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### Mediterranean

#### ΜΔΙΤΔ

#### **■ EUMEDGRID RESEARCH PROJECT LAUNCHED IN MALTA**

(ANSAmed) - VALLETTA, FEBRUARY 6 - The EUMEDGRID project, a research programme under the sixth framework of the European Union, was launched this morning in Malta by Education Minister Louis Galea. Delegates from European and Mediterranean countries attended the launching, in which the University of Malta is taking an active part together with the Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFIN), the Greek Research and Technology Network (GRNET), the European Particle Physics Laboratory (CERN), the UK Delivery of Advanced Network Technology to Europe (DANTE) and other institutions from Spain, Cyprus, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Syria and Algeria. The aim of EUMEDGRID is to bring together various countries to work together on research to create a computer grid infrastructure to provide facilities for access to and storage of information on a large scale. This technology, known as grid computing, is intended to create collaboration on an unprecedented scale between researchers and scientists in various fields, including biotechnology and high energy physics, as well as local problems. Galea told delegates that Malta had always given importance to its vocation for networking between Mediterranean countries, a vocation which has increased its importance and potential since the island joined the European Union in May, 2004. Malta has already taken various initiatives in networking between universities and other institutions in the Euro-Mediterranean area, such as an e-learning project developed with the Avicenna Virtual Campus. Another initiative is that taken by the Malta Restoration Centre in the field of research and training on conservation and restoration of the Euro-Mediterranean's vast cultural and artistic heritage. The University of Malta is administering the thematic network of the Socrates Programme on dialogue in the Mediterranean, in which 83 partners from the Euro-Med area are taking part. (ANSAmed). COR-KTX 06/02/2006 17:52

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