The meeting was chaired by the GPC Chair, Mr Fulvio ESPOSITO and the GPC Vice-Chair,

Mr Martin SCHMID. The High Level Group for Joint Programming (GPC) drew the following conclusions:

1. **Approval of the provisional agenda**

The agenda was approved as set out in document 1714/15.

1. **ERA Roadmap**

Mr Vadims MURASOVS, representative of the Latvian Presidency, made a presentation on the above mentioned subject. He outlined the priorities of the Presidency, concentrating on the research priorities. He also presented the timelines concerning the recent developments concerning the ERA Roadmap:

* 16 January 2015: ERAC extraordinary meeting, update on progress of the ERA Roadmap
* 19 January, Mr David Wilson, Rapporteur for the ERA Roadmap, gave a presentation at the Research Working Party
* 24 February: ERAC plenary, discussion on the ERA Roadmap
* 3 March: Competitiveness Council, information point on the ERA Roadmap and ERA governance
* 4 March: draft Council conclusions on the ERA Roadmap distributed to delegations (ERA Roadmap will be annexed to these conclusions)
* 9 March: first examination of the text of the draft conclusions at the Research Working Party
* 16-17 April: ERAC plenary in Riga, ERAC will adopt the ERA Roadmap
* March to May: the Research Working Party will work on the conclusions

Mr MURASOVS also informed about the Presidency's intention to adopt the Council conclusions on the ERA Roadmap at the May meeting of the Competitiveness Council.

1. **Review of the status, the mandate and the reporting lines of the GPC**

Mr Vadims MURASOVS, representative of the Latvian Presidency, presented the recent developments concerning the discussions on the ERA governance in ERAC as well as during the ministerial lunch at the March Competitiveness Council. He outlined the following timelines:

* 16 January 2015: ERAC extraordinary meeting, discussion on the ERA governance
* 24 February: ERAC plenary, further discussion on the ERA governance
* 3 March: Competitiveness Council, information point on the ERA Roadmap and the ERA governance; ministerial lunch debate on the ERA governance
* 11 March: draft Council conclusion on the ERA governance to be distributed
* 16 March: first discussions on the draft conclusions at the Research Working Party
* March to May: the Research Working Party will work on the conclusions.

He also informed the delegations about the Presidency's intention to adopt the Council conclusions on the ERA governance at the May meeting of the Competitiveness Council.

The Chair reminded the delegations that the draft document concerning the GPC opinion "Towards a renewed mandate for the GPC" was already discussed at the plenary meetings in September and November last year. The draft version prepared for the meeting was submitted for further discussion and comments by delegations. After some amendments, the draft Opinion on a renewed mandate of the High Level Group on Joint Programming (GPC) was adopted (doc. 1302/1/15).**4. State-of-play of the GPC Implementation Groups**

The Vice-Chair gave the state-of-play of the GPC Implementation Groups. He recalled the background of the process:

* Building on the work/reports of the 4 ad-hoc GPC Working Groups on

(1) “How to pursue and deepen relations between the GPC and JPIs”;

(2) “Alignment”;

(3) “Framework Conditions for Joint Programming” and

(4) “Measuring JPIs’ Progress and Impact”.

* November 2014: Adoption of the GPC Biennial Report and decision to set up three Implementation Groups.
* December 2014: Adoption of the provisional Work Programme 2014-2016.
* January 2015: Adoption of the Implementation Groups mandates.
* February 2015: Kick-off meeting of the Implementation Groups.

The Vice-Chair also informed that during the kick-off meeting the three Implementation Groups were constituted and their Rapporteurs elected:

* Implementation Group 1 (Fostering and Mentoring JPIs): Ms Brigitte Weiss, Ms Virginia Enache;
* Implementation Group 2 (Alignment and Improving Interoperability): Ms Karin Schmekel, Mr Pontus Holm;
* Implementation Group 3 (Monitoring JPIs): Mr Leonidas Antoniou, Mr Peter Spyns.

Afterwards, the Vice-Chair invited the Implementation Groups' Rapporteurs to provide the first results of the work of their respective Implementation Groups.

Ms Brigitte WEISS, AT delegation, presented the state of play of the Implementation Group 1, concentrating on the assignment of the Group, the basic working principles, deliverables, work plan and the next steps.

Mr Pontus HOLM, SE delegation, presented the results of the work undertaken by the Implementation Group 2. He outlined the overarching goals for the Group to work towards, the proposed work plan and the relation to ERA-LEARN.

Mr Peter SPYNS, BE delegation, gave a presentation concerning the recent developments within the Implementation Group 3, concentrating on the work description of the group.

The Vice-Chair appealed for more enhanced participation in the Implementation Groups and he reminded that the participants of the Implementation Groups can be external experts, not being members or observers of the GPC. FI, FR and SI delegations volunteered to participate in the work of the Implementation Group 3.

**5. Presentation of the ERA-LEARN project**

Mr Roland BRANDENBURG, the ERA-LEARN coordinator, outlined the history and the background of the ERA-LEARN. He also presented the timeframe, the consortium members, the objectives, the expected impact and the overview of the work plan of the ERA-LEARN. Moreover, Mr Brandenburg presented the details of the intended cooperation between ERA-LEARN and the GPC Implementation Groups.

**6. Report from the meeting of the JPI Chairs**

Mr Patrick MONFRAY, the Vice-Chair of the JPI Climate, presented the main recommendations of the second meeting of the JPI Chairs which took place in Brussels on 10 March 2015. The recommendations could be grouped under the following main priority areas:

* Cooperation between the JPIs;
* International opening of the JPIs;
* Alignment of national activities;
* Interaction with the Commission;
* Interaction with the GPC.

The next meeting of the JPI Chairs is foreseen to be organised in 2016 and it will be hosted by the JPI FACCE.

**7. GPC relations to other relevant groups**

Ms Muriel ATTANE, the Secretary General of EARTO, gave a presentation concerning the background, activities and the impact of the European Association of Research and Technology Organisations in Europe.

Mr Sean RYDER, the Chair of HERA, outlined the history, the aims, the governance structure as well as the HERA Joint Research Programmes. He also presented the HERA JRP organisational structure and the HERA JRP funding structure.

Ms Eva KLAPER, CH delegation, presented the recent developments in COST in relation to the JPP.

**8. AOB**

Ms Karin SCHMEKEL, SE delegation, informed about the plans of Sweden concerning the organisation of the "*Lund revisited*" Conference. The conference is preliminarily foreseen to take place on 4 December 2015.

The Chair recalled the date of the next GPC plenary meeting: 3 June 2015.