

**European Spallation Source ERIC
14th Meeting of Council
Lund, Sweden, 3-4 December 2018**

Chair's Summary

Introduction

The Chairman Lars Börjesson welcomed the delegates, Chairs of advisory committees, ESS Management, and guests. He noted that this 14th meeting of Council had been duly convened and was quorate.

Reports

The Chairman summarised the written approval of the Netherlands' request for extension of their Observer status by two years until August 2020.

He then reported on the 6th CEC meeting which had looked into the long-term staff planning, taxation, and social security issues.

The Director-General and the Acting Director-General presented the overall project status with updates on the conventional facilities, the work in the accelerator tunnel including the inauguration of the ion source by the King and the Queen of Sweden and the Italian President in November, and major in-kind contributions. Further they followed up on the ESS goals 2018 and proposed the goals for 2019. They also briefed the delegates on the staff planning.

The Science Director, Andreas Schreyer, gave an overview of the planning for the scientific instruments and updated Council on the status of the long-term instrument capability gap analysis that had been requested by Council one year ago. He also described the successful launch of LENS, the League of Advanced European Neutron Sources, in Vienna in September. Martin Walter from ILL reported on the very successful first joint ILL-ESS user meeting in Grenoble in October where the gap analysis had also been presented.

Schedule

The Project Manager, John Haines, provided the delegates with an update on the integrated schedule and an overview of the critical path towards start of user operation planned for 2023, including schedule performance of major in-kind packages performed by ESS' partners in France, Italy, and Spain. He also discussed some of the in-kind contributions on the critical path of the project and described how the ESS works with the partner-labs and Members representatives to mitigate technical or other issues in order to take them off the critical path.

He updated Council on how Management was following up on the recommendations from the Schedule Review from May 2018.

Finally, he made it clear that 2019 will be one of the most intensive years for the Organisation.

The ESS Management's presentations on current status and progress of the project were positively received and recognised by all Members.

Completion of Construction and Initial Operations

The Chair summarised the main steps of the project planning update and decision-making process so far, which was first initiated at the 7th meeting of Council in December 2016 with a value engineering and re-baselining kick-off. The remaining steps and the time plan were discussed and a sub-group of Council was tasked with preparing longer term scenarios to support the further decision-making process.

Financial Matters

The Acting Director-General, Agneta Nestenborg, presented the Organisation's financial position and the budget proposals related to construction and initial operations for 2019, which were approved unanimously.

Council also approved the expenditures in the Financial Estimates as a planning tool for the next seven years.

Membership

The Group Leader External Relations & EU Project, Ute Gunsenheimer, presented the activities and plans in relation to new Members and provided an update on the BrightnESS² project.

In-Kind Contracts

Council approved new in-kind contracts with FZ Jülich concerning data analysis, robotics, and liner motion, and the final report of an in-kind contribution from Estonia (High-Power Voltage Converter Module)

Advisory Committees

Council appointed Sine Larsen as new Vice Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and Bella Lake, Fred Wietfeldt, Bill Stirling, and Juan Colmenero as new members of SAC.

Council appointed Graeme Murdoch as new Co-Chair (target) of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and re-appointed Mark Heron and Frank Gerigk as Co-Chairs (controls and accelerator). Council appointed Stéphane Chel, Eugenia Hatziangeli, and Eric Pitcher as new members of TAC and extended the term of Masatoshi Futakawa.

Procedures

Council approved several minor amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Chair's Committee.

AoB

The Chair proposed a number of topics for the Strategy Meeting in February 2019.

Closure of Meeting

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair closed the meeting at 16:00, 4 December 2018.

Lars Börjesson
Council Chair, European Spallation Source ERIC
5 December 2018