internet Protocol version 4 (IPv4), has too restrictive limitations regarding address space and given the pressing need for more addresses, IPv6 has been proposed. Only a very large address space will cater for increased global connectivity in a scenario of more users, more devices and appliances, and more different and innovative application services. A large address space is fundamental for services that require a permanent end-to-end connection to the network and for new advanced services. Many other benefits will accrue from the adoption of IPv6, particularly for 3G networks, such as increased security, better network efficiency, reduced administration and management overhead through plug & play, built-in mobility features etc.

The first phase of the IPv6 Task Force launched last year by European Commission with the full support from industry, developed a comprehensive action plan aiming at ensuring the timely availability of IPv6. The first phase ended last January 2002 with a series of reports and recommendations (<http://www.ipv6tf.org>) as well as with a communication from the European Commission (<http://www.cordis.lu/ist/ka4/mobile/lexdoc.htm>), which was followed by Conclusions of the Council of the transition to IPv6. The need to further stimulate the roll-out of the IPv6 was identified and as a consequence the second phase of the IPv6 Task Force is now launched.

I am pleased to extend to you a personal invitation to participate in this high level group which will review the current status in Europe of the IPv6, monitor the implementation of the recommendations worked out during the first phase of the Task Force and look for new actions to be taken with a view to accelerate the pace of the transition to IPv6.

You will find attached a document outlining the scope of the second phase of Task Force as well as the tentative agenda, which includes a list of the topics to be addressed in the kick-off meeting, which is scheduled for **12 September 2002** in Brussels. Further details of the venue will be communicated to you shortly. In the mean time I would appreciate if you could confirm your acceptance to participate to Mrs. Leen Hendrickx (tel: +32 2 2963541, fax: +32 2 2962178, email: marleentje.hendrickx@cec.eu.int).

Yours sincerely ,

[signed by]

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