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DATE: 26 January 2017

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1. The ESMValTool Development Software is not released. Redistribution of the Software in source and binary forms, total or in parts, with or without modification, is not permitted.

2. ESMValTool developers provide documentation on the wiki that is compliant with the "ESMValTool Documentation Template", provide well-documented code that follows the "ESMValTool coding rules and standards", and include the requested information in a merge request to the trunk. Conforming to this standard will ensure a stable, well-documented and well-tested Software, which is of vital importance for the Software being widely used and funding being secured. You should consider this an obligation if you have taken advantage of the Software, which represents a product of considerable effort by the development team.

3. Developers who add additional diagnostics or performance metrics or make other improvements to the Software must contribute this code upon finalization to the trunk that will be publically released under an APACHE LICENSE, VERSION 2.0 with the next regular open source release. Contributing back the new diagnostics and performance metrics or other software improvements will help to enhance the capability of the Software, which is of vital importance for securing future funding. You should consider this an obligation if you have taken advantage of the Software, which represents a product of considerable effort by the development team.

4. Users of the ESMValTool Development Software code must offer co-authorship (or other mutually agreed upon recognition) on papers, conference abstracts or other scientific communications to the contributors of ESMValTool Development code named in the code if at the time the code was first utilized, it had not yet been publicly released.

To avoid violating this policy, Developers working with unreleased code should contact the ESMValTool Core Development Team before beginning any work with unreleased and unreferenced code.

Failure to abide to the above policy will lead to developers' access being revoked.

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Users who apply the Software resulting in presentations or papers are kindly asked to **cite** the following "Software Documentation Paper" alongside with the Software doi (doi:10.17874/ac8548f0315) and version number:

*Eyring et al., ESMValTool (v1.0) - a community diagnostic and performance metrics tool for routine evaluation of Earth System Models in CMIP, Geosci. Model Dev., 2016.*

Besides the above citation, users are kindly asked to **register any journal articles** (or other scientific documents) that use the Software at ESMValTool webpage (see <http://www.esmvaltool.org/>).

Citing the Software Documentation Paper and registering your paper(s) will serve to document the scientific impact of the Software, which is of vital importance for securing future funding. You should consider this an obligation if you have taken advantage of the Software, which represents the end product of considerable effort by the development team.

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