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Letter of Intent

To Whom It May Concern,

I hereby declare my interest in obtaining a student VISA in order to conduct research in Switzerland, more specifically at USI (Università della Svizzera italiana). My name is Carlos Eduardo Benevides Bezerra and I am a PhD candidate in Computer Science at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, in Brazil. I am currently enrolled in the third semester of the PhD course and I would like to do part of my work with other research groups, what will allow me to improve my research skills and to interact with researchers from other countries.

I chose Switzerland because it is a country with a great worldwide reputation with regard to its higher level education, as a result of the large investment that the country has made in this sector, with both public and private resources. This puts Switzerland among the countries that invest most in research and development, with its universities and postgraduation programs recognized in the entire world. Besides, the field on which I intend to work is closely related to the research interests of some researchers in Lugano with whom I have been in contact.

Thus, the reasons that made me want to study in Switzerland were the worldwide recognition of its postgraduate programs and the fact that I already know researchers there with whom I would like to work. Additionally, another motivating factor was that Switzerland has prioritized Brazil, along with the other BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China), for the granting of scholarships to foreign students. Actually, this year, I have been granted a scholarship from FCS (the Swiss Federal Commission for Scholarships for foreign students) to study in Lugano in the period from September 2010 to June 2011.

This research period will be a great addition to my professional future in several ways. In research, for example, I will have more experience to propose and carry out international cooperation projects between Brazil and other countries, most likely with researchers from Switzerland itself, with whom I will have already had personal contact. Moreover, after a period of one academic year working abroad, my ability to interact with people from other cultures to develop a joint work will be proven, along with my capacity to adapt to other places in the world.

Upon finishing the research period in Switzerland, I will return to Brazil to finish the PhD course and obtain my PhD degree. With such degree, I intend to continue on the research area, further developing solutions not only to questions related to MMOG network support, but also to other problems related to large scale distributed systems. Furthermore, I plan to be an university professor, encouraging young students to research and develop new techniques to improve the state of the art related to MMOGs and to distributed systems, always looking for cooperation with other research groups, specially from other countries.

Moreover, I plan to work in the large scale distributed systems area, where I will be able to use the researched solutions in real scenarios. This area has enjoyed some growth in Brazil in the latest years, requiring solutions which will be, possibly, provided by my research.

Sincerely,

Carlos Eduardo Benevides Bezerra