

TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF SESAME
Frascati National Laboratory (LNF), Frascati, Italy, 12-13 May 2014

Decisions

The Council of SESAME took the following decisions at its 24th meeting:

1. Members' contributions to the 2014 operational budget will be scaled back so that Pakistan's contribution is equal to US\$0.5M. As agreed at the 23rd Council meeting, in view of the particular situation of the Palestinian Authority, its contribution to the 2014 budget will be kept at US\$50,000.00. (*Decision taken during the closed session*)
2. The need for a relatively large increase in the 2015 operational budget being recognized, delegates will make every effort to have this increase approved by their respective Authorities. In order to facilitate a decision on this at the 25th Council meeting, SESAME will produce a new three-year budget plan before the end of September 2014. This plan will cover the years 2015-2017, by which time the budget is expected to start levelling off. (*Decision taken during the closed session*)
3. The President of the Council will write to the Chair of PAEC (Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission) and the Chair of HEC (Higher Education Commission) urging Pakistan to reconsider its decision to cap future contributions to SESAME's operational budget, which would seriously jeopardise the future of the project and risk wasting the human and financial investments that have already been made. This letter will highlight the benefits Pakistan has been deriving from SESAME and will include an invitation to both Chairs to visit SESAME. It will also inform the Chairs that all the delegates at the Council meeting recognized the need for a relatively large increase to the 2015 operational budget, when the magnets of the main ring will be delivered and additional staff will be required to install them and to continue preparing the beamlines for the first experiments, and although it will be very hard for all Members, they will make every effort to have the increase approved by their respective Authorities. (*Decision taken during the closed session*)
4. Spain's request for observer status in the Council is unanimously approved. (*Decision taken during the closed session*)
5. The Director will write to the two special guests from Iraq having participated in the Council meeting stating that if Iraq is interested in becoming a Member he is confident that the Council would welcome this. (*Decision taken during the closed session*)
6. Professor Kamal Araj (Jordan) will serve as co-Vice President for a period of two years that will take effect immediately following the 24th Council meeting. Professor Eliezer Rabinovici's (Israel) two-year term as co-Vice President, whose appointment to this position was approved at the 23rd Council meeting, and who with the endorsement of the

Council, postponed taking it up until after the 24th Council meeting, will also take effect immediately following the 24th Council meeting. They replace Professor Mohamed Tarek Hussein (Egypt) and Professor Seyed Mahmoud Reza Aghamiri (Iran). (*Decision taken during the closed session*)

7. The Rules of Procurement will be modified so that in a call for tender companies in the Members are given preference over companies in the Observers and in other countries. To ensure this there will be provisions in the Rules laying down that following a call for tender, a contract will be awarded for the lowest bid that complies with the specifications and conditions laid down in the tender made by a company in a Member unless there is an offer from a company in an Observer, or in another country, that also complies with the specifications and conditions laid down in the tender and is up to, and including, 8% lower in price than that of the company in the Member, or there is no bid from a company in the Members. In this case, the contract is awarded to the bidder whose offer is compliant with the specifications and conditions laid down in the tender and is the best priced. Technical compliance will be a necessary criterion at all selection steps. (*Decision taken during the closed session*)
8. Following the decision taken in the closed session to scale back Members' contributions to the 2014 operational budget in proportion to US\$0.5M so that Pakistan's contribution does not exceed US\$0.5M, the Members' contribution to this budget will be as follows: Bahrain US\$284,091, Cyprus US\$284,091, Egypt US\$292,840, Iran US\$500,000, Israel US\$500,000, Jordan US\$284,091, Pakistan US\$500,000, and Turkey US\$500,000. In view of the particular situation of the Palestinian Authority, its contribution to the 2014 budget will be kept at US\$50,000.