



Swiss Institute of
Particle Physics

an Association according to Swiss law

ApPEC: *CHIPP as a member?*

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Introduction

Up to now, ApPEC is the Astroparticle Physics European Coordination and has worked for a decade as a forum for discussion and exchange of information. The Members have agreed that its initial goals have been achieved since it has been able to raise the profile of Astroparticle Physics in Europe as witnessed by the increasing number of national funding agencies which have joined since 2001.

For this reason, ApPEC started a discussion about changing its structure to become more a formal and a stronger organisation, disposing also of a permanent 'office'. In view of this restructuration, a MoU for the new ApPEC – Astroparticle Physics European Consortium¹ – has been drafted (with valuable contributions from CH).

The members of the 'new' ApPEC are Ministries, funding agencies responsible for policy and/or providing funding in Astroparticle physics research at the national or international level, or their designated institution with legal status.

At present, Switzerland is represented in (the old) ApPEC by the CHIPP Honorary Board member M. Bourquin, who has been charged with this function by the 'Round Table International'². In the recent weeks, the question has come up whether or not Switzerland should become a member of the new ApPEC

Proposal

In order to determine the interest of a possible ApPEC membership, a survey among the CHIPP astroparticle physics community has been made by L. Baudis and M. Bourquin. The outcome seems to be positive and is underlined by the fact that the community is about to draft a 'Resolution' showing (1) its support of ApPEC, (2) its request that Switzerland joins ApPEC, and (3) its awareness of the membership fee of 5'000 € associated with ApPEC. The resolution will be made available as soon as possible.

The Board (in application of Article 27, litt. a) is requested

- **to approve** the Swiss membership in ApPEC,
- **to entrust** the Chair with bringing this request to the attention of the 'Round Table International', together with the request of designating the organisation that should join as well as the Swiss representative, and
- **to approve** the submission of a corresponding funding request to the SCNAT to cover the ApPEC membership fee of 5'000€.

Required majority: simple

¹ By consortium it is meant the collaboration of the Participating Institutions in view of specific goals rather than the term used in certain national legal systems to depict a legal structure.

² This is the meeting of the Swiss funding agencies (SER, SNF), complemented by SCNAT and CRUS, as well as by the representatives of CHIPP and the Committee on Astronomy of the SCNAT.