

# GUIDELINES ON DISTRIBUTION OF COMPUTER RESOURCES

**Adopted by the Council at its 78th session (December 2012)**

**Amended by the Council at its 88th session (December 2016)**

**Amended by the Council at its 100th session (June 2021)**

**Amended by the Council at its 109th session (December 2024)**

- i. The resources of the supercomputer system, the European Weather Cloud and the GPU clusters are treated as separate systems with individual and separate allocations.
- ii. At least 25% of the supercomputer system, including its GPUs, shall be made available to the Member States. At least 25% of the European Weather Cloud resources shall be made available to the Member and Co-operating States.
- iii. Resources for data storage shall be made available to Member States (and Co-operating States where relevant) to support their work on the supercomputer system and the European Weather Cloud (however, the total data storage for Member and Co-operating States should not exceed 10% of the total data storage at any one time).
- iv. Of the GPUs purchased in 2024 for Machine Learning workflows, the allocation shall be 50% to ECMWF, 25% to Member States for their own use, and 25% to Member States for the ECMWF Machine Learning pilot project.
- v. A maximum of 10% of the computer resources available to the Member States may be allocated for "Special Projects", approved by Council except as under (vi) below.
- vi. 20% of the maximum available Special Project resources shall be set aside; this proportion shall be allocated directly by the Centre to applicants from the Member States.  
Applications should be submitted via the Director of the relevant national meteorological service. In deciding these awards the following guidelines will be followed:
  - a. priority will be given to new applicants, but existing oversubscribed projects could be given further support later each year;
  - b. any new projects so supported should have a scientific content consistent with that expected of Special Projects, as laid out in the guidelines for the assessment of proposals.
- vii. After computer resources have been allocated to Special Projects (up to the 10% maximum allowed) 35% of the remainder will be allocated equally among the Member States, and Co-operating States where relevant, and 65% allocated proportionally to their financial contribution to the Centre.
- viii. Each Member State should submit an estimate, by 30 June each year, of its computing requirements on the Centre's computing resources for Special Projects.
- ix. The allocated capacity should be used evenly throughout the year. The allocation will be nominally divided pro rata into 12 one-month periods. In the event of very heavy usage, the Centre is authorised to restrict a Member State to twice its pro rata allocation in any given accounting period.
- x. Unused resources shall be at the disposal of the Centre.
- xi. An interactive service shall be made available to Member and Co-operating States to use the relevant computing resources.

- xii. No charge shall be made to the Member States for use of the Centre's computer resources.  
No charge shall be made to the Co-operating States for use of the Centre's European Weather Cloud resources.