

Minutes of PARIS Collaboration Council – 6th September 2016

Present: David Jenkins (DJ) – Chair, Adam Maj (AM) – PARIS project manager, Camille Ducoin (CD), Sandrine Courtin (SC), Anil Gourishetty (AG), Marc Labiche (ML), Juergen Gerl (JG), Maria Kmiecik (MK), Silvia Leoni (SL), Mihai Stanoiu (MS), Pawel Napiorkowski (PN), Jon Wilson (JW) plus several other locals from Krakow and other members of the collaboration sitting in a non-official capacity

Apologies: Sudhee Banerjee, Franco Camera, Wilton Catford, Marco Cinausero, Zsolt Dombradi, Sefa Ertuerk, B.K. Nayak, Marek Ploszajczak

Policy towards alternate detector platforms:

AM stated that there were presently 13 phoswich detectors available to the collaboration. A further number are being reconditioned by St Gobain. He explained that Paul Schotanus from Scionix (present at the PCC meeting) was offering to supply CeBr₃-based phoswich detectors. Indeed, a prototype had already been received and undergone initial tests by the collaboration. The performance of this prototype was not dissimilar to the existing LaBr₃-based phoswich detectors. AM suggested that the collaboration could purchase a cluster of CeBr₃-based phoswich detectors from Scionix and that initial discussions with Scionix had already taken place. The ambition would be to have two of each type of cluster to form the PARIS demonstrator phase. The engagement with St Gobain would be continued in the interim while the outstanding detectors were refurbished.

SL expressed support for this initiative.

PN asked how the new CeBr₃ cluster would be financed. Without going into financial details, AM explained that the intention was that India would purchase 4 detectors, Romania 2 and Poland 2 which would make 9 including the prototype. The cluster could be delivered by Easter 2017.

JG asked about the continuing work at St Gobain and what pressure was being brought to bear to bring about a speedy resolution of the outstanding production issues. In the ensuing discussion, there was general agreement that the introduction of an alternate supplier would no doubt bring pressure to bear on St Gobain in any event.

It was agreed that the PCC notes its support for the initiative presented by the project manager and would like to see the acquisition of an additional CeBr₃-based cluster without delay which would help to advance the Physics programme. In no sense, did this establish a precedent for the phase beyond the PARIS demonstrator where a later decision could be made on the best performing technology and choice of supplier.

Revised science programme:

DJ reminded the Council that since the last meeting of the PCC in Dublin two years ago and the ambitious plans for experiments with multiple clusters, it had so far not been possible to realise these due to the unavailability of detectors.

AM gave a brief summary of the experiments that had been done with the existing PARIS cluster including two at Orsay and tests at ELBE. He also reminded the Council of the existing approved proposals at Orsay and GANIL, in addition to letters of intent for SPES and plans for experiments at Krakow.

SL raised concerns about possible conflicts between experiments at Orsay and GANIL.

JW asked whether it would be possible to consider PARIS as available for a future programme of measurements at Orsay at a future PAC in early 2017.

In the discussion, it was generally agreed that it was hard to retension the experimental programme while certain issues were unclear including whether St Gobain had now solved their manufacturing problem and also how rapidly an order could be placed with Scionix. The project manager would take responsibility for fulfilling the already approved experiments and ensuring the apparatus was at the correct location at the appropriate time.

It was agreed that the project manager should make an informal polling of the collaboration regarding interest in future experimental proposals. Given sufficient interest, a dedicated workshop could be held in the Spring of 2017.

Update to MoU:

DJ explained that the MoU had formally expired at the end of 2015 and there was a need to update and extend this.

AM explained that the intention was to extend the MoU through the end of 2018. Certain minor changes were foreseen: changing the ambition for the demonstrator from 5 to 4 clusters which is more realistic; update list of partners; update declared contributions etc.

The council **noted** the intention to extend the MoU and no one expressed any reservations or anticipated any difficulties in approving such an MoU at their home institution.

New Chair:

DJ expressed willingness to continue as Chair should the Collaboration agree

VN suggested that a poll be set up on the PARIS webpages

AM agreed that some kind of electronic election should be held and that he would take charge of organising a call for candidates and organise elections.

JG suggested that the rules for elections, candidates etc. should be made clearer in the revised MoU.

It was agreed that the Project Manager, AM, should initiate elections and ensure that rules on such elections should be updated into the revised MoU.

In closing, the Chair invited the council to offer their thanks to the project manager, Adam Maj for his continued hard work on the PARIS project.