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Dear Mike

RE: INVESTMENT PLAN - PLATFORMS FOR COLLABORATION

I recently met with Rhys Francis to discuss the draft investment plan for the NCRIS Platforms for Collaboration capability.

The National Library is encouraged by the shape which this investment plan is taking. We welcome the proposals to establish ongoing governance structures such as a National Research Infrastructure Coordinating Committee, an e-Research Infrastructure Program Office and an e-Research Forum. We support the appointment of an Executive Director and permanent staff to carry forward the investment plan.

The Library supports the establishment of the proposed Australian National Data Service (ANDS). The Library was fortunate to have one of its executive staff (Dr Warwick Cathro) as a member of the recent PMSEIC Working Group on Data for Science. It appears that ANDS will be an important driver for achieving the recommendations made to PMSEIC, and for ensuring that Australia's research data is well managed as a national asset.

The National Library has been an active participant in some of the projects funded by the Systemic Infrastructure Initiative, such as ARROW and APSR. We see the Platforms for Collaboration capability as a mechanism for ensuring that Australia builds on the valuable work undertaken by such projects.

The Library welcomes the attention given in the draft investment plan to issues such as the stewardship of research data, persistent identifier services, provision of advice to researchers on data management practices, and improved registration and discovery of data sets.

With respect to the future operation of this research infrastructure capability, the National Library would be willing to participate in the NCRIS or ANDS advisory processes if this is deemed appropriate by the NCRIS Committee. The Library also believes that it has the experience and expertise to make a contribution to some of the proposed infrastructure services. In particular, the Library could make a contribution to:

- registration and discovery of data sets, building on the Library's track record in establishing other national resource discovery services;



- the sustainability and data curation services of the proposed ANDS, building on the Library's longstanding work in digital preservation, web archiving, and our contribution to the sustainability aspects of the APSR Project;
- development of standards supporting inter-operability of data repositories; and
- A national Persistent Identifier infrastructure service, building on the Library's work with its own persistent identifier service and its encouragement of good practices to manage web resources for persistent access.

The Library is also interested in the development of collaborative tools that support research in the humanities. To take an example, we are interested in the development of generic tools that can support online publishing with scholarly annotation and linking to related resources and source materials such as those held in the collections of libraries and other institutions.

Yours sincerely

Jan Fullerton
Director-General

cc Dr. Evan Arthur, Group Manager, Innovation and Research Systems Group, DEST.
cc Dr. Rhys Francis, NCRIS Platforms for Collaboration Facilitator.