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Le Président

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CNRS support for the Convergence Institute project titled **TMBI –Toulouse Mind and Brain Institute-** presented by the Federal University of Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées.

To whom it may concern

The ComUE Université Fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées -associating CNRS- has made the choice to submit the Toulouse Mind and Brain Institute (TMBI) project under the present "Institut de Convergence" call for proposals.

Human brain is comprised of more than 100 billions neurons connected by 100 trillion synapses, working at the speed of thought. Incorporating and representing all brain- and mind-related activities in a cohesive fashion is one of the greatest grand-challenge facing the XXIth century, with a large number of ICT applications.

TMBI aims to put in place a cutting-edge multidisciplinary Institute that will allow advancing our knowledge in the fields of the brain and mind mechanisms. TMBI is committed to driving forward brain-inspired technologies, too. The aim of the project is also to build a comprehensive, highly innovative, multidisciplinary Master program in cognitive sciences fully dedicated to training into new areas of cognitive science. Clearly, the overall aim is to firmly put TMBI on the world map as a major global center for mind and brain research, training, and inspired innovation.

TMBI builds on identified and well-recognized strengths of the Université Fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées, under the leadership of Pr. Simon Thorpe. It involves highly visible professors and researchers from University, INSERM or CNRS, at all stages of their career, and gathers a multidisciplinary ensemble in fundamental neurosciences, clinical neuroscience, biology of behavior, cognitive psychology, neuropsychology, human machine interaction, language sciences, robotics, artificial intelligence and computational modeling.

As one of the major partners of research and education in the Université Fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées, CNRS strongly supports this project and will put to work all necessary actions to ensure its success.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of the initials 'A.F.' followed by a stylized surname.

Alain Fuchs
President of CNRS