Background Material

Section 1 – General
VI.1.1 Working Groups are created by resolution of the Assembly or by simple majority vote of a Committee.

VI.1.2 Each Working Group shall have a Chair elected by a simple majority of the Assembly or Committee that created the Working Group .

VI.1.3 All ESIPs will be notified promptly by the Assembly or Committee that created the Working Group of the Working Group's goals, activities, and expected duration.

VI.1.4 Individuals from all ESIPs and from outside the Federation will be allowed to participate in any Working Group. However, only the designated ESIP Representative as described in Bylaw I can vote.

VI.1.5 Due notice of all Working Group meetings and teleconferences shall be given to all ESIPs.

VI.1.6 Working Groups may be required to report on their activities at each meeting of the Assembly, in a form agreed by the Assembly.

VI.1.7 In the event that the elected Chair of a Working Group is unable to continue to execute the duties of that office, the Executive Committee shall appoint an eligible replacement to serve out the remainder of that term.

Data Study Working Group Proposal

The Data Decadal Survey Cluster is requesting consideration by the Executive Committee to sponsor the Cluster's request to become a Working Group. The Cluster has seeded the idea of a National Academy study that would help the US science agencies determine research and funding priorities for a 10-year period. Such a study would elevate data science to be consistent with other science disciplines studied by the Academy.

The Cluster has benefited from support from BRDI, the National Academy's Board on Research Data and Integration, which would lead the study. BRDI has extensive experience in data-related topics, including a close relationship with CODATA and an emerging partnership with the Research Data Alliance (RDA). BRDI also has applied for ESIP Federation membership, seeing the value of ESIP's community connections.

During the past two ESIP Federation meetings, several related activities have been undertaken. Two breakout sessions and one plenary panel have built momentum and garnered broad community support for the survey. A workshop in conjunction with the

2014 ESIP Federation meeting is being planned and has secured funding from the Moore Foundation and the National Consortium for Data Science.

The Cluster expects the proposed workshop to result in recommendations that will scope an Academy study, which would then be conducted during the 2014-2015 period. At the time the study is complete, it is anticipated that the Working Group would sunset.