

**European Spallation Source ERIC
27th Meeting of Council
28 February – 1 March 2022, Lund, Sweden and by Video**

Chair's Summary

Introduction

After an impressive site tour for the delegates and advisors who were able to travel to Lund, a minute of silence was held in memory of Daniel Csanády, Vice Chair of the In-Kind Review Committee (IKRC) who had sadly passed away in January.

After initial informal discussions on policy issues, the steps following the project re-baselining, and a long-term collaborative framework for the European neutron facilities, the Chair, Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph, called the meeting to order on 28 February 2022 at 15:15. She welcomed the delegates, their advisors, the advisory committee chairs, and ESS Management. She noted that the 27th meeting of ESS Council had been duly convened and was quorate.

Reports

The Chair introduced the main topics of the meeting. She reminded the delegates that they had charged ESS Management with the remaining elements of the re-baselining, e.g. resource loading. Management would report on the results of their efforts under the following agenda item. She re-iterated the timeline for decision making by Council.

The newly appointed In-Kind Review Committee (IKRC) Chair, Robert McGreevy, informed Council about the first steps he took in his new role, including meetings with the ESS Associate Director for In-Kind Partners. He confirmed that IKRC will continue in its re-focused effort of supporting project schedule, quality, and know-how.

The Director General, Helmut Schober, provided Council with his vision of the organisation and its renewed focus on the project, putting ESS on a trajectory towards world-class science. He set out the agenda for the next months, focusing on organisational and cultural changes.

Implementation of New Baseline

The Interim Project Director, Andrew Kimber, reported on the project progress since Council.26, including the recent impact of the COVID-19 omicron variant. He further informed Council that the required resource loading of the re-baselined schedule had been completed successfully and that the cost control function had been established within the Project Directorate. Project contingency is now linked directly to risk and uncertainties and its rate of usage will be used as one measure for project performance. Council will receive monthly project progress reports including performance and forecasts.

The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Chair, Mark Reichenadter, expressed appreciation for the progress made by ESS in order to enhance project performance and encouraged ESS

Management to continue improving the tools and metrics to monitor the adherence of the project to the new baseline.

The Director for Science, Andreas Schreyer, presented to Council the plans for the hot commissioning and staffing of the 15 neutron instruments until the beginning of steady-state operations.

Procedures

Council unanimously extended Bill Sterling's mandate as SAC member for a second term, starting 1 January 2022, and set up two search and selection committees for the Project Director and the Science Director, respectively.

Council appreciated the update on the newly established Internal Audit Function welcomed the Head of the Internal Audit who briefly introduced himself.

Upon a proposal by the Director for Project Support & Administration, Agneta Nestenborg, Council tasked the AFC to investigate the options for consolidating the annual budgets from 2023 and onwards. Council unanimously approved the proposal.

A.o.B

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 13:30, 1 March 2022.

Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph
Council Chair, European Spallation Source ERIC
1 March 2022