

**FORTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF SESAME**  
**Casa Convalescència UAB (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)**  
**Barcelona, Spain, 10-11 July 2023**

Decisions

The Council of SESAME took the following decisions at its 42nd meeting:

- 42 C/Decision 1 The 2024 Operational Budget will be of the same order as that approved for 2023 (US\$5,288,613.10) and a formal decision about this will be taken at the Autumn session of the Council. During the intervening period, those Members fearing that it would be difficult to approve the increased Budget SESAME had proposed for 2024 (US\$6,628,218.78) will hold discussions with their respective national authorities to see whether it would be possible to add to the Budget to be approved at the Autumn session at least part of the difference between the 2023 approved Budget and that proposed by SESAME for 2024. Should the Members be successful in this, at the Autumn session the additional sum will be added to the 2024 Budget to be approved. If they are not successful the increased Budget proposed for 2024 (US\$6,628,218.78) will be applied to 2025. *(Decision taken at the Restricted Budgetary Session for the Members)*  
Note added after the session: Following the decision taken at the Closed Session to push back by one year the period of the Strategic Plan, i.e. from 2023-2027 to 2024-2028, the 2024 Operational Budget will be US\$5,288,613.10 and the proposed increased Budget for 2024 (US\$6,628,218.78) will be that for 2025.
- 42 C/Decision 2 The Republic of Iraq's request to become a Prospective Member in the associate membership category is unanimously approved. This status will come into effect upon the entry into force of the Agreement granting the Republic of Iraq the status of Prospective Member in the associate membership category. *(Decision taken at the Closed Session)*
- 42 C/Decision 3 For a set period SESAME will not increase the number of Council Observers. This period will possibly be three years. The President and two co-Vice Presidents will elaborate wording for notification of this, and will present this wording to the Council for approval at its 43rd session. *(Decision taken at the Closed Session)*
- 42 C/Decision 4 The Strategic Plan is unanimously approved. It will cover the years 2024 to 2028. *(Decision taken at the Closed Session)*

- 42 C/Decision 5 The Israeli firm Lion Orlitzky & Co will be invited to serve as External Auditor for auditing SESAME's accounts for three financial periods starting with that of the 2023 financial year. (*Decision taken at the Closed Session*)
- 42 C/Decision 6 Ercan Alp (Advanced Photon Source), Giorgio Paolucci (Elettra Sincrotrone), Alexander Rack (European Synchrotron Radiation Facility), and Joel L. Sussman (Weizmann Institute of Science) will be invited to serve on the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) for a further term of three years. Ercan Alp will continue to be Chair of the Committee. (*Decision taken at the Closed Session*)
- 42 C/Decision 7 The 44th meeting of the Council in the Spring of 2024 will be held in Trieste (Italy) at a date to be set later.