

## NEWS FROM TERENA (155)

### Mandate of TF-Mobility extended



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Amsterdam, 15 September 2004

The TERENA Technical Committee has today extended the mandate of TERENA's Task Force on Mobility for a further two years, until September 2006. TF-Mobility investigates the issues that arise when users move between different organisational domains (generally campuses and national research and education networks) and try to gain access to the Internet using their own mobile devices.

The work of TF-Mobility will concentrate on two main objectives. The first is to extend the current roaming service access beyond national research and education networks to other networks. The second is to develop more secure, more flexible and more accountable roaming services by investigating and testing system integration with other AAA (Authentication, Authorisation and Accounting) solutions.

The Task Force will provide a repository of technical knowledge, that will contain information about standards and products for roaming services. It will also create a service support area for the current roaming services that provides information on current roaming policies, current best practice and an online map of participating national research and education networking organisations and campuses with detailed data about their roaming services.

TF-Mobility will provide information on security issues that may affect roaming services as well as a repository of best practices in roaming security.

The Task Force will also have the role of a sounding board for the Joint Research Activity on Ubiquity (Mobility) in the GN2 project, offering an opportunity to that activity to receive feedback from a wider community. GN2 is a new, very large project in the 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme of the European Union that will provide the successor to the current GÉANT backbone network and that also encompasses a number of joint research activities between national research and education networking organisations.

Towards the end of its current mandate, TF-Mobility will produce a report that will outline a way forward to develop roaming services over the subsequent 1-2 years. This report will be based on the updated requirements identified in GN2's activity on ubiquity, and on the lessons learnt from the current development work. It will also contain a risk analysis based on current and future needs and advances in new technologies, protocols and standards.

More information, including the new terms of reference can be found at:

<http://www.terena.nl/tech/task-forces/tf-mobility/>

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