

ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF SESAME

Holiday Inn Nicosia City Centre, Nicosia, Cyprus, 11-12 December 2007

Decisions

The Council of SESAME held its 11th meeting at the Holiday Inn Nicosia City Centre, Nicosia, Cyprus, from 11 to 12 December 2007.

The Council took the following decisions:

1. Until the laboratory starts functioning the SESAME building will be used to host high-level Arab-Israeli and Middle-Eastern scientific meetings. This will be continued after the start up of the facility provided it does not disturb the proper functioning of the laboratory. To provide such a platform for the fostering of international cooperation is in the spirit of SESAME.
2. Delegates of members will be informed each time a staff vacancy at SESAME is being advertised.
3. A Search and Evaluation Committee is set up to search for an Administrative Director and to evaluate the current and new candidatures. The Committee will be chaired by the Director of SESAME, and Mr Andreas Moleskis (Cyprus), Dr Javad Rahighi (Iran) and Professor Dincer Ulku (Turkey) will serve as members. Should there be candidates from the country of any of the three members, then the member concerned will be replaced by a delegate from another Member of SESAME from which there is no candidate. In view of the urgency to find an Administrative Director, the final decision is delegated to the Director of the laboratory who will base his decision on the findings of the Search and Evaluation Committee. This decision will be communicated to the Members of SESAME electronically.

Professor Vladimir Zharov will be invited to serve as a consultant for 6 months with effect from 1 January 2008 to draft the governing documents that need to be prepared for SESAME.

4. Mr Andreas Moleskis (Cyprus) will chair the Finance Committee following Professor Hany Helal (Egypt) who asked to be relieved of this function due to his very heavy workload as Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research. Professor Helal will be asked to provide Mr Moleskis with all relevant papers relating to the meetings of the Finance Committee.
5. Professor Chi-Chang Kao (USA) will be invited to become a member of the Beamlines Committee in replacement of Professor Awni Hallak (Jordan) who ceased serving on the Committee due to a conflict of interests. Professor Mukhles Ibrahim Sowwan (Palestinian Authority) will be invited to serve on the Scientific Committee in

replacement of Dr Metaxia Vlassi (Greece) and Professor Jean-Patrick Connerade (France/UK) who are stepping down. The Chair of the Training Committee will propose a new member to the 12th Council meeting of SESAME subsequent to the resignation of Dr Shoaib Ahmad following his nomination as one of Pakistan's delegates to Council.

6. The 2008 proposed budget is approved and, with the exception of the Palestinian Authority, Members' contribution to the 2008 Regular Budget will be increased by 25% so that they each contribute as follows: Bahrain US\$78,125.00, Cyprus US\$78,125.00, Egypt US\$80,531.25, Iran US\$137,500.00, Israel US\$137,500.00, Jordan US\$78,125.00, Pakistan US\$137,500.00, and Turkey US\$137,500.00. Exceptionally, no increase will be applied to the contribution of the Palestinian Authority which will remain US\$50,000.00.
7. An external auditing company for SESAME will be selected through a tendering procedure. A tender will be issued in the first part of 2008.
8. With effect from 1 January 2008, SESAME's salaries will be aligned with those in the UN/UNESCO salary survey carried out in 2007 up to a maximum upper limit of 9%.
9. A Pension Fund will be set up for the staff members of SESAME with effect from 1 January 2008. SESAME will pay 10% of the staff members' gross salary to the Fund and the staff members will pay 5% of their gross salary. Those staff members having joined SESAME prior to 1 January 2008 will have the possibility of purchasing their pension contributions for the years in question and the full contribution (15%) for these years will be paid by SESAME.
10. The 12th Council meeting will be held in Uppsala (Sweden) on 9-10 June 2008.