



**MINISTÉRIO DA EDUCAÇÃO  
UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE CAMPINA GRANDE  
CENTRO DE ENGENHARIA ELÉTRICA E INFORMÁTICA  
PROGRAMA DE PÓS-GRADUAÇÃO EM CIÊNCIA DA COMPUTAÇÃO**

Campina Grande, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009


Mr. Rector,  
Mario Bonucci  
Universidad de los Andes  
Venezuela

I have recently been informed about the decree issued by Venezuela's government imposing restrictions on public spending regarding the network infrastructure used by Universities, which has been deemed to be a luxury.

In the past few years I have been deeply involved in several collaborative e-Science initiatives involving many countries in Latin America, including Venezuela, which have been crucial for the increase in the reach and impact of the Science, Technology and Innovation developed in each of these countries and in the region as a whole. Needless to say that good Internet connection is a primary requirement for these benefits to become reality.

Therefore, it is with great preoccupation that I hear the news from Venezuela regarding the funding of the networking access of its Universities. As the Director of the Distributed Systems Lab of the Universidade Federal of Campina Grande (LSD/UFCG), Brazil, I would like to offer my unconditional support for any action that your University may take in the quest to revert this situation, which may severely impair the country's scientific, economic and social growth.

Yours sincerely,

  
Francisco Vilar Brasileiro  
LSD/UFCG Director