



## 3<sup>rd</sup> APPEC General Assembly

November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Helmholtz Association, Berlin, Germany.

### DRAFT Minutes

Stavros Katsanevas (GA chair), Thomas Berghöfer (General Secretary), Antonio Masiero (SAC Chair), Sylvie Leray (CEA), Gabriel Chardin (CNRS), Christian Stegmann (DESY/BMBF), Frank Linde, Job de Kleuver (NIKHEF/FOM), Iliana Brancus, (IFIN-HH), Fernando Ferroni (INFN), Johannes Blümer (KIT/Helmholtz Association), Jose Angel Villar (LSC/MINECO), Bozena Czerny (NCBiR/NCN), Theresa Montaruli (CHIPP/SNSF), Janet Seed (STFC), Jan Conrad (VR), Claus Madsen (ESO),

Guests: Ino Agrafioti (APC), Sandra Hesping (DESY), Victor Matveev (JINR)

Excuses from: Luke Drury (DIAS/RIA), Catherine DeClerq, Olivier Boehme (FOW),

#### 1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted

#### 2. Approval of minutes of the second GA

No comments

#### 3. Accession of new partners

The General Secretary has signed the accession of KIT, VR and FRS-FNRS.

It was also decided that the sentence appearing in some Accession documents that a representative may be accompanied by a scientist should be removed as this was not consistent with the APPEC MOU.

**ACTION 1:** FNRS and KIT should be notified of this removal since they have already signed.

Viktor Matveev gave a presentation on JINR. JINR is an international organisation that also operates bilateral agreements. JINR proposes to be for the time being an observer, and after approval of their scientific council to become a full member. After a brief discussion the GA gave to JINR the status of observer and also stated that APPEC would gladly accept JINR as a full member. The chairman added that it should be noted that 2014 will be a EU-Russia year and that the forthcoming H2020 calls contain opportunities of funding of the coordination of such collaborations.

#### 4. Report of the chair (CERN, EU, ESFRI)

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of June the APPEC directorate met members of the DG RTD Research Infrastructures unit. In the last few months APPEC took proactive steps towards the coordination of proposals from the astroparticle physics community to Horizon2020 and the community is responding positively, as was attested by the strong attendance at the DESY Zeuthen Horizon2020 event.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of June the APPEC directorate met with Rolf Heuer and Sergio Bertolucci at CERN and agreed on a list of common actions, focussing on collaborations in theory and computing. This meeting was followed by a meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October of the APPEC directorate and the directors of Tier1 centres with the head of

the IT department Frederic Hemmer and his colleagues, as well as Sergio Bertolucci. The aim of this meeting was to discuss the possibilities common actions in the area of computing in view of Horizon 2020.

On the **12<sup>th</sup> of September** the APPEC directorate met with Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph (then chair of ESFRI). At the time of this meeting, the assessment expert group had just published its opinion paper, so it was vital to discuss the future steps in the context of ESFRI. It was agreed that the opinion of APPEC will be asked before ESFRI takes any major decisions relating to astroparticle physics projects. This was confirmed unofficially by Giorgio Rossi (head of EPS/ESFRI) and John Womersley (the new Chair of ESFRI).

On the **20<sup>th</sup> of September** the APPEC chairman participated in the CERN Council Strategy session and on the **4<sup>th</sup> of October** in the ECFA meeting in Budapest. On the **3<sup>rd</sup> of December** the APPEC Chairman will present the Astroparticle Physics developments in Europe, to the P5 meeting at SLAC.

Finally, there was a discussion with the ESO observer concerning the relations between APPEC and ESO and opportunities of coordination. The GA welcomed the positive approach from ESO. It was agreed that the opportunities for joint working should be refreshed, since it was a long time ago that an APPEC visit to ESO took place.

**ACTION 2:** A visit of the APPEC directorate to ESO will be organised in the near future.

## 5. Report of the vice-chair on APIF

Janet Seed gave a report on the APIF meeting that took place in **28/29 October** in Japan. The mandate of APIF was extended for 3 years but there was a discussion in the GSF that is the final mandate (even if GSF continues) and that APIF needs to work towards a sustainable structure, including financial issues. Updates were given by each member on status of funding and priorities for particle astrophysics activities. Most countries have had flat cash for some time (except Switzerland), or decreases. There were particular problems for the US due to the recent government shutdown and the continuing resolution. There were reports on the European particle Physics Strategy Process, the Japanese roadmap activity, and Snowmass/P5 process (should complete in May 2014). Finally there were brief reports on new developments in dark matter, dark energy, proton decay and neutrino mass/neutrino mixing.

A management checklist for proposers of new projects was discussed. Proposers will be referred to existing ASPERA, EC, OECD and ESFRI reports, but APIF agreed on a set of headings on issues that funding agencies would expect projects to consider.

Concerning APPIC-APIF relations, it was decided that the scientific advisory committee chaired by Michel Spiro and set up by IUPAP will provide scientific advice for APPIC. It was agreed that a dialogue would be established with APPIC, and APIF would seek scientific advice from APPIC on a case by case basis. APIF would not appoint the APPIC members but would be able to suggest members if it chose to do so.

APIF agreed that a representative from APPEC should be invited to give a periodic report on its activities or if there were specific issues on which APIF wished to get advice from APPEC. Similarly to APPIC, APIF wished to develop a dialogue.

The meeting was followed by a visit to the Kamioka laboratory.

The next APIF meeting will take place in May 2014 in Paris/Saclay. Agenda items include a first discussion on how to become self sustaining, presentations from APPIC and APPEC, open access, open data, P5 outcome.

## 6. Report of the general secretary

A report on ongoing contacts was given.

- **ESO.** Claus Madsen said that ESO is very pleased to receive the invitation to be an observer to APPEC and to accept it. ESO's priority is the construction of the E-ELT but ESO also wishes to build links with other relevant communities. Claus Madsen reported that the E-ELT programme has been approved and preparation of the construction will be starting soon. In order to sign major contracts for construction 90% of the budget has to be approved by the ESO member states. Brazil is going through different bodies of the parliament and the hope is that early 2014 there will be an approval so that they are able to embark on the full program. Legal documents have just been signed between ESO and the Chilean government to transfer the land where the E-ELT will be built: the area has been expanded quite dramatically, which might be also of interest for CTA.
- **ESA.** In addition to CERN, ESO and JINR, the APPEC general secretary also contacted ESA. The Director of Science and Robotic Exploration, Prof. Alvaro Giménez, replied that for the moment ESA is not able to accept the invitation as an observer in APPEC. However, ESA wants to be informed on major activities and outcomes of APPEC.
- **CERN** has not yet formally replied to the letter regarding observer status.

The functional centre at DESY has developed the web-based document system and the login information has been sent to all the GA members. The General Secretary has also established common fund after surpassing a lot of administrative issues related to the transferring of the funds. These were solved by using the same procedure as that for the Pierre Auger Observatory. Financial agreements with all partners have been signed and it is proposed to collect funds at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of a year. DESY has received the money from most members already. Instead of an annual audit, it was agreed that the General Secretary will be presenting an "in/out" summary for the GA to approve.

The General Secretary listed the APPEC meetings that have come after the previous Rome GA, April 5, 2013:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| • June 10    | Meeting with EC representatives of unit Research Infrastructures , Brussels |
| • June 11    | Meeting with CERN directorate, Geneva                                       |
| • June 19    | Joint Secretariat, Paris  |
| • July 16    | Computing working group meeting, Paris                                      |
| • Sept. 4    | 1st Open PACT Meeting, Paris  |
| • Sept.11    | Joint Secretariat, Bonn   |
| • Sept. 12   | Meeting with ESFRI chair BVR, Bonn  |
| • Oct. 7     | Meeting of the underground lab directors, Paris                             |
| • Oct. 15/16 | SAC meeting, Paris  |
| • Oct. 21    | PACT Theory workshop, Madrid  |
| • Oct. 29    | CERN-APPEC computing meeting, Geneva  |
| • Nov. 4/5   | Horizon 2020 workshop, Zeuthen  |
| • Nov. 6     | General Assembly, Berlin  |

The main APPEC activities that took place in 2013 were:

- Preparation for Horizon 2020 (including analysis of Astroparticle in FP7)
- Preparation of a white paper on computing in Astroparticle Physics
- Start of SAC work
- Start of Theory PACT
- Discussion with Underground Labs
- Website, Newsletter

In 2014, the following meetings (beyond these of GA and JS) are planned with yet tentative dates:

- Horizon 2020 community support meeting (February)
- 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 SAC meeting (February)
- Community workshop on computing (April)
- PACT Theory workshop (July)

- Astroparticle Physics at the crossroads meeting (September)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014 SAC meeting (September)
- Smaller workshop with TT and KT experts (October)
- Conclave with all APPEC partners on the working level (2 days, 3 weeks before spring GA?)

**ACTION 3.** The JS is asked to prepare a detailed workplan with expected budget for 2014 and present it for approval to the GA in December 2013.

## 7. APPEC actions for Astroparticle Physics in Horizon2020

The linking of the underground labs was discussed since there will be multiple opportunities in the context of Horizon2020 (Integrating Activities, ITN networks, ERIC, etc).

The leadership of the major networking proposals to the EU, identified during the workshop in Zeuthen was also discussed. There needs to be a contact point for each area to help the community coordinate their bids. It is very important that these contact people are identified as soon as possible.

**ACTION 4.** A group formed by the chair, vice-chair, general secretary and the chair of the SAC will make a proposal to the GA for who should be the contact point for the major proposals. It would be discussed in the next face-to-face GA or earlier at a phoneconference in cases of urgency.

## 8. Report from SAC and PACT activities

The SAC Chairman presented the program of the first SAC meeting and some points raised in his discussion by the predecessor, Christian Spiering. He emphasized that it is important to clarify what APPEC needs from the SAC (assessment on the large RIs (CTA, KM<sub>3</sub>NeT), prepare a "realistic" roadmap?). It was decided that the SAC has three tasks:

- prepare the letter for ESFRI on CTA and KM<sub>3</sub>NeT after having consulted with the spokespersons. This assessment should be based on the criteria that ESFRI is using to make its own evaluation.
- realistic "roadmap": ask the six thematic communities (minus KM<sub>3</sub>NeT and CTA) what are their scientific and financial expectations for the near future. Then the SAC will meet in February to put this information together in a report and give scientific (and not financial) advice. This report will be presented in the next meeting of the GA. This should not be a broad long term roadmap, which we have already, but a focussed shorter term status.
- evaluate the common call projects, based on the form prepared by ASPERA-2.

**ACTION 5.** Inform the members of the SAC on these tasks and prepare the February SAC meeting.

Given that the theoretical community in PACT is really active, PACT had decided to form a steering committee. The national communities are invited to select their representative for this committee. The first task of the committee will be to coordinate the EU astroparticle theory replies to the H2020 calls. Once the community has been organized, links with other theoretical communities should be explored. There would be an annual call from PACT to institutions to host long workshops, similar to the one that had taken place in Madrid. A cosmology workshop was planned for July at CERN. PACT requested support of 3.5k from APPEC. APPEC agreed this support, conditional on the workshop being advertised as with APPEC support.

## 9. Preparation of a roadmap in agreement with available resources

Will be discussed after the report from the SAC (see previous item).

## 10. APPEC contribution to ESFRI

The scientific committees of KM<sub>3</sub>NeT and CTA will be asked by the SAC to give an assessment of their infrastructures. Based on SAC's report, APPEC will write the letter to the ESFRI. The critical issue to make sure that the two projects go to appropriate categories, i.e. those categories that will allow them to apply for Horizon2020 funding.

#### 11. APPEC's opinion for large European roadmaps

Many years ago it was decided that APPEC will not have an equivalent body of ECFA for Astroparticle Physics, and this will continue to be the case. An example of the role of APPEC as an advisory body has come up recently in the case of Helmholtz alliance, which asked APPEC to give an opinion on its strategic plan. In view of the urgency and the issues at stake, the directorate prepared a letter which was approved from the GA through e-mail consultation and then was sent to Helmholtz.

**DECISION.** It was decided that from now on, the procedure will be first consultation of SAC for any scientific opinion and then approval of the SAC statements by the GA.

#### 12. Next year workplan

Postponed to the December phone conference

#### 13. Report and approval of 2013 expenses

Postponed to the December phone conference

#### 14. Approval of 2014 budget

Postponed to the December phone conference

#### 15. Date of next meeting

Phone conference on the 12th of December at 17:00 CET

Tentatively, the next face to face meeting will be on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2014.