

EARN Document

Title: EARN project definition group ASTRA - proposal
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1 Preamble

I am sending the proposal for the constitution of the ASTRA Project Group. Among the proposed participants I included the names of those Exec members I recall declared their interest to participation. Please feel free to add your name if you want to participate or to suggest other names before the document is officially submitted to the Exec by August 23. Comments and improvements to the text are welcome.

2 Terms of reference

2.1 Scope

To define the characteristics and make a proposal for activating the ASTRA EARN service for the dissemination of information available on databases distributed over the network.

2.2 Document to be delivered

Proposal for an ASTRA EARN service including the following aspects.

1. Data bases content

- * ASTRA database definition (DataBase Administrator, DataBase Producer)
- * Policy for acquisition of data (completeness, selection of arguments, etc.)
- * General rules for documentation of data (abstracts, keywords, etc.)
- * Procedures for quality control of the data

- * Tasks of the ASTRA Control Committee (national and international level)

2. Organisation and maintenance of the service

* Design and implementation of the ASTRA Servers Logical Network

- * ASTRA Servers Logical Network management

- * Description of the ASTRA Server Co-ordinator tasks

- * Maintenance of the ASTRA Meta database

- * Support to the users

* Evaluation of the resources needed to manage the whole service

3. Technical aspects

- * Development of the ASTRA-User interface

- * Development of end-user tools

* Enlargement of the ASTRA Server Logical Network to the DEC environment

* Make ASTRA service accessible from users at node non-EARN in network connected to EARN through RFC822 mail-gateway

* Make ASTRA server able to interface different host database systems

3 Participation

1. M. Hebgen

2. J.L. Delaye

3. A. Cohen

4. S. Trumpy

5. T. Kalfaoglu

6. L. Abba

7. G. Romano

In particular Abba and Romano of CNUCE will prepare a draft technical proposal to manage the service, based on their experience matured during the study contract with IBM.

4 Chairman

Stefano Trumpy

5 Time objective

Next Executive BOD meeting in Lisbon.