

**TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF SESAME**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dead Sea, Jordan, 1-2 December 2014**

Decisions

The Council of SESAME took the following decisions at its 25<sup>th</sup> meeting:

1. The Directorate will do its best to negotiate a new time schedule with the manufacturer of the girders so that the delivery date may be brought forward. If necessary, these negotiations could include simplification of the design of the girders provided this does not in any way jeopardize their performance. The Director will communicate the outcome of these negotiations and their impact on the timetable for commissioning the machine to the President of the Council, if possible within three months of the Council meeting, so that he may inform the Members of the result. The number of “day-one” beamlines will be reduced to two, namely the XAFS/XRF (X-ray absorption fine structure/X-ray fluorescence) spectroscopy and IR (infrared) spectromicroscopy beamlines. The donor Members will make every effort to transfer their contributions to the capital investment as soon as possible, and in a few months the Director will up-date the Members on the outstanding funds required for construction of SESAME and the date by which these funds are needed. *(Decision taken during the closed session)*
2. Subject to the availability of funds in Israel, the Members’ contribution to the 2015 operational budget will be as follows: Bahrain US\$314,980.79, Cyprus US\$314,980.79, Egypt US\$324,682.20, Iran US\$554,366.20, Israel US\$554,366.20, Jordan US\$314,980.79, Pakistan US\$554,366.20, and Turkey US\$554,366.20. In view of the particular situation of the Palestinian Authority, its contribution to the 2015 budget will be kept at US\$50,000. Notwithstanding the aforementioned share of the 2015 operational budget shown as having to be borne by Egypt and Turkey, the sum they will each remit in respect of the 2015 budget will be US\$306,490.36 (instead of US\$324,682.20) in the case of Egypt, and US\$523,305.24 (instead of US\$554,366.20) in the case of Turkey. This is because of the credit they have of US\$18,191.84 and US\$31,060.96 respectively as a result of the over-payments they made in 2014. *(Decision taken during the closed session)*
3. The Director will negotiate with the Iraqi Authorities the extra contribution Iraq will be asked to pay when becoming a Member of SESAME, it being understood that, although the over-riding objective is to have Iraq join, he will strive to obtain the best deal, and that (according to the decision on new Members taken at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting, November 2013) this will be not less than 100% of what Iraq’s contribution to the operational budget would normally be in the first year. *(Decision taken during the closed session)*
4. The draft terms of reference of SESAME’s Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) are approved and will be posted on SESAME’s web site. At the 26<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, the Director will

propose members for both Committees. Some of the candidates will be new candidates and some members already serving on the Committees, while other current members will be rotated, in other words the clock will be re-started. *(Decision taken during the closed session)*

5. Dr Amor Nadji (Algeria/France) will be invited to become a member of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). *(Decision taken during the closed session)*
  
6. The President of the Council will write to the current Chair of the Finance Committee, Mr Tahir Saeed (Pakistan), to enquire whether he would be interested in holding this position for a second term of two years when his current mandate comes to an end immediately after the 26<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, and to informally give him to understand that the Council would be pleased if he did so. A call for nominations will be stalled until his response is known, and in the event of a positive reply there will be no invitation for nominations. *(Decision taken during the closed session)*